

## Application Checklist

To file a Survivor's Pension claim, the following items and information will be needed:

- Certified copy of DD Form 214 or equivalent with proof of wartime service.
- Copy of Veteran's death certificate.
- Copy of marriage certificate.
- A listing of all current income and net worth information, such as Social Security benefits, retirement income, dividends.
- List of recurring medical expenses such as: insurance premiums, in-home care, and facility costs.
- Direct deposit information, account number, and bank routing number.

If Veteran or spouse have previously been married, a complete history of previous marriages is needed; such as date of marriage, location of marriage (city and state), person they were married to, reason marriage ended (death or divorce), date marriage ended, and place marriage ended.

## Our Mission:

To provide responsive, timely, accurate, and compassionate assistance to Veterans, their dependents, and survivors in applying for federal, state, and local benefits.



### Veteran Services

[www.co.washington.mn.us/veteranservices](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/veteranservices)

Veteran Services locations:

#### Government Center

14949 62nd St. N., P.O. Box 30  
Stillwater, MN 55082-0030

#### Headwaters Service Center

19955 Forest Rd. N.  
Forest Lake, MN 55025

#### Cottage Grove Service Center

13000 Ravine Parkway S.  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016

To schedule an appointment, call:  
651-430-6895

## Department of Veterans Affairs

# Survivor's Pension Program



## Veteran Services

651-430-6895

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## Survivor's Pension

The Survivor's Pension benefit is a tax-free monetary benefit payable to a low-income, un-remarried surviving spouse or unmarried child(ren) of a deceased Veteran with wartime service.

### Aid & Attendance (A&A)

The Aid & Attendance increased monthly pension amount may be added to your monthly pension amount if you meet one of the following conditions:

- You require the aid of another person to bathe, eat, dress, use the restroom, adjust prosthetic devices, or to protect yourself from hazards of the environment.
- You are bedridden or your disability or disabilities require you remain in bed apart from any prescribed course of convalescence or treatment.
- You are a patient in a nursing home due to mental or physical incapacity.
- Your eyesight is limited to a corrected 5/200 or the visual field is 5 degrees or less.

### Housebound

This increased monthly pension amount may be added to your monthly pension amount when you are substantially confined to your immediate premises because of permanent disability.

### Qualifying Service

The deceased Veteran must have met the following service requirements:

- For service on or before September 7, 1980, the Veteran must have served at least 90 days of active military service, with at least one day during a wartime period.
- For duty after September 7, 1980, generally he or she must have served at least 24 months or the full period for which called or ordered to active duty with at least one day during a wartime period.
- Was discharged from service under other than dishonorable conditions.

### Eligible Wartime Periods

- *Mexican Border Period*  
(May 9, 1916 - April 5, 1917)
- *World War I*  
(April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918)
- *World War II*  
(December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946)
- *Korean Conflict*  
(June 27, 1950 - January 31, 1955)
- *Vietnam Era*  
(February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975 [service in Vietnam] otherwise August 5, 1964 - May 7, 1975)
- *Gulf War*  
(August 2, 1990 - through a future date to be set by law or Presidential Proclamation)

### Income & Net Worth

**Countable income** includes income from most sources as well as from any eligible dependents. It generally includes earnings, disability and retirement payments, interest and dividend payments from annuities, and net income from farming or a business.

**Some expenses, such as unreimbursed medical expenses, may reduce your countable income.**

**Net worth** includes assets such as bank accounts, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, annuities, and any property other than your residence and a reasonable lot area. You should report all of your net worth. VA will determine whether your assets are of a sufficiently large amount that you could live off of them for a reasonable period of time.

### 2016 Income & Net Worth Limits

	Annual Income
Basic Pension	\$8,630*
Housebound	\$10,548
Aid & Attendance	\$13,794

\*Add \$2,198 for each child.

**An applicant's net worth may not exceed \$80,000.**

This does not include the applicant's primary residence or automobile.