

Veterans and Social Security Benefits and Amounts

Q. How are Social Security and Veterans' benefits handled?

A. We notify both agencies. Social Security pays a lump sum death benefit of \$255 directly to the spouse. Veterans receive cash benefits based on disability or other requirements, as listed below:

Benefits for veterans who die at a Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital

1. Gets \$300 burial or cremation allowance.
2. Gets \$300 plot allowance if they don't use a National Cemetery.
3. Gets transportation from VA hospital (our charges reimbursed).
4. Gets transportation to place of interment or services (our charges reimbursed).

Benefits for veterans who die outside a VA Hospital

Scenario #1

You are receiving a VA service connected disability pension.

1. VA service connected disability pension. Gets \$300 burial/cremation allowance.
2. Gets \$300 plot allowance if they don't use a National Cemetery.
3. If your disability is service connected, transportation will be paid only if buried in a National Cemetery.

Scenario #2

VA assistance or support pension.

1. VA support pension. Gets \$300 burial/cremation allowance.
2. Gets \$300 plot allowance if they don't use a National Cemetery.
3. No transport money is allowed, ever.

Scenario #3

100% service connected veteran.

1. Must have died from service connection. If so, up to \$2,000 is reimbursed to family for funeral/cremation costs.

Benefits for all veterans and spouses

- All Vets and their spouses with honorable discharge and with one day of active duty are entitled to free cemetery property, headstone, Opening & Closing, and perpetual care at any National Cemetery.
- Honorably discharged veteran serving any length of time before 9/7/80.
- Veterans entering service after this time must serve 24 months of continuous active duty or for the full time for which the person was called to active duty.