



National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission

1608 K Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006

K. Robert Lewis, Chairman - Connecticut

Peter S. Gaytan, Director - Maryland

38-08

December 2, 2008

**PENSION RATES AND MAXIMUM INCOME LIMITATIONS
12/1/2008 THROUGH 11/30/2009
(P. L. 110-234)**

On September 24, 2008, President Bush signed into law S. 2617, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Act of 2008. The law provides, effective December 1, 2007, a 5.8% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation paid to the survivors of certain service-disabled veterans. The Director, Compensation and Pension Service of the Department of Veterans Affairs', Veterans Benefits Administration issued the following draft Pension, Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) rates and income limitations. These rates will implement VA benefits increases in pension under: P. L. 95-588 (Improved Pension), the maximum annual income limitations in pension programs in effect June 30, 1960 (Old Law Pension) and the maximum annual income limitations in effect December 31, 1978 (Section 306).

The rates will be effective December 1, 2008 and will be reflected in checks or electronic transfers received by veterans and beneficiaries on or about December 31, 2008.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P.S. Gaytan'.

PETER S. GAYTAN, Director
National Veterans Affairs and
Rehabilitation Commission

Disability Compensation and DIC

IMPROVED PENSION

Maximum Annual Rates

Veteran without dependent spouse or child:	\$11,830
Veteran with one dependent spouse or child:	15,493
Veteran in need of aid and attendance (A&A) without dependent:	19,736
Veteran in need of aid and attendance (A&A) with one dependent:	23,396
Veteran permanently housebound (HB) without dependent:	14,457
Veteran permanently housebound (HB) with one dependent:	18,120
Increase for each dependent child:	2,020
Increase for veterans of certain periods of war (WWI / Mexican Border Period):	2,686

Two Veterans Married to One Another (Combined Rates)

Both wartime and are permanently and totally disabled:	\$15,493
One is house bound (HB):	18,120
Both are housebound (HB):	20,747
One is in need of aid and attendance (A&A):	23,396
Both are in need of aid and attendance (A&A):	30,480
One is A&A and one is HB:	26,018

Surviving Child

Where surviving spouse is eligible but child is not in custody of spouse	\$2,020
Surviving child where there is no surviving spouse	2,020

Maximum Income Limitation Pension in Effect on 12/31/78 (Section 306)

Veteran or surviving spouse with no dependents:	\$13,456
Veteran or surviving spouse with one or more dependents:	18,087
Child with no entitled veteran or surviving spouse:	11,001
SBP/MIW annuity limitation:	7,953

Maximum Income Limitation Pension in Effect on 6/30/60 (Old Law)

Unmarried veteran:	\$11,780
Veteran or surviving spouse with one or more dependents:	16,982
Child with no entitled veteran or surviving spouse	11,780

This table is for quick reference only and does not include all possible combinations of dependents. For a complete listing and formulas consult current VBA rate schedules effective 12/01/2008.