

**Town of North Branford  
Office of Social Service  
Luisa Breen**

*Department of Veterans  
Affairs  
Aid and Attendance & Housebound Benefits*

# Department of Veterans Affairs

## *Aid & Attendance and Housebound Benefits*

### Basic Eligibility: Veteran

- Veteran must have served at least 90 days of active duty with one day during wartime.
- Permanently and totally disabled or over 65 years old.
- Honorably Discharged (or Other than Dishonorably Discharged).

### Basic Eligibility: Surviving Spouse

- Must have been married to the eligible veteran at least one year prior to the time of death.
- Must not have remarried

### Aid and Attendance Pension

- The VA defines Aid & Attendance as: A veteran or surviving spouse who needs the assistance of another person everyday to bathe, dress, eat, and any other activities regarding day-to-day living.
- A physician must determine if you are in need of Aid & Attendance. (VA Form 21-2680 will be provided to the applicant)
- This level of care may entitle the veteran or the surviving spouse pension at the Aid & Attendance level.

### Pension Financial Requirements

- VA pensions are based on the financial need of the eligible veteran or surviving spouse.
- Financial need is determined by the Income and Net Worth of the veteran or surviving spouse.
- Income/Net Worth: (includes social security and/or retirement)
  - Veteran needing A&A - \$1,554.00/income limit per month
  - Widow needing A&A - \$998.00/income limit per month
  - Countable income can be offset by out-of-pocket medical expenses.
  - The VA considers someone in an Assisted Living Facility as in need of the Aid & Attendance of another person and will DEDUCT from your countable monthly income the facility's charges, and any other home healthcare services that the veteran or widow may require.
  - Remember: These expenses must be out-of-pocket (not covered by insurance)



## EXAMINATION FOR HOUSEBOUND STATUS OR PERMANENT NEED FOR REGULAR AID AND ATTENDANCE

1. FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME - LAST NAME OF VETERAN		2. FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME - LAST NAME OF CLAIMANT <i>(If other than veteran)</i>		3. RELATIONSHIP OF CLAIMANT TO VETERAN	
4A. VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		4B. CLAIMANT'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		5. CLAIM NUMBER	
6. DATE OF EXAMINATION		7. HOME ADDRESS			
8A. IS CLAIMANT HOSPITALIZED?  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <i>(If "Yes," complete Items 8B and 9)</i>		8B. DATE ADMITTED		9. NAME AND ADDRESS OF HOSPITAL	
<p><b>NOTE: EXAMINER PLEASE READ CAREFULLY</b></p> <p>The purpose of this examination is to record manifestations and findings pertinent to the question of whether the claimant is housebound (confined to the home or immediate premises) or in need of the regular aid and attendance of another person. The report should be in sufficient detail for the VA decision makers to determine the extent that disease or injury produces physical or mental impairment, that loss of coordination or enfeeblement affects the ability: to dress and undress; to feed him/herself; to attend to the wants of nature; or keep him/herself ordinarily clean and presentable. Findings should be recorded to show whether the claimant is blind or bedridden. Whether the claimant seeks housebound or aid and attendance benefits, the report should reflect how well he/she ambulates, where he/she goes, and what he/she is able to do during a typical day.</p>					
10. COMPLETE DIAGNOSIS <i>(Diagnosis needs to equate to the level of assistance described in questions 20 through 34)</i>					
11A. AGE	11B. SEX	12. WEIGHT ACTUAL: LBS.                      ESTIMATED: LBS.		13. HEIGHT FEET:                      INCHES:	
14. NUTRITION				15. GAIT	
16. BLOOD PRESSURE	17. PULSE RATE	18. RESPIRATORY RATE	19. WHAT DISABILITIES RESTRICT THE LISTED ACTIVITIES/FUNCTIONS?		
20. IF THE CLAIMANT IS CONFINED TO BED, INDICATE THE NUMBER OF HOURS IN BED From 9 PM To 9 AM:                      From 9 AM To 9 PM:					
21. IS THE CLAIMANT ABLE TO FEED HIM/HERSELF? <i>(If "No," provide explanation)</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO					
22. IS CLAIMANT ABLE TO PREPARE OWN MEALS? <i>(If "Yes," provide explanation)</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO					
23. DOES THE CLAIMANT NEED ASSISTANCE IN BATHING AND TENDING TO OTHER HYGIENE NEEDS? <i>(If "Yes," provide explanation)</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO					
24A. IS THE CLAIMANT LEGALLY BLIND? <i>(If "Yes," provide explanation)</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			24B. CORRECTED VISION		
			LEFT EYE	RIGHT EYE	
25. DOES THE CLAIMANT REQUIRE NURSING HOME CARE? <i>(If "Yes," provide explanation)</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO					
26. DOES CLAIMANT REQUIRE MEDICATION MANAGEMENT? <i>(If "Yes," provide explanation)</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO					
27. DOES THE CLAIMANT HAVE THE ABILITY TO MANAGE HIS/HER OWN FINANCIAL AFFAIRS? <i>(If "No," provide explanation)</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO					

28. POSTURE AND GENERAL APPEARANCE (Attach a separate sheet of paper if additional space is needed)

29. DESCRIBE RESTRICTIONS OF EACH UPPER EXTREMITY WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO GRIP, FINE MOVEMENTS, AND ABILITY TO FEED HIM/HERSELF, TO BUTTON CLOTHING, SHAVE AND ATTEND TO THE NEEDS OF NATURE (Attach a separate sheet of paper if additional space is needed)

30. DESCRIBE RESTRICTIONS OF EACH LOWER EXTREMITY WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE EXTENT OF LIMITATION OF MOTION, ATROPHY, AND CONTRACTURES OR OTHER INTERFERENCE. IF INDICATED, COMMENT SPECIFICALLY ON WEIGHT BEARING, BALANCE AND PROPULSION OF EACH LOWER EXTREMITY.

31. DESCRIBE RESTRICTION OF THE SPINE, TRUNK AND NECK

32. SET FORTH ALL OTHER PATHOLOGY INCLUDING THE LOSS OF BOWEL OR BLADDER CONTROL OR THE EFFECTS OF ADVANCING AGE, SUCH AS DIZZINESS, LOSS OF MEMORY OR POOR BALANCE, THAT AFFECTS CLAIMANT'S ABILITY TO PERFORM SELF-CARE, AMBULATE OR TRAVEL BEYOND THE PREMISES OF THE HOME, OR, IF HOSPITALIZED, BEYOND THE WARD OR CLINICAL AREA. DESCRIBE WHERE THE CLAIMANT GOES AND WHAT HE OR SHE DOES DURING A TYPICAL DAY.

33. DESCRIBE HOW OFTEN PER DAY OR WEEK AND UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES THE CLAIMANT IS ABLE TO LEAVE THE HOME OR IMMEDIATE PREMISES

34. ARE AIDS SUCH AS CANES, BRACES, CRUTCHES, OR THE ASSISTANCE OF ANOTHER PERSON REQUIRED FOR LOCOMOTION? (If so, specify and describe effectiveness in terms of distance that can be traveled, as in Item 32 above)

YES (If "YES," give distance) (Check applicable box or specify distance)  1 BLOCK  5 or 6 BLOCKS  1 MILE OTHER (Specify distance) \_\_\_\_\_

35A. PRINTED NAME OF EXAMINING PHYSICIAN

35B. SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF EXAMINING PHYSICIAN

35C. DATE SIGNED

36A. NAME AND ADDRESS OF MEDICAL FACILITY

36B. TELEPHONE NUMBER OF MEDICAL FACILITY (Include Area Code)

**PRIVACY ACT NOTICE:** The VA will not disclose information collected on this form to any source other than what has been authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974 or Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations 1.576 for routine uses (i.e., civil or criminal law enforcement, congressional communications, epidemiological or research studies, the collection of money owed to the United States, litigation in which the United States is a party or has an interest, the administration of VA programs and delivery of VA benefits, verification of identity and status, and personnel administration) as identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pension, Education and Vocational Rehabilitation Records - VA, and published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is required to obtain or retain benefits. Giving us your Social Security Number (SSN) account information is mandatory. Applicants are required to provide their SSN under Title 38, U.S.C. 5701(c) (1). The VA will not deny an individual benefits for refusing to provide his or her SSN unless the disclosure of the SSN is required by a Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and still in effect. The requested information is considered relevant and necessary to determine maximum benefits provided under the law. The responses you submit are considered confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). Information that you furnish may be utilized in computer matching programs with other Federal or state agencies for the purpose of determining your eligibility to receive VA benefits, as well as to collect any amount owed to the United States by virtue of your participation in any benefit program administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**RESPONDENT BURDEN:** We need this information to determine your eligibility for aid and attendance or housebound benefits. Title 38, United States Code 1521 (d) and (e), 1115 (1)(e), 1311(c) and (d), 1315 (h), 1122, 1541 (d) (e), and 1502(b) and (c) allows us to ask for this information. We estimate that you will need an average of 30 minutes to review the instructions, find the information, and complete this form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. You are not required to respond to a collection of information if this number is not displayed. Valid OMB control numbers can be located on the OMB Internet page at [www.whitehouse.gov/omb/library/OMB/INV.VA.EPA.html#VA](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/library/OMB/INV.VA.EPA.html#VA). If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.