### Media Report 27MAY 2022

This weeks media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking such as Frequently asked questions regarding COVID-19 in Ottawa. Due to ongoing and evolving COVID-19 pandemic callers may experience increased wait times when calling the Government of Canada Pension Center. Callers may also experience dropped calls, as all telecommunication networks across Canada are presently facing capacity challenges. and local Media Articles and An illness or injury can have an impact on your ability to adjust to life after service. We all need healthcare services. The Treatment benefits program provides coverage for a variety of benefits and services to help you get—and stay healthy. Have you made an application for disability benefits from Veterans Affairs Canada and received a decision? If you disagree with that decision, you have the right to review.

# **Disability benefits**

A disability benefit is a tax-free, financial payment to support your well-being.

The amount you receive depends on the degree to which your condition is related to your service (entitlement) and the severity of your condition, including its impact on your quality of life (assessment).

## Do you qualify?

To qualify for adisability benefityou must be one of the following:

- •Canadian Armed Forces member or Veteran,
- •a current or former member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP),
- •Second World War or Korean War Veteran (includes Merchant Navy), or
- •certain civilians who served in the Second World War.

You should apply for a disability benefit if you:

- 1.have a diagnosed medical condition or disability; and
- 2.are able to show that the condition is related to your service.

If you qualify for a disability benefit, you will receive either a:

- 1.Pain and suffering compensation \*- a life-time monthly benefit or lump sum benefit the choice is yours.
  - •View the pain and suffering compensation rates.
  - •View all Pain and Suffering Compensation FAQs.

or

2.Disability pension \*\*- a life-time monthly benefit. If you have any dependents (e.g. spouse, common-law partner and/or children), your monthly amount will be increased.

View the <u>disability pension rates</u>.

\*If you have a pending application for a disability benefit and were expecting to receive a disability award, you do not need to re-apply. Your application for a disability benefit will now be processed as Pain and Suffering Compensation.

\*\*A disability pension is provided if you served with the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in the Second World War or Korean War. For other CAF service, a disability pension is provided in relation to any application prior to April 1, 2006.

## How to apply

### **Apply online**

Apply online through My VAC Account. Applying is easier with a guided form. Sign in or register for My VAC Account.

My VAC Account

### Mail or in person

Download the application form. Then, drop it off at any <u>VAC office</u>, <u>CAF Transition Centrer</u> or <u>Service Canada office</u>. You can also mail your completed form directly to the address listed on the form.

Go to form

### Get help with your application

The staff at any <u>VAC office,CAF Transition Centrer</u> or <u>Service Canada office</u> can assist you or call us at 1-866-522-2122. Service Officers with <u>The Royal Canadian Legion</u> or <u>The War Amps of Canada</u> can also assist you with your application, including helping you get all of the information you need to support your application. Their assistance is free of charge.

## Disability pension corrective payment

If you received a benefit from VAC between 2003 and 2010 and it was under the Pension Act, you may receive a corrective payment because of a discrepancy in our calculations. Most payments are automatic, however, Please contact us at 1-866-522-2122 if:

- •You no longer receive a benefit from VAC, or
- •You represent the estate of a deceased recipient.

If you are legally entitled to inherit assets from the estate of a deceased recipient, you may apply to receive a corrective payment if you are eligible.

### **Additional information**

<u>The application package</u>—learn more about all of the components that make up an application for a disability benefit.

<u>How we review a claim for a disability benefit</u>—learn more about how your disability claim is reviewed by the department and particularly, by the adjudicator – a trained decision-maker for disability claims.

<u>Disability Pension Corrective Payment</u>-If you are legally entitled to inherit the assets of a deceased benefit recipient, you may apply to receive the corrective payment.

### Monthly payment dates - 2021

- January 28
- February 25
- •March 30
- April 29
- •May 28
- •June 29
- •July 29
- August 30
- September 29
- October 28
- November 29
- December 23

### Reviews and appeals

If you do not agree with the decision made regarding your application for disability benefits, you may request a Departmental review. Learn more about <u>reviews and appeals</u>.

#### Reassessment

If the disability for which you are receiving VAC benefits worsens and medical evidence can show this change in your condition, you can request a reassessment. If the reassessment confirms that your condition has worsened, your disability benefit, will be adjusted accordingly – unless you are already receiving the maximum amount of the benefit. To request a reassessment, your first step should be to <u>call us or visit your local VAC office</u>.

### **Tools for Adjudication**

<u>Eligibility Entitlement Guidelines</u>— These guidelines are current medical and scientific descriptions of known injuries and diseases related to service.

<u>Table of Disabilities</u>— This table helps the adjudicator assess the level of impairment and the impact that impairment has on your quality of life.

### Related programs

<u>Critical injury benefit</u>- A one-time payment that recognizes the immediate impact of the most severe and traumatic service-related injuries or diseases.

Rehabilitation services - Services to improve your health and adjust to life after service.

<u>Clothing allowance</u>- Monthly payments if you need new or special clothing due to your health issues.

<u>Treatment Benefits</u> – Coverage for medical and health related services.

<u>Benefits for survivors</u>— Financial support or compensation for the survivors of a disability pensioner or of a member or Veteran who died in service or as a result of a service-related illness or injury.

<u>Financial advice</u>- If you receive a lump-sum payment more than 5% of the current maximum, we can pay up to \$500 for professional advice to help you manage your money effectively.

<u>Additional pain and suffering compensation</u>- Monthly payments in recognition of any severe and permanent disability, related to your military service, which creates a barrier to life after service.

### Programs related to a disability pension:

<u>Attendance allowance</u>- Monthly payments for a disability pensioner whose health needs require daily personal care support.

<u>Exceptional incapacity allowance</u>- Monthly payments if your illness or injury impacts your quality of life.

## Frequently asked questions

### If I apply for the benefit and get declined, can I appeal?

Yes. If you are not satisfied with a decision you may apply in writing for a review. Learn more about your review and appeal options.

### How is my request for Disability Benefits decided?

Learn more about how we review a disability benefit claim.

### Are there policies for this program?

Yes. Read more about the <u>Disability Benefits</u> policies.

Read more FAQs about the disability benefits program.

.IN THE MEDIA

Remembering the Netherlands' Liberation 77 years later

<u>Ukrainian soldier reveals how he secretly blew up Russian bridge</u>

<u>« Ils sont prêts », le plus grand exercice militaire du Canada face à la guerre en Europe</u>

Here's what U.S. Army leaders are learning from the Russia-Ukraine war

Bases get 'electric facelift' as Marines deploy smart grids, electric vehicles

This is how deployed soldiers purify water from dams, rivers and lakes



From targeting to navigation, handheld devices are merging tech and tactics

L'armée canadienne en Lettonie: « La menace russe est réelle » U.S. soldiers model river crossing in contrast to Russians' Donbas disaster

« Ils sont prêts », le plus grand exercice militaire du Canada face à la guerre en Europe

### STAY IN TOUCH WITH THESE CF NEWSPAPERS

### Base/Wing — Newspaper

14 Wing Greenwood — <u>The Aurora</u> 17 Wing Winnipeg — <u>The Voxair</u>

22 Wing North Bay — <u>The Shield</u> CFB Halifax — <u>The Trident</u>

4 Wing Cold Lake — <u>The Courier</u> CFB Edmonton — <u>The Western</u> Sentinel

CFB Esquimalt — <u>The Lookout</u> CFB Valcartier — <u>The Adsum</u>

CFSU Ottawa — <u>The Guard</u> CFB Kingston — <u>Garrison News</u>

CFB Shilo — <u>The Shilo Stag</u> CFB St Jean — <u>The Servir</u>

19 Wing Comox — <u>The Totem Times</u> 3 Wing Bagotville — <u>The Vortex</u>

8 Wing Trenton — <u>The Contact</u> CFB Borden — <u>The Citizen</u>

CFB Petawawa — <u>The Petawawa</u> Post

Base Gagetown — <u>Gagetown</u> Gazette