

## VA 2020 Benefits Utilization, Benefit Income Rate Tables and Pension Dates of War

Period of War	Beginning and Ending Dates
World War II	December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1946
Korean Conflict	June 27, 1950 through January 31, 1955
Vietnam Era	August 5, 1964 through May 7, 1975; for veterans who served “in country” before August 5, 1964, February 28, 1961 through May 7, 1975
Gulf War	August 2, 1990 through a date to be set by law or Presidential Proclamation

### Veterans Benefits Administration Number of Beneficiaries

	2018 Actual	2019 Estimate	2020 Estimate
<b>Compensation Beneficiaries including DIC</b>	5,070,505	5,281,013	6,105,364
<b>Pension Beneficiaries including Survivors Pension</b>	462,849	447,805	442,711
<b>Education Program Students</b>	893,656	883,626	876,742
<b>Vocational Rehab &amp; Employment Trainees</b>	97,770	122,500	123,725
<b>New Housing Loans</b>	581,767	556,281	562,178
<b>Insured Persons</b>	5,924,525	5,909,865	5,867,231

Source: DVA 2020 budget proposal

Disability Income and health care benefits comprise the largest portion of the VA budget which for 2020 will be about \$216.2 billion. Projected spending for medical care in 2020 will be \$80.93 billion. Another \$95 billion is for Disability Compensation benefits including DIC. Another \$5.4 billion is for Pension including Survivors (Death) Pension. These 3 specific expenditures represent about \$181.33 billion and encompass about 84% of the entire VA budget.

Number of Beneficiaries – 2018	Younger than 65	Age 65 and Older	Total all Ages	Percent of All Claims
<b>Disability Compensation</b>	3,150,664	1,592,444	4,743,108	84.7%
<b>DIC for Surviving Spouse</b>	149,915	255,632	405,547	7.2%
<b>Veterans Pension</b>	65,124	194,965	260,089	4.6%
<b>Survivors Pension for Spouse</b>	24,580	168,243	192,823	3.4%
<b>Fiduciary Beneficiaries (Compensation, Pension and DIC)</b>			190,540	3.4%
<b>100% Disabled</b>			684,851	12.2%
<b>Individual Unemployability (Paid at 100% Disabled Rate)</b>			356,668	6.4%
<b>Special Monthly Compensation (SMC)</b>			691,708	12.3%
<b>Tinnitus and Hearing Loss – Most Prevalent Disabilities</b>			3,363,237	60.0%
<b>Total Beneficiaries – Compensation, DIC and Pension</b>			5,601,567	
<b>Healthcare System Enrolled</b>			9 million +	

Source: VA Annual Benefits Report 2018, DVA 2020 Budget Proposal

# Aid and Attendance or Housebound Allowances for 2020

## Aid & Attendance or Housebound Allowances for Spouses or Surviving Spouses of Veterans

1. Gradually increasing allowances for the spouse of a veteran where the spouse needs aid and attendance and the veteran is at least 30% disabled. A different benefit corresponds to each 10% rating increase from 30% up to 100%. See applicable rate table below.
2. An aid and attendance or housebound allowance for a surviving spouse receiving Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). See applicable rate table below.
3. An allowance for the spouse of a veteran where the spouse needs aid and attendance and the veteran is receiving Special Monthly Compensation (SMC). See rate table below.

## Disability Compensation Rate Table for 2020

Disability Percent	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
<b>Spouse Aid and Attendance Allowance</b>	\$48.00	\$63.00	\$80.00	\$96.00	\$111.00	\$127.00	\$143.00	\$158.82

## Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for 2020

**Basic Monthly Rate = \$1,340.14, with 1 Child \$1,672.14, with 2 Children \$2,004.14, etc.**

**Allowances: with A&A \$1,672.14, with Housebound \$1,495.67, with 8 Yrs Continuous Disabled \$1,624.71**

1. Add <b>\$284.57</b> for veteran's death, if veteran was in receipt of or entitled to receive compensation for a service-connected disability rated totally disabling (including a rating based on individual unemployability) for a continuous period of at least 8 years immediately preceding death AND the surviving spouse was married to the veteran for those same 8 years. (38 U.S.C. 1311(a)(2))
2. Add the following allowance for each dependent child under age 18: Effective 12/1/14 <b>\$332.00</b> per child (38 U.S.C. 1311(b))
3. If the surviving spouse is entitled to Aid and Attendance, add <b>\$332.00</b> . (38 U.S.C. 1311(c))
4. If the surviving spouse is entitled to Housebound, add <b>\$155.53</b> (38 U.S.C. 1311(d))
5. If the surviving spouse has one or more children under the age 18 on the award, add the 2-year transitional benefit of <b>\$286.00</b> effective, December 1, 2014 (38 U.S.C. 1311(f))

## Special Monthly Compensation (SMC) Rate Table for 2020

SMC Schedule	L	R.1	R.2 or T	S
<b>Aid and Attendance Allowance for Spouse</b>	<b>\$158.82</b>	<b>\$158.82</b>	<b>\$158.82</b>	<b>\$158.82</b>

## Special Disability Incomes under SMC for Veterans Who Are Totally Disabled and Who Need Aid and Attendance or Are Housebound

1. An income under SMC Schedule L is available for a veteran who needs aid and attendance and is receiving Disability Compensation at 100% disability under a single disability rating. Generally this cannot be a combined 100% rating, but under certain circumstances it can be if the same underlying condition contributes to the various disabilities in the combined rating. The condition rated 100% or the combined 100% due to contributing impairments from the same condition must be all or partly responsible for the need for aid and attendance. If this is not the case, SMC under schedule L is not allowed. We will discuss in more detail below how VA evaluates the need for aid and attendance under schedule L. see table below.
2. An income under SMC Schedule S is available for veterans 100% disabled with an additional single rating of 60% or more, or who are permanently confined to their residence and are considered housebound. This is an alternative benefit for veterans who do not meet criteria for aid and attendance but do meet criteria for being housebound. Generally this requires a 100% disability under a single disability rating. However, court rulings have allowed the 100% rating under Individual Unemployability (IU) which requires a single rating of 60% or more to be paid at the 100% IU rate. ***The combined rating option of 70% for qualifying for IU is not applicable for qualifying for SMC schedule S – only the 60% single disability option.*** The condition or conditions rated 100% or 100% IU must be all or partly responsible for the need for being housebound. If this is not the case, SMC under schedule S is not allowed. We will discuss in more detail below how VA evaluates the need for housebound under schedule S. See the applicable rate table below.
3. Two special increased aid and attendance allowances are available for severely disabled veterans receiving SMC under Schedule (R.1) and Schedule (R.2) under very specific conditions. These special ratings require daily intensive home care under certain conditions and there are only a few score thousand veterans who are receiving this special benefit which could be as much as \$8,626 a month for a veteran with dependents. See table below.
4. An income under SMC Schedule T due to residuals from traumatic brain injury (TBI) is available. The benefit is available for TBI injury that requires aid and attendance. We will discuss this option below. This benefit is paid at the applicable rate of SMC schedule R.2

### Special Monthly Compensation (SMC) Rate Table for 2020 showing the extra allowances for A & A and housebound

SMC Schedule	L	R.1	R.2 or T	S
Veteran SMC Alone	\$3,864.90	\$7,749.68	\$8,889.08	\$3,476.65
Veteran Alone Rated 100%	\$3,106.04	\$3,106.04	\$3,106.04	\$3,106.04
<b>Difference between SMC and Rated 100%</b>	<b>\$758.86</b>	<b>\$4,643.64</b>	<b>\$5,783.04</b>	<b>\$370.61</b>
Veteran & Spouse SMC	\$4,038.08	\$7,922.86	\$9,062.26	\$3,649.83
Veteran & Spouse Veteran Rated 100%	\$3,279.22	\$3,279.22	\$3,279.22	\$3,279.22
<b>Difference between V&amp;S SMC and 100%</b>	<b>\$758.86</b>	<b>\$4,643.64</b>	<b>\$5,783.04</b>	<b>\$370.61</b>
Aid and Attendance Allowance for Spouse	\$158.82	\$158.82	\$158.82	\$158.82

**Aid and Attendance or Housebound Allowances  
for Veterans or Spouses Receiving Pension**

**2020 Maximum Annual Pension Rates (MAPR)  
Showing Aid and Attendance and Housebound Allowances**

<b>FOR A VETERAN</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
Basic MAPR without Spouse or Child	\$13,752	\$1,146
Basic MAPR with One Dependent	\$18,008	\$1,500
Basic MAPR Plus Housebound Allowance without Spouse or Child	\$16,805	\$1,400
<b>Amount of Housebound Allowance without Spouse or Child</b>	<b>\$3,053</b>	<b>\$254</b>
Basic MAPR Plus Aid and Attendance Allowance without Spouse or Child	\$22,939	\$1,911
<b>Amount of Aid and Attendance Allowance without Spouse or Child</b>	<b>\$9,187</b>	<b>\$765</b>
Basic MAPR Plus Housebound Allowance with One Dependent	\$21,063	\$1,755
<b>Amount of Housebound Allowance with One Dependent</b>	<b>\$3,053</b>	<b>\$254</b>
Basic MAPR Plus Aid and Attendance Allowance with One Dependent	\$27,195	\$2,266
<b>Amount of Aid and Attendance Allowance with One Dependent</b>	<b>\$9,187</b>	<b>\$766</b>
<b>FOR A SURVIVING SPOUSE</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
Basic MAPR Without Child	\$9,224	\$768
Basic MAPR With One Dependent Child	\$12,072	\$1,006
Basic MAPR Plus Housebound Allowance without Child	\$11,273	\$939
<b>Amount of Housebound Allowance without Child</b>	<b>\$2,049</b>	<b>\$171</b>
Basic MAPR Plus Aid and Attendance Allowance without Dependent Child	\$14,742	\$1,228
<b>Amount of Aid and Attendance Allowance without Child</b>	<b>\$5,518</b>	<b>\$460</b>
Basic MAPR Plus Housebound Allowance with One Dependent Child	\$14,116	\$1,176
<b>Amount of Housebound Allowance with One Dependent Child</b>	<b>\$2,049</b>	<b>\$171</b>
Basic MAPR Plus Aid and Attendance Allowance with One Dependent Child	\$17,586	\$1,465
<b>Amount of Aid and Attendance Allowance with 1 Dependent Child</b>	<b>\$5,518</b>	<b>\$460</b>

<b>2020 Maximum Annual Veterans Pension Rates (MAPR) Effective December 1, 2019 – 1.6% COLA Increase</b>		
<b>If you are a veteran...</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
Without Spouse or Child	\$13,752	\$1,146
No dependents, medical expenses must exceed 5% of MAPR	\$687	\$57
With One Dependent	\$18,008	\$1,500
With dependents, medical expenses must exceed 5% of MAPR	\$900	\$75
Housebound Without Dependents	\$16,805	\$1,400
Housebound With One Dependent	\$21,063	\$1,755
A&A Without Dependents	\$22,939	\$1,911
A&A With One Dependent	\$27,195	\$2,266
Two Vets Married to Each Other	\$18,008	\$1,500
Two Vets Married to Each Other One H/B	\$21,063	\$1,755
Two Vets Married to Each Other Both H/B	\$24,114	\$2,009
Two Vets Married to Each Other One A/A	\$27,195	\$2,266
Two Vets Married to Each Other One A/A One H/B	\$30,241	\$2,520
Two Vets Married to Each Other Both A/A	\$36,387	\$3,032
<b>Add</b> for Each Additional Child to any category above	\$2,351	\$195

<b>2020 Maximum Annual Survivors Pension Rates (MAPR) Effective December 1, 2019 – 1.6% COLA Increase</b>		
<b>If you are a surviving spouse...</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
MAPR Without Dependent Child	\$9,224	\$768
No dependents, medical expenses must exceed 5% of MAPR	\$461	\$38
MAPR With One Dependent Child	\$12,072	\$1,006
With dependents, medical expenses must exceed 5% of MAPR	\$603	\$50
Housebound Without Dependents	\$11,273	\$939
Housebound With One Dependent	\$14,116	\$1,176
A&A Without Dependents	\$14,742	\$1,228
A&A Without Dependents (SAW Veteran's Surviving Spouse)	\$15,339	\$1,278
A&A With One Dependent	\$17,586	\$1,465
A&A With One Dependent (SAW Veteran's Surviving Spouse)	\$18,119	\$1,509
SBP/MIW Annuity Limitation	\$9,224	\$768
Add for Each Additional Child	\$2,351	\$195
MAPR FOR CHILD ALONE	\$2,351	\$195
Child Earned Income Exclusion effective 1/1/2000	\$7,200	\$600

## Disability Compensation Rate Table for 2020 (In Dollars)

Disability Percent	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Veteran Alone	142.29	281.27	435.69	627.61	893.43	1,131.68	1,426.17	1,657.80	1,862.96	3,106.04
Veteran & Spouse			486.69	696.61	979.43	1,234.68	1,547.17	1,795.80	2,017.96	3,279.22
Vet – Sp – 1 Child			525.69	747.61	1,043.43	1,311.68	1,636.17	1,897.80	2,132.96	3,406.04
Vet – 1 Child			469.69	673.61	950.43	1,200.68	1,507.17	1,749.80	1,966.96	3,221.85
Additional Child			25.00	34.00	43.00	51.00	60.00	68.00	77.00	86.05
Addt. Schoolchild			83.00	111.00	138.00	166.00	194.00	222.00	250.00	277.96
A&A for Spouse			48.00	63.00	80.00	96.00	111.00	127.00	143.00	158.82

If veteran has a spouse who requires A&A, add "A&A for spouse" to the amount of dependency & rate code above.

## Special Monthly Compensation (SMC) Rate Table for 2020 (In Dollars)

SMC Schedule	L	L½	M	M½	N	N½	O/P	R.1	R.2/T	S
Veteran Alone	3,864.90	4,064.70	4,265.31	4,558.37	4,852.09	5,137.51	5,423.45	7,749.68	8,889.08	3,476.65
Veteran & Spouse	4,038.08	4,237.88	4,438.49	4,731.55	5,025.27	5,310.69	5,596.63	7,922.86	9,062.26	3,649.83
Vet – Sps – 1 Child	4164.90	4364.70	4565.31	4858.37	5152.09	5437.51	5723.45	8049.68	9189.08	3776.65
Vet – 1 Child	3980.71	4180.51	4381.12	4674.18	4967.90	5253.32	5539.26	7865.49	9004.89	3592.46
Additional Child	86.05	86.05	86.05	86.05	86.05	86.05	86.05	86.05	86.05	86.05
Addt. Schoolchild	277.96	277.96	277.96	277.96	277.96	277.96	277.96	277.96	277.96	277.96
A&A for Spouse	158.82	158.82	158.82	158.82	158.82	158.82	158.82	158.82	158.82	158.82
K	110.31	Usually added to other rate or paid as the rate when percentage is zero.								
Q	67.00	Paid in place of a rate.								

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## Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for 2020

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2. Add the following allowance for each dependent child under age 18: Effective 12/1/14 <b>\$332.00</b> per child (38 U.S.C. 1311(b))
3. If the surviving spouse is entitled to Aid and Attendance, add <b>\$332.00</b> . (38 U.S.C. 1311(c))
4. If the surviving spouse is entitled to Housebound, add <b>\$155.53</b> (38 U.S.C. 1311(d))
5. If the surviving spouse has one or more children under the age 18 on the award, add the 2-year transitional benefit of <b>\$286.00</b> effective, December 1, 2014 (38 U.S.C. 1311(f))

## **2020 Rates for Burial, Special Benefits, Grants and Special Allowances**

### **Burial and Plot Rate Table 2020 – Effective October 1, 2019**

SERVICE CONNECTED DEATH	\$2,000
NON-SERVICE CONNECTED DEATH (Reimbursement; veteran dies while hospitalized by VA)	\$796
NON-SERVICE CONNECTED DEATH (Reimbursement for Veterans not hospitalized by VA)	\$300
NSC DEATH STATE CEMETERY (Paid to a state veterans cemetery for the plot/burial)	\$796
NSC DEATH PLOT ALLOWANCE (This amount will be paid to reimburse for a private-paid plot)	\$796
NSC HEADSTONE OR MARKER ALLOWANCE (If not provided by the Department)	\$195

A service-connected death is one where the veteran was receiving monthly payments for Disability Compensation and the death was due to the disability or condition for which the veteran was receiving pay. It is also possible to receive a service-connected death if the disability or condition was not the direct cause but the disability or condition contributed substantially to the death.

A non-service-connected death is one where the veteran was receiving monthly payments for Disability Compensation or Veterans Pension but the death was due to some other cause not related to the disabilities or conditions for which the veteran was receiving pay.

It should be noted that generally a non-service-connected death can produce \$1,096 a month if the survivors have to pay for a funeral plot. Note that if the veteran died while hospitalized by VA and the survivor has to pay for a funeral plot the total amount available is \$1,892.

### **Burial Benefits for Service-Related Death**

An annual increase in burial and plot allowances for deaths occurring after October 1, 2011 began in 2013 based on the Consumer Price Index for the preceding 12-month period.

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

- You paid for a Veteran's burial or funeral, AND
- You have not been reimbursed by another government agency or some other source, such as the deceased Veteran's employer, AND
- The Veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, AND
- The Veteran died because of a service-related disability, OR
- The Veteran was receiving VA pension or compensation at the time of death, OR
- The Veteran was entitled to receive VA pension or compensation, but decided not to reduce his/her military retirement or disability pay, OR
- The Veteran died while hospitalized by VA, or while receiving care under VA contract at a non-VA facility, OR
- The Veteran died while traveling under proper authorization and at VA expense to or from a specified place for the purpose of examination, treatment, or care, OR
- The Veteran had an original or reopened claim pending at the time of death and has been found entitled to compensation or pension from a date prior to the date of death, OR
- The Veteran died on or after October 9, 1996, while a patient at a VA-approved state nursing home.

NOTE: VA does not pay burial benefits if the deceased:

Died during active military service, OR  
Was a member of Congress who died while holding office, OR  
Was a Federal prisoner

Evidence Requirements:

- Acceptable proof of death as specified in 38 CFR 3.211., AND
- Receipted bills that show that you made payment in whole or part, OR
- A statement of account, preferably on the printed billhead of the funeral director or cemetery owner. The statement of account must show:
  - The name of the deceased Veteran for whom the services and merchandise were furnished, AND
  - The nature and cost of the services and merchandise, AND
  - All credits, AND
  - The amount of the unpaid balance, if any

How to Apply

- Complete and submit a VA Form 21-530, Application for Burial Allowance. You can find an office on our Facility Locator page, OR
- Apply online using eBenefits, OR
- Work with an accredited representative or agent, OR
- Go to a VA regional office and have a VA employee assist you. You can find your regional office on our Facility Locator page.

For more information on how to apply and for tips on making sure your claim is ready to be processed by VA, visit our How to Apply page.

## **Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC)**

CRSC provides tax-free monthly payments to eligible retired veterans with combat-related injuries. With CRSC, veterans can receive both their full military retirement pay and their VA Disability Compensation if the injury is combat-related. Of course, it should be noted that if the veteran is 50% or higher rated he or she is automatically entitled to full retirement pay.

Retired veterans with combat-related injuries must meet all of the following criteria to apply for CRSC:

1. Active or Reserve component with 20 years of creditable service or medically retired.
2. Receiving military retired pay.
3. Have a 10 percent or greater VA-rated injury.
4. Military retired pay is being reduced by VA disability payments (VA Waiver).



In addition, veterans must be able to provide documentary evidence that their injuries were a result of one of the following:

- Training that simulates war (e.g., exercises, field training)
- Hazardous duty (e.g., flight, diving, parachute duty)
- An instrumentality of war (e.g. combat vehicles, weapons, Agent Orange)
- Armed conflict (e.g. gunshot wounds, Purple Heart)

## **Housing Adaptability Grants**

### **SAH Grant, Eligibility for up to \$90,364 for 2020**

VA may approve a grant of not more than 50 percent of the cost of building, buying, or adapting existing homes or paying to reduce indebtedness on a currently owned home that is being adapted, up to a maximum of \$90,364. In certain instances, the full grant amount may be applied toward remodeling costs. Veterans and service members must be determined eligible to receive Compensation for permanent and total service-connected disability due to one of the following:

- Loss or loss of use of both lower extremities, such as to preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes or a wheelchair.
- Loss or loss of use of both upper extremities at or above the elbow.
- Blindness in both eyes, having only light perception, plus loss or loss of use of one lower extremity
- Loss or loss of use of one lower extremity together with (a) residuals of organic disease or injury, or (b) the loss or loss of use of one upper extremity which so affects the functions of balance or propulsion as to preclude locomotion without the use of braces, canes, crutches or a wheelchair.
- Severe burn injuries

### **SHA Grant, Eligibility for up to \$18,074 for 2020**

VA may approve a grant for the cost, up to a maximum of \$18,074, for necessary adaptations to a veteran's or service member's residence or to help them acquire a residence already adapted with special features for their disability, to purchase and adapt a home, or for adaptations to a family member's home in which they will reside.

To be eligible for this grant, veterans and servicemembers must be entitled to Compensation for permanent and total service-connected disability due to one of the following:

- Blindness in both eyes with 5/200 visual acuity or less.
- Anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands.
- Severe burn injuries.

### **Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA)**

A temporary grant may be available to SAH/SHA eligible Veterans and Servicemembers who are or will be temporarily residing in a home owned by a family member. **The maximum amount available to adapt a family member's home for the SAH grant is \$39,669 and for the SHA grant is \$7,083 for 2020.**

The first adjustment occurred on Oct. 1, 2009, with future adjustments each Oct. 1 thereafter. These adjustments will increase the grant amounts or leave them unchanged; they will not decrease the grant amounts. The maximum amount for a TRA grant is not indexed and remains unchanged.

The property may be located outside the United States, in a country or political subdivision which allows individuals to have or acquire a beneficial property interest, and in which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in his or her discretion, has determined that it is reasonably practicable for the Secretary to provide assistance in acquiring specially adapted housing.

### **Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) – Housing Adaptation Assistance**

VR&E may provide home adaptations to individuals who are not currently able to work because of the effects of their service-connected disabilities, or who require adaptations to achieve a vocational goal. The benefits are limited to those required to improve independence at home and/or in the community. Home adaptations up to \$90,364 may be provided as part of an approved rehabilitation plan.

### **Supplemental Financing**

Veterans and service members with available loan guaranty entitlement may also obtain a guaranteed loan or a direct loan from VA to supplement the grant to acquire a specially adapted home.

### **HISA Grants**

A Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) grant provides assistance for any home improvement necessary for treatment or disability access. Eligible Veterans and Service members can receive a HISA grant, as well as either a SAH or SHA grant. This program is available for both Veterans with service-connected disabilities and non-service-connected disabilities:

- Service-connected disabilities: home improvement benefits up to \$6,800
- Non-service-connected disabilities: home improvement benefits up to \$2,000

### ***Applying for a HISA Grant***

The veteran must be registered with VA health care. In order to receive a HISA grant, the Veteran must first have a prescription from a VA physician in the VA health care system. This must include:

- The diagnosis with medical justification
- The Veteran's name, address, SSN, and phone number(s)

To apply, the Veteran must first provide:

- A completed VA Form 10-0103, VETERANS APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE In Acquiring Home Improvement and Structural Alterations
- If a leased or rented property, written permission from the owner
- Quotes from licensed contractors (if required by state law), to include:

- The contractors name, address, telephone, and Federal tax ID number or social security number
- The Veteran's name, address, and telephone number
- Plans and drawings
- An itemized list of estimated materials, cost, and labor cost
- All permits required (it is the contractors responsibility to obtain these)
- A picture of the work site prior to construction

Following are the types of projects that HISA grants will pay for. This is not all inclusive and other appropriate projects may be approved.

- Roll-in showers
- Construction of wooden or concrete, permanent ramping to provide access to the home
- Widening doorways to bedroom, bathroom, etc., to achieve wheelchair access
- Lowering of kitchen or bathroom counters and sinks
- Improving entrance paths and driveways in immediate area of home to facilitate access to the home
- Construction of concrete pads and installation of exterior types of wheelchair lift mechanisms if the installation cost exceeds \$500.00
- Interior and exterior railing deemed necessary for patients with ambulatory capability or for veterans rated legally blind if the installation cost is over \$500.00
- Improvements to plumbing or electrical systems made necessary due to the installation of dialysis equipment in the home
- Any cost associated with permits, inspection fees, etc., that are required by local ordinances.

HISA will not pay for:

- Walkways to exterior buildings
- Widening of driveways (in excess of a 7ft x 6ft area)
- Spa, hot tub, or Jacuzzi
- Exterior decking (in excess of 8ft x 8ft)

## Special Benefit Allowances

Other benefits may be available after an award for Compensation has been received. Here is a list of these special benefits.

Benefit	Rate	Date Rate Changed
Automobile Allowance	\$21,488.29 once	10-01-19
Clothing Allowance	\$830.56	12-01-19
Medal of Honor Pension	\$1388.68	12-01-19

### Automobile Allowance

This one-time allowance can be used toward the purchase of an automobile or other conveyance if the veteran has service-connected loss or permanent loss of use of

- one or both hands or feet or
- permanent impairment of vision of both eyes to a certain degree, or
- ankylosis (immobility) of one or both knees or one or both hips.

The veteran may also be eligible for adaptive equipment, and for repair, replacement, or reinstallation required because of disability or for the safe operation of a vehicle purchased with VA assistance.

### **Clothing Allowance**

Any veteran who is service-connected for a disability for which he or she uses prosthetic or orthopedic appliances may receive an annual clothing allowance. This allowance also is available to any veteran whose service-connected skin condition requires prescribed medication that irreparably damages outer garments. To apply, contact the prosthetic representative at the nearest VA medical center.

### **Medal of Honor Pension**

This income is available to any Medal of Honor recipient.

## **Rate Table**

Special Benefit Allowances Rate Table			
<b>Benefit</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Date Rate Changed</b>	<b>Public Law</b>
<b>Automobile Allowance</b>	\$21,488.29 once	10-01-19	
<b>Clothing Allowance</b>	\$830.56	12-01-19	
<b>Medal of Honor Pension</b>	\$1,388.68	12-01-19	