Other veteran benefits and general filing dates

Many benefits are available to veterans and families through the U.S. Veterans Administration. General filing dates and some of those more commonly used include:

90 days to apply for re-employment.

120 days to convert Servicemen Group Life Insurance. 1 year from notification of service connected disability to obtain GI life insurance.

- 1 year to file for VA dental treatment. No limit for trauma or combat caused conditions or for prisoners of war.
- 3 years to correct a military record.
- 10 years to complete GI Bill education.
- 12 years to complete vocational rehabilitation.
- 15 years for review of discharge.

No limit to:

- File service connected disability claim.
- File pension claim.
- File for Federal Civil Service Veterans Preference.
- Obtain VA loan.
- Obtain VA hospital care.
- Get help in finding employment or job training.
- Convert term insurance.
- Apply for exemplary Rehabilitation Certificate.
- Limited time to receive unemployment compensation. Apply immediately after separation.

County of Lehigh
Office of Veterans Affairs
Lehigh County Government Center
17 South Seventh Street
Allentown, PA 18101
Room 230
610-782-3295

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United States
Department of Veterans Affairs

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Toll Free Service for Veterans Information
Regional Office, Philadelphia
1-800-827-1000

•

Veterans Affairs Insurance
1-800-669-8477

•

TDD (Teletype Device for Deaf)
1-800-829-4833

Our business is community service

lehigh county

Lehigh County Government Center
17 South Seventh Street
Allentown, PA 18101
Phone: 610-782-3295
Fax: 610-820-2026
Website: www.lehighcounty.org

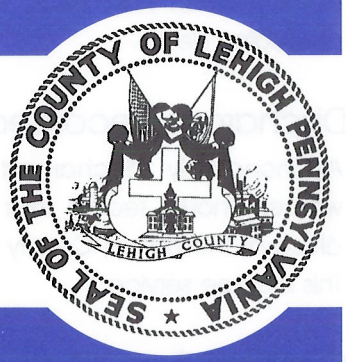
lehigh county

"The cost of freedom is always high, but Americans have always paid it" – JFK

Office of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Benefits

Available to honorably discharged veterans living in Lehigh County



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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Improved Death Pension Rate Table - Effective 12/1/11

Surviving Spouse/Child(ren) - Alone or With the Other

Date of Cost-of-Living Increase: 12-01-2011
Increase Factor: 3.6%
Standard Medicare Deduction: $99.90

Maximum Annual Pension Rate (MAPR) Category		Amount
MAPR Without Dependent Child		$8,219
To be deducted, medical expenses must exceed 5% of MAPR or		$ 410
MAPR With One Dependent Child		$10,759
To be deducted, medical expenses must exceed 5% of MAPR or		$ 537
Housebound Without Dependents		$10,046
Housebound With One Dependent		$12,582
A&A Without Dependents		$13,138
A&A Without Dependents (SAW Veteran's Surviving Spouse)		$13,671
A&A With One Dependent		$15,673
A&A With One Dependent (SAW Veteran's Surviving Spouse)		$16,149
SBP/MIW Annuity Limitation		$8,219
Add for Each Additional Child		$2,093
MAPR FOR CHILD ALONE		$2,093
Child Earned Income Exclusion	effective 1/1/2000	$7,200
(38 CFR §3.272(j)(1))	effective 1/1/2001	$7,450
	effective 1/1/2002	$7,700
	effective 1/1/2003	$7,800
	effective 1/1/2004	$7,950
	effective 1/1/2005	$8,200
	effective 1/1/2006	$8,450
	effective 1/1/2007	$8,750
	effective 1/1/2008	$8,950
	effective 1/1/2009	$9,350
	effective 1/1/2012	$9,750

To find out how to use these rate tables CLICK HERE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Improved Disability Benefits Pension Rate Table - Effective 12/1/11

Veteran Alone & With Dependents

Date of Cost-of-Living Increase: 12-01-2011
Increase Factor: 3.6 %
Standard Medicare Deduction: $99.90

Maximum Annual Pension Rate (MAPR) Category	**Amount**
If you are a veteran...	**Your yearly income must be less than...**
Without Spouse or Child	$12,256 ***To be deducted, medical expenses must exceed 5% of MAPR, or, $ 612***
With One Dependent	$16,051 ***To be deducted, medical expenses must exceed 5% of MAPR, or, $ 802***
Housebound Without Dependents	$14,978
Housebound With One Dependent	$18,773
A&A Without Dependents	$20,447
A&A With One Dependent	$24,239
Two Vets Married to Each Other	$16,051
Add for Early War Veteran (Mexican Border Period or WW1) to any category above	$2,783
Add for Each Additional Child to any category above	$2,093

Child Earned Income Exclusion effective:	01-01-2000	$7,200
(38 CFR §3.272(j)(1)) *This link takes you to the full regulation; scroll down to get the specific citation.*	01-01-2001	$7,450
	01-01-2002	$7,700
	01-01-2003	$7,800
	01-01-2004	$7,950
	01-01-2005	$8,200
	01-01-2006	$8,450
	01-01-2007	$8,750
	01-01-2008	$8,950
	01-01-2009	$9,350
	01-01-2012	$9,750

To find out how to use these rate tables CLICK HERE.

For historic rate charts on this topic click on the date:
12-1-2009 12-1-2008 12-1-2007 12-1-2006 12-1-2005 12-1-2004
12-1-2003 12-1-2002 12-1-2001 12-1-2000
12-1-1999 before 12-1-1999.

If you do not have Microsoft Word software installed, you may download free viewer and reader software to view the documents cited above.

Lehigh County Office of Veterans

The Lehigh County Office of Veterans Affairs assists eligible veterans and their spouses to obtain all benefits due them according to the laws of the United States, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the County of Lehigh.

Veterans Emergency Assistance

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provides temporary emergency funds to assist honorably discharged veterans of any war or armed conflict or the widow and minor children of these veterans who are sick disabled or without means. Assistance is available for three months and is authorized for food, shelter, fuel and clothing.

Eligibility requirements include: Discharge other than dishonorable from service during established war-service dates; resident of Pennsylvania for one year prior to application, employed immediately prior to emergency, widows qualify if the veteran had been eligible immediately preceding death.

Discharges Recorded

All honorably discharged servicemen and women should record their discharge with the office of the Lehigh County Recorder of Deeds. This is a free service.

Certified Copies

Veterans can apply for free, certified copies of birth and death certificates, marriage licenses and divorce decrees.

Home Loan Guarantees

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs guarantees loans to veterans or to their surviving spouse for the purchase or refinancing of homes, condominiums or manufactured homes. The VA guarantees part of the loan, thus allowing the veterans to get a mortgage at a competitive interest rate and sometimes without a down payment. (down payments are required for manufactured homes or if the value of the home exceeds the reasonable value of the property.)

VA loans can also be used for: home construction, repairs or alterations, refinancing, westernization improvements.

Dates of Service

Persian Gulf War:

August 2, 1990 to a date to be determined by Congress.

Vietnam:

August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975 and
February 28, 1961 to August 5, 1964
for those who served "in country".

Korea:

June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955

WWII:

December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946

WWI:

April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918 and
April 6, 1917 to April 1, 1920, *if in Russia*

Flags and Markers

Lehigh County provides flags and markers for the graves of veterans buried in the County. These markers are provided free to families of veterans or to veterans organizations that take responsibility for placing them on graves.

Death benefits

Burial Allowance

Lehigh County provides a $100 allowance towards the funeral and burial of honorably discharged veterans who have served during any war and who resided in Lehigh County at the time of death. One day's service during wartime fulfills the requirement. Application for this benefit must be made within one year after death.

Headstone

Lehigh County will also pay normal costs not to exceed $100 for the installation of a Federal marker or lettering on an existing headstone to mark a veteran's grave.

The types of Federal markers that are available include: flat marble or granite, upright marble or flat bronze.

Widow's Burial Allowance

Widows of eligible military personnel are entitled to a $100 burial allowance if the military spouse was honorably discharged from wartime service and was a resident of Lehigh County at the time of death.

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