



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Veterans Benefits Administration
Regional Office**

MICK [REDACTED]

**VA File Number
[REDACTED]**

**Represented By:
GORDON A GRAHAM
Rating Decision
10/23/2025**

INTRODUCTION

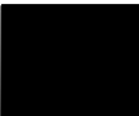
The records reflect that you are a Veteran of the Gulf War Era, Peacetime and Vietnam Era. You served in the Air Force from June 29, 1970 to April 15, 1974 and the Army from November 9, 1978 to December 19, 1984 and from December 20, 1984 to February 29, 1992. You filed a new claim for benefits that was received on October 14, 2025. Based on a review of the evidence listed below, we have made the following decision on your claim.

DECISION

Entitlement to special monthly compensation based on aid and attendance criteria being met is granted from September 22, 2025.

EVIDENCE

- VA Form 21-22, Appointment of Veterans Service organization as Claimant's Representative, received August 4, 2025
- VA Form 21-526EZ, Application for Disability Compensation and Related Compensation Benefits, received October 14, 2025



- Puget Sound VA Medical Center (VAMC) records through October 2025
- VA Form 21-2680, Examination for Housebound Status or Permanent need for Regular Aid and Attendance, received October 14, 2025

REASONS FOR DECISION

Entitlement to special monthly compensation based on aid and attendance.

Entitlement to special monthly compensation is warranted in this case because criteria regarding aid and attendance have been met. (38 CFR 3.350)

Special monthly compensation may be warranted if you are permanently housebound by reasons of your service connected disabilities. This requirement is met when the veteran is substantially confined as direct result of disabilities to his or her dwelling and the immediate premises or, if institutionalized, to the ward or clinical areas, and it is reasonably certain that the disability or disabilities and resultant confinement will continue throughout his or her lifetime. Basic criteria for regular aid and attendance and permanently bedridden. The following will be accorded consideration in determining the need for regular aid and attendance (§3.351(c)(3)) inability of claimant to dress or undress himself (herself), or to keep himself (herself) ordinarily clean and presentable, frequent need of adjustment of any special prosthetic or orthopedic appliances which by reason of the particular disability cannot be done without aid (this will not include the adjustment of appliances which normal persons would be unable to adjust without aid, such as supports, belts, lacing at the back etc.); inability of claimant to feed himself (herself) through loss of coordination of upper extremities or through extreme weakness; inability to attend to the wants of nature; or incapacity, physical or mental, which requires care or assistance on a regular basis to protect the claimant from hazards or dangers incident to his or her daily environment. "Bedridden" will be a proper basis for the determination.

The evidence from the exam completed on September 22, 2025, received on October 14, 2025, indicates that assistance is required for personal needs such as dressing, medication management, and additional activities such as hygiene. The examiner noted that you are no longer able to provide basic care for yourself and require the assistance of another.

The effective date of this grant is September 22, 2025. Entitlement to an increased evaluation has been established from the date of the medical evidence showing an increase in disability. When medical evidence showing an increase in disability is dated within one year prior to the date of receipt of a claim for increase, the effective date of the increase is the date of the evidence. (38 CFR 3.400)

Entitled to special monthly compensation under 38 U.S.C. 1114, subsection (I) and 38 CFR 3.350(b) on account of being so helpless as to be in need of regular aid and attendance from September 22, 2025.

REFERENCES:

Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Pensions, Bonuses and Veterans' Relief contains the regulations of the Department of Veterans Affairs which govern entitlement to all Veteran benefits. For additional information regarding applicable laws and regulations, please consult your local library, or visit us at our website, www.va.gov.