



VA BENEFITS FOR SERVICEMEMBERS

GENERAL INFORMATION

VA BENEFITS FOR SERVICEMEMBERS

There are a variety of VA benefits available to servicemembers.

WHAT TYPE OF INSURANCE BENEFIT IS AVAILABLE?

Servicemembers are eligible for up to a maximum of \$400,000 in life insurance under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI). Spousal coverage is available up to a maximum of \$100,000 while children are automatically covered for \$10,000 at no cost. Any member of the uniformed services covered by SGLI is eligible for a traumatic injury protection rider (TSGLI) that provides payments between \$25,000 and \$100,000 to members who have a traumatic injury and suffer losses such as, but not limited to, amputations, blindness, and paraplegia.

WHAT TYPE OF EDUCATION BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE?

Education benefits are available to active duty and full-time National Guard personnel who have served for at least two years and have contributed \$1200 under the Montgomery GI Bill (Chapter 30), and members of the Selected Reserve (includes National Guard) that are certified as eligible under the Montgomery GI Bill – Select Reserve (Chapter 1606). The Chapter 30 program is limited to payment for tuition and fees while the Chapter 1606 program provides a monthly stipend.

WHAT TYPE OF HOME-RELATED BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE?

Persons on active duty are eligible for a VA home loan guaranty after serving on continuous active duty for 90 days. Servicemembers going through a pre-discharge claim program who are found to have service-connected conditions that will be rated as compensable, are exempt from the loan guaranty funding fee.

WHAT TYPE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASING A VEHICLE?

To be eligible for financial assistance to purchase a vehicle or to adapt a vehicle to accommodate a disability, a servicemember must have certain qualifying disabilities (e.g. loss or permanent loss of use or one or both hands) that were incurred during active military service.



Disabilities determined by VA to be related to your military service can lead to monthly non-taxable compensation, enrollment in the VA health care system, a 10-point hiring preference for federal employment and other important benefits. Ask your VA representative or Veterans Service Organization representative about Disability Compensation, Pension, Health Care, Caregiver Program, Career Services, Educational Assistance, Home Loan Guaranty, Insurance and/or Dependents and Survivors' Benefits.



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**

WHAT TYPE OF HEALTH CARE BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE?

VA health care facilities are available to active duty servicemembers in emergency situations and upon referral by military treatment facilities through Sharing Agreements or under your TRICARE coverage.

IS THE MEDAL OF HONOR PENSION PAYABLE TO ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL?

Active duty personnel who have been awarded the Medal of Honor and determined to be eligible by one of the service departments are entitled to receive a special Medal of Honor pension from the VA.

CAN A CLAIM FOR BENEFITS BE FILED PRIOR TO SEPARATION?

Yes. Servicemembers may file disability claims prior to separation from active or full-time duty through the Benefits Delivery at Discharge or Quick Start programs. Servicemembers may file claims for disability compensation, pension, vocational rehabilitation, automobile allowance, and special adapted housing prior to separation. VA employees will assist in the filing and preparation of the claim as well as adjudicate the claim as quickly as possible following separation. Additionally, VA offers counseling and claims assistance to separating servicemembers throughout the United States and around the world through the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) and Disabled Transition Assistance Program (DTAP).

For More Information, Call Toll-Free 1-800-827-1000 or Visit Our Web Site at <http://www.va.gov>

Contact us: www.va.gov 1-800-827-1000



Policy and Program Management – October 2008