



## Veterans Benefits General Qualifications

- ✓ **Veteran, widowed spouse, dependent or disabled child**
  - Widowed spouse must have been living with the Veteran at the time of Veteran's death (unless separation was due to medical or military reasons). Minor or disabled children may qualify for limited benefits on their own.
- ✓ **90 days' active duty, with at least one day during wartime (but Veteran need not have served in a war zone):**
  - WWII: 12-7-1941 to 12-31-1946
  - Korean War: 6-27-1950 to 1-31-1955
  - Vietnam War: 2-28-1961 to 5-7-1975
  - Vietnam Era: 8-5-1964 to 5-7-1975
  - Persian Gulf: 8-2-1990 to Present
- ✓ **Other than Dishonorable Discharge**
- ✓ **Care Needs**
  - Applicant must require help with care needs, such as remembering to take medication, bathing, eating, walking, dressing, getting in and out of bed, or protecting himself or herself from the hazards of a daily environment.
  - A person in assisted living, or receiving care services at home, often qualifies.
- ✓ **Limited household assets**
  - Excludes primary home, car and personal belongings.
  - If jointly owned by other than spouse, only claimant's share is generally countable.
  - If married, assets of both spouses are countable.
    - ♦ **If assets are over \$50,000, it is best to consult a VA Accredited elder law attorney. Assets should not be transferred without proper legal/professional advice.**
  - Claimant's out-of-pocket yearly medical expenses must exceed or come close to his or her total yearly household gross income. (Annual cost of assisted living is typically considered a medical expense.)
- ✓ **2019 Maximum Pension Rates for Aid and Attendance\***
  - Single Veteran: \$1,936.50 per month \$23,238 per year
  - Married Veteran: \$2,295.75 per month \$27,549 per year
  - Widowed Spouse: \$1,244.50 per month \$14,934 per year
  - Vet married to Vet: \$3,071.75 per month \$36,861 per year
  - Surviving Spouse with 1 dependent: \$1,484.58 per month \$17,815 per year