

VA Health Administration

The Department of Veterans Affairs has the overall responsibility to provide information and administration of the benefits you have as a veteran.

As a veteran you can go to the Veterans' Benefits briefing and/or talk with a Veteran Benefits Counselor to get specific information. I am going to provide you a general overview now.

You have probably heard about VA compensation and pension. First, is the VA's disability compensation. This is a tax-free benefit paid to a veteran because of injuries or diseases that happened while on active duty, or were made worse by active military service. The veteran must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

VA Pension is different. This is a benefit paid to veterans with low income and who are permanently and totally disabled, or are age 65 and older. You must have 90 days or more of active military service, at least one day of which was during a period of war.

All veterans are potentially eligible for VA health care. It is important that you talk to a VA representative to determine your individual eligibility.

If you want more information, visit the VA website, which is: <http://www.va.gov>. You could also call the toll free number: 1-800-827-1000.