



# VET CONNECT

## APPOINTMENT CHECKLIST

**You Served.**

The following checklist will help you gather the information you will need to file complete *Compensation, Pension, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, and Survivors Pension* claims.

Once ALL materials have been gathered, please call (858) 694-3222 or email [sdcvso.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:sdcvso.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov) to make an appointment.

### COMPENSATION CLAIMS

You must provide the following to file a *Compensation* claim:

- Original or certified copy of **DD Form 214** or equivalent.
- Copies of all, if any, current relevant private treatment records or **Disability Benefits Questionnaires**. (<http://benefits.va.gov/disabilityexams/>).
- Direct deposit information including account number and bank routing number.

If you are claiming dependents, you must also provide:

- Copy of marriage certificate.
- If veteran or spouse was previously married, a complete history of previous marriage(s) including date and location of each marriage (city and state), name of spouse, how did marriage end (death or divorce), and date and location marriage ended. If possible include documentation of final dissolution of marriage(s).
- Copy of birth certificates or final decree(s) of adoption for dependent children.
- Social Security numbers of dependents.

**You Earned.**

## PENSION CLAIMS

You must provide the following to file a *Pension* claim:

- Original or certified copy of **DD Form 214** or equivalent with proof of wartime service. Certain VA benefits require wartime service. Under the law, the VA recognizes these periods of war time:
  - 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 at least one day of service between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918.
  - World War II:** December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946.
  - Korean War:** June 27, 1950, through January 31, 1955.
  - Vietnam War:** August 5, 1964 (February 28, 1961, for Veterans who served “in country” before August 5, 1964), through May 7, 1975.
  - Gulf War:** August 2, 1990, through a date to be set.
- Direct deposit information including account number and bank routing number.
- If veteran is under the age of 65, not in receipt of SSDI, and not in a nursing home, also include copies of recent medical records signed by a physician and showing clinical description of permanent and totally disabled status, diagnosis, and prognosis.
- A listing of all current income and net-worth information such as Social Security benefits, retirement income, and dividends.

If you are claiming dependents, you must also provide:

- Copy of marriage certificate.
- If veteran or spouse was previously married, a complete history of previous marriage(s) including date and location of each marriage (city and state), name of spouse, method of marriage dissolution (death or divorce), and date and location marriage ended. If possible, include documentation of final dissolution of marriage(s).
- Copy of birth certificates or final decree(s) of adoption for dependent children.
- Social Security numbers of dependents.

If you are claiming aid and attendance or household benefits, you must also provide:

- A completed **VA Form 21-2680**, *Examination for Housebound Status of Permanent Need for Regular Aid and Attendance* (available on the VA's website at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-2680-ARE.pdf>)
- If veteran is in a nursing home, also provide **VA Form 21-0779**, *Requesting for Nursing Home Information in Connection with Claim for Aid and Attendance* (available on the VA's website at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-0779-ARE.pdf>)
- If claiming medical expenses from a caregiver or assisted living or nursing home, provide a completed **Care Expense Statement** (available on the Veterans Service Office website [http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/ais/documents/Care\\_Expense\\_Statement.pdf](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/ais/documents/Care_Expense_Statement.pdf)).

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## DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION CLAIMS

In order to file a *Dependency and Indemnity Compensation* claim, you must provide:

- Original or certified copy of **DD Form 214** or equivalent.
- Copy of Veteran's Death Certificate. **DD Form 1300** or equivalent, if veteran died on active duty.
- Direct deposit information, account number and bank routing number.
- Copy of marriage certificate to show dependency.
- If veteran or spouse was previously married, a complete history of previous marriage(s) including date and location of each marriage (city and state), name of spouse, method of marriage dissolution (death or divorce), and date and location marriage ended.

If you are claiming aid and attendance, or household benefits, you must also provide:

- A completed **VA Form 21-2680**, *Examination for Housebound Status of Permanent Need for Regular Aid and Attendance* (available on the VA's website at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-2680-ARE.pdf>).

- If veteran is in a nursing home, also provide **VA Form 21-0779**, *Requesting for Nursing Home Information in Connection with Claim for Aid and Attendance* (available on the VA's website at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-0779-ARE.pdf>).
- If claiming medical expenses for a caregiver, assisted living or nursing home, also provide a completed **Care Expense Statement** (available on the Veterans Service Office website at: [http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/ais/documents/Care\\_Expense\\_Statement.pdf](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/ais/documents/Care_Expense_Statement.pdf)).

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## **SURVIVORS PENSION CLAIMS**

(formerly *Death Pension* claims)

- Original or certified copy of **DD Form 214** or equivalent with proof of wartime service.  
Certain VA benefits require wartime service.  
Under the law, the VA recognizes these periods of war time:
  - 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 at least one day of service between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918.
  - World War II:** December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946.
  - Korean War:** June 27, 1950, through January 31, 1955.
  - Vietnam War:** August 5, 1964 (February 28, 1961, for Veterans who served "in country" before August 5, 1964), through May 7, 1975.
  - Gulf War:** August 2, 1990, through a date to be set.
- Direct deposit information including account number and bank routing number.
- A list of all current income and net-worth information such as Social Security benefits, retirement income, and dividends.
- Copy of Veteran's death certificate.

- Copy of marriage certificate to show dependency.
- If veteran or spouse was previously married, a complete history of previous marriage(s) including date and location of each marriage (city and state), name of spouse, method of marriage dissolution (death or divorce), and date and location marriage ended.

If claiming aid and attendance, or housebound benefits, you must also provide the following:

- A completed **VA Form 21-2680**, *Examination for Housebound Status of Permanent Need for Regular Aid and Attendance* (available on the VA's website at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-2680-ARE.pdf>).
- If veteran is in a nursing home, also provide **VA Form 21-0779**, *Requesting for Nursing Home Information in Connection with Claim for Aid and Attendance* (available on the VA's website -- <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-0779-ARE.pdf>).
- If claiming medical expenses from a care giver, assisted living or nursing home, also provide a completed **Care Expense Statement** (available on the Veterans Service Office website at [http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/ais/documents/Care\\_Expense\\_Statement.pdf](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/ais/documents/Care_Expense_Statement.pdf)).

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