



# Benefits Cheat Sheet & Rating Benefits

Given by Dave Denson



## Claims Cheat Sheet

**Intent to File –ITF (preserves date of claim)** – To: ADJ Compensation *or* ADJ Pen & Survivor Benefits  
21-22 & SDDVA policy statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142) On File  
21-0966 - Claims Office can sign if we have POA - Formalize within one year  
\*\*DO NOT send Pension ITFs D2D

**Compensation** – To: ADJ Compensation  
21-22 & SDDVA policy statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142), On File  
DD 214 - if not already on file  
21-526EZ - Claims Office can sign if we have POA, but not on original claim  
PTSD Claims - VA form 21-0781  
Reserve/National Guard must provide Service Treatment Records (STRs)  
Private treatment records  
Dependency 21-686c, if applicable

### **Additional Benefits**

IU – 8940 & 4192 (1 rating at least 60% or Combined 70% 1 being 40% or more)  
Specially Adapted Housing or Special Home Adaptation –26-4555  
Auto Allowance – 21-4502

**Veterans Pension** – To: ADJ Pension & Survivor Benefits  
21-22 & SDDVA policy statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142) On File  
DD 214 - if not already on file  
21P-527EZ Application for Pension  
21P-0969 - Income and Asset Statement, if applicable  
21P-8416 - if more room needed for medical expenses  
Medical Records if under 65

### **Special Monthly Pension**

21-0779 - Nursing home  
21-2680 - Aid and Attendance or Housebound  
Title XIX documentation (Medicaid), if applicable

Vet must have served at least one day during war time and be over age 65 or have a disability preventing work and meet income guidelines.

**Survivors Pension** – To: ADJ Pension & Survivor Benefits  
21-22 & SDDVA policy statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142) On File  
DD 214 - if not already on file  
21P-534EZ - Application for Death Pension  
21P-0969 - Income and Asset Statement, if applicable  
21P-8416 if more room needed for medical expenses  
Death Certificate  
Marriage/ Divorce/ birth certificates, if not listed on award

### **Special Monthly Pension**

21-0779 - Nursing home  
21-2680 Aid and Attendance or Housebound  
Title XIX documentation (Medicaid), if applicable



**Established Pension -Going to \$90 Rate – To: ADJ Pension & Survivor Benefits**

21P-8416 – Showing all medical expenses  
21-4138 – Waive Due Process  
Title XIX documentation (Medicaid-DSS Notice of Action Letter)  
21-0779 - If moving into Nursing Home

**Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) – To: ADJ Pension & Survivor Benefits**

21-22 & SDDVA policy statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142) On File  
DD 214 - Certified  
21P-534EZ - Application for DIC  
Death Certificate  
Marriage/ Divorce/ birth certificates (if not listed on award)

**Supplemental Claim – Reopen and Reconsideration – To: ADJ Compensation or ADJ Pen & Survivor**

21-22 & Policy Statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142), On File  
20-0995 - Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim  
21-4138 (optional) - Explain Evidence if needed

**Higher Level Review – Reopen and Reconsideration - To: ADJ Compensation or ADJ Pen & Survivor**

21-22 & Policy Statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142), if applicable  
20-0996 - Decision Review Request: Higher Level Review  
21-4138 (Optional) – Explanation of matter of record evidence/Duty to Assist if needed

**Board Appeal (Notice of Disagreement) – To: Board of Veterans Appeals Washington**

VA10182 – Decision Review Request: Board Appeal (Notice of Disagreement)  
Choose one of the three options and attach evidence in accordance with the option chosen

**Champ VA (Processed at CAMPVA in Denver) – To: CHAMPVA**

21-22 & Policy Statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142), On File  
10-7959c (even if they don't have other health insurance)  
10-10d  
Copy of other health insurance cards front and back

**Burial Benefits (Processed at PMC in St. Paul, MN) - To: ADJ Pension & Survivor Benefits**

21-22 & Policy Statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142) On File  
21P-530 – Application for Burial Benefits  
DD 214 – Certified If not already of record  
Death Certificate  
Paid & Itemized Funeral Statement

For Burial benefits – 2-year time limit, must have been receiving benefits or qualified to receive benefits or passed away in the VA facility

**Headstone Request (Processed at Memorial Affairs in Quantico, VA) To: Memorial Affairs**

21-22 & Policy Statement & HIPPA Disclosure (VA Form 21-4142) On File  
40-1330 Claim for Standard Government Headstone or Marker OR  
40-1330M for Medallion  
DD 214 - if not already on file  
Death Certificate

For Headstone – no time limit, must have Active Duty or retired National Guard or Reservist



**Maximum Annual Pension Rates (MAPR) 2025**

Updated: 09 December 2024 2025 2.5%

VETERAN - MAPR	Annual	Monthly
Veteran Alone	\$ 16,965	\$ 1,413
Veteran w/one dependent	\$ 22,216	\$ 1,851
Housebound	\$ 20,732	\$ 1,727
Housebound w/one dependent	\$ 25,982	\$ 2,165
Aid and Attendance	\$ 28,300	\$ 2,358
Aid and Attendance w/one Dependent	\$ 33,548	\$ 2,795
Each additional Dependent	\$ 2,902	\$ 241
VETERAN - UME Offset	Annual	UME OFF-SET (5% of Max Annual Pension Rate)
Veteran Alone (Annually)	\$ 848	
Veteran w/one dependent (Annually)	\$ 1,102	
WIDOW - MAPR	Annual	Monthly
Widow Alone	\$ 11,380	\$ 948
Widow w/one dependent	\$ 14,893	\$ 1,241
Housebound	\$ 13,908	\$ 1,159
Housebound w/one dependent	\$ 17,414	\$ 1,451
Aid and Attendance	\$ 18,187	\$ 1,515
Aid and Attendance w/one Dependent	\$ 21,696	\$ 1,808
Each additional Dependent	\$ 2,902	\$ 241
WIDOW - UME OFF-SET	Annual	UME OFF-SET (5% of Max Annual Pension Rate)
Widow Alone (ANNUALLY)	\$ 569	
Widow w/one dependent(ANNUALLY)	\$ 744	

<b>CHILD'S ANNUAL WAGE EXCLUSION</b>	<b>12/01/2024</b>
Child EIC = Same as Imp. Pen	\$ 15,000

**Net Worth Maximum** \$ 159,240.00

MEDICARE (PART B) RATE	2025	2024
Monthly	\$ 185.00	\$ 174.70
Annually	\$ 2,220.00	\$ 2,096.40

**Other Important Rates**

Type	Effective Date	10/01/2024
SC Death		\$ 2,000
NSC Death (hospitalized by VA)		\$ 978
NSC Burial (NOT hospitalized by VA)		\$ 978
Plot Allowance		\$ 978
State Cemetery		\$ 978

**DIC BASIC RATE**

Widow	\$ 1,653.06
Widow House Bound - Add	\$ 191.85
Widow A&A - Add	\$ 409.53

add \$409.53 for each child under age 18

\*If there is one or more child under age 18, the transitional benefit of \$350.00 is paid for first 2 yrs after date of death

\* Base Rate: \$ 2,004.08 \* If vet was P&T for 8 yrs and Marriage was valid for 6yrs prior to death

**Title 19 (Medicad) Income Limitation**

Monthly	\$ 2,901	Eff:	01/01/2025
---------	----------	------	------------

**INDIVIDUAL UNEMPLOYABILITY INCOME LIMITATIONS**

2024 Estimate	\$ 15,060
---------------	-----------

**MILEAGE**

Deductible One-Way	\$ 3.00
Deductible Round Trip	\$ 6.00
Deductible Monthly Cap	\$ 18.00

MISCELLANEOUS	Amount	Effective
Automobile Allowance	\$ 26,417.20	10/01/2024
Specialty Adapted Housing (SAH)	\$ 117,014.00	10/01/2024
Special Home Adaptation (SHA)	\$ 23,444.00	10/01/2024
Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA)	\$6,800/ \$2,000 NSC	10/01/2022



# Development Letters

- VA has sent inaccurate development letters requesting information that has been uploaded into VBMS or requesting scanned voided checks.
- Contact your Field Service Officer for questions can be an easy fix as s 4138 or phone to call to Public contact.
- 2025 Benefit summary letter does not state P&T
- When everything fails you call in the YETI!!





# 0% and Higher Rating

- COE for Home Loan Guaranty
- Outpatient Treatment (SC + NSC w/ enrollment)
- Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance (\$10,000)
- Travel Allowance for SC Treatment (pension)
- 10-Point Civil Service Preference
- Clothing Allowance
- Temporary 100% for Hospitalization/Convalescence
- MWR Access + Commissary/PX (VHIC card needed)





# 10%–20% Rating

- Home loan guarantee funding fee exemption
- Vocational Rehab (Chapter 31)
- VA Health Care Priority Group 3
- Burial/Plot Allowance Eligibility
- SD Free Tuition for Veterans  
(used up all GI Bill benefits use form E- 11)





# 30% Rating

- Additional Allowances for Dependents (686c)
- Aid & Attendance for Spouse
- VA Health Care Priority Group 2
- Eligible for Travel Pay for All Appointments





# 40% Rating

- Automobile Grant / Adaptive Equipment
- Special Adaptive Equipment Eligibility
- Priority Group 2
- SD Hunting & Fishing Card (\$10 / 4 years)





# 50% Rating

- Priority Group 1 VA Health Care assigned to Priority Group 1 (no copays on treatment of non-service-connected disabilities or on non- service-connected Medication
- CRDP if eligible for Retired Veterans





# 60% Rating

- Possible Increase to 100% via Individual Unemployability
- You can't hold down a steady job that supports you financially.
- You have at least 1 service-connected disability rated at 60% or more disabling, **or**
- You have 2 or more service-connected disabilities, with at least 1 rated at 40% or more disabling and a combined rating of 70% or more





# 70% Rating

- Nursing Home at VA Expense (if under VA care or in a VA approved nursing home facility).





# 100% Rating P&T

- Dental Treatment
- Spouse Employment Preference
- Life Insurance Premium Waiver
- SAH and SHA Grants
- DOD ID Card for Dependents
- DIC for Survivors
- CHAMPVA
- Chapter 35 Education
- SD Property Tax Exemption (\$200k)
- SD Special License Plates
- SD State Park Entrance Fee Waiver





# Questions

