



**Department of  
Veterans Affairs**

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# Fact Sheet

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## VA Benefits For Active Duty Personnel

- Medal of Honor pension is payable to service members.
- Service members who remain on active duty are eligible for payment of the automobile allowance and adaptive equipment.
- With the passage of the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003, active duty personnel are eligible for specially adapted housing and special home adaptation grants.
- Home loan guaranty is available to active duty personnel after serving 181 days (or 90 days during the Gulf War era, which extends to current deployments).
- On April 17, 2003, under the authority of 38 U.S.C. 8111A, the Secretary directed VA's Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to give priority care to active duty personnel involved in armed conflict in Iraq. He directed that VHA accomplish this function by providing care through the use of sharing agreements between VA facilities and DOD TRICARE contractors.
- Service members and reservists are eligible for up to a maximum of \$250,000 in life insurance under SGLI. Coverage for spouses is available up to a maximum of \$100,000 while children are automatically covered for \$10,000 at no cost.
- VA's Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) offers counseling and claims assistance to separating service members throughout the U.S. and around the world in the Transition Assistance Program and Disabled Transition Assistance Program (TAP/DTAP) program. Claims for benefits are prepared and adjudicated prior to separation by VBA through the Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) program.
- Education benefits are available to active duty personnel who have served for at least two years and contributed to Chapter 30, the Montgomery GI Bill, and to selected reservists and National Guardsman that are certified as eligible under Chapter 1606. Chapter 30 is limited to payment for tuition and fees while Chapter 1606 provides a monthly stipend.
- For help with VA benefits and health care contact your installation VA military service representative, use our toll-free hotline (800-827-1000), or visit the VA website, [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).