



Providing Quality Service for Citizens

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The Pinellas County Department of Veterans Services

The principal task of the Pinellas County Department of Veterans Services is to provide quality assistance to the over 134,000 veterans and/or dependents of veterans living in Pinellas County. The Pinellas County Department of Veterans Services is funded by the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners.

The Department of Veterans Services Outreach Program

The Department of Veterans Services Outreach is a special program that provides countywide nursing home and housebound veterans and/or dependents of veterans with complete Veterans Affairs assistance. The program provides outreach services to veterans, surviving spouses or children of veterans who are unable to personally visit one of our offices. Please call the office nearest your facility or home for assistance. The services provided include counseling, preparation, filing and appealing of benefits claims for compensation and pension benefits, pension with aid and attendance, and pension with housebound benefits.

Who is Eligible for Benefits

The veteran, surviving spouse or child may be eligible for Department of Veterans Affairs non-service connected pension benefits. Primarily, eligibility for Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits is based on discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions for a minimum period specified by law. Women veterans are entitled to the same VA benefits as men. However to receive pension, with household benefits, and pension with aid and attendance benefits, eligibilities require a veteran to have served at least 90 or more days on active duty in the armed forces with one day beginning or ending during a war time period. The VA recognizes these war time periods:

Mexican Border Period - May 9, 1916 through April 5, 1917, for veterans who served in Mexico, on its borders or in adjacent water.

World War I - April 6, 1917 through November 11, 1918; for veterans who served in Russia, April 6, 1917 through April 1, 1920-extended through July 1, 1921 for veterans who had one day of service between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918.

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.

Persian Gulf - August 2, 1990 to present (When this pamphlet was printed ending date was not yet established.)



Pension for Non-Service Connected Disability or Death

Pension is a monthly payment to a veteran who has served honorably during a war time period and to his or her surviving spouse and dependent children. Pension may be payable to a veteran who is permanently and totally disabled as a result of a non-service connected disability. Upon the non-service connected death of a veteran, his or her spouse and/or dependent children may be entitled to death pension.

Disability Requirements - A veteran must be considered permanently and totally disabled to be eligible for disability payments. There are no disability requirements for surviving spouse or child.

Aid and Attendance - A veteran will be considered to be in need of regular aid and attendance (A&A) if he or she is a patient in a nursing home or is helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless as to need or require the regular aid and attendance of another person.

Housebound - A veteran will qualify for the housebound pension rate if he or she has a single disability rated as 100 percent disabling and (a) has additional disabilities rated 60 percent or more or (b) is permanently housebound but does not qualify for aid and attendance. A veteran will be considered permanently housebound when he or she is substantially confined to the house (ward or clinical areas, if hospitalized) or immediate premises due to a disability which it is reasonably certain will remain throughout his or her lifetime.



Annual Income and Net Worth Limitations

Pension is not payable to a veteran, surviving spouse or child whose annual income exceeds the limitations set forth in Title 38 United States Code. Where a veteran and spouse are living together, the separate income of the spouse will be considered as the veterans income.

Public Law 95-588 provides for the denial or discontinuance of pension to a veteran when the corpus of the estate of the veteran and the veteran's spouse is such that under all the circumstances, including consideration of the annual income of the veteran's spouse, and the veteran's children, it is reasonable that some part of the corpus of such estate be used for the veteran's maintenance. Corpus of the estate and net worth is the net value of all real estate and personal property owned by the claimant, except his or her home, furnishings and automobile. **There is no specific dollar limitation for corpus of the estate and net worth. Contact the Pinellas County Department of Veterans Services for details.**



Veterans Services Offices

There are two full-time Veterans Services offices and one Outreach Office in Pinellas County. The full-time offices hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Outreach Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Wednesdays.

The locations and phone numbers of each are:

**1100 Cleveland Street
Suite 1406
Clearwater, FL 33755
Phone: (727) 464-8460
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**3160 5th Avenue N
Suite 116, Plaza 300 N
St. Petersburg, FL 33713
Phone: (727) 893-1196
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Outreach Office
301 Disston Ave So.
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
Phone: (727) 943-4743
Wednesdays
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**"We are working to be the standard
for public service in America."**

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