

# Helpful Information about VA Aid and Attendance

## A Little Known Financial Resource for Veterans

Many families are unaware of the VA Aid and Attendance benefit for Veterans and their surviving spouses. The benefit applies to individuals who require the regular attendance of another person to assist in bathing, dressing, and meal preparation, medication monitoring or other activities of daily living. This benefit is available to individuals who reside in assisted living communities, residential care homes, skilled nursing facilities and those receiving personal in-home care.

# **How Can These Benefits Help?**

Aid and Attendance can help pay for care in the home, skilled nursing facilities, residential care homes or an assisted living community.

- A Veteran may be eligible for up to \$2300/month
- Surviving Spouse of a Veteran up to \$1478/month
- A married couple up to \$2727/month

### **Qualifications:**

Medical Qualifications: Proof must be provided showing the applicant requires daily assistance of another person in performing routine activities of daily living due to an illness, injury or mental illness.

Financial Qualifications: Certain income qualifications do apply, however some unreimbursed medical expenses such as insurance premiums, the cost of assisted living nursing home care or home care can assist in reducing your countable income. There is no set limit on how much net worth a Veteran and his dependents can have, but net worth cannot be "excessive". The decision as to whether a claimant's net worth is excessive depends on the facts of each individual case. In most cases the VA does not consider the claimant's home or car an asset.

### Who is Eligible?

- Any Veteran with 90 days consecutive active duty services
- Any Veteran who served at least one day during active war time
- The surviving spouse of a Veteran if married at the time of Veteran's death

#### **Periods of War**

World War I: May 9, 1916 - Nov. 11, 1918
World War II: Dec. 7, 1941 - Dec. 31, 1946
Korean Conflict: Jun. 27, 1950 - Jan. 31, 1955
Vietnam Era\*: Aug. 5, 1964 - May 7, 1975
Persian Gulf War: Aug. 2, 1990 - Present

\* Starts Feb. 8, 1961 for those who served in the Republic of Vietnam

#### **How Do I Apply for Benefits?**

- Many communities partner with companies that provide consulting services to Veterans and their families. Be sure to ask when you tour a new community!
- Go to www.va.gov and use the Veterans On-line Application (VONAPP).
- Contact your VA Regional office. To locate the closest regional office to you visit the VA website or call 1-800-827-1000

Getting started is easy. Call our local helpline to talk to a Senior Living Advisor today!

Selecting senior living and care services can be a very emotional and overwhelming process.

Gaining information and knowledge about your choices will bring you peace of mind.

Call Jeannie Duckworth • 209-640-2433• jeannie@bluemagsla.com

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