

Veterans Benefits Assistance

The federal government provides a wealth of assistance to United States veterans, and the VA covers 100 percent of hospice care. The VITAS admissions staff and hospice team are familiar with the VA system, and can help patients and their families identify and access the various benefits to which they may be entitled.

Applying for benefits

Patients who have not already applied for veterans benefits need a copy of their separation papers (Form DD214) in order to prove their eligibility. VITAS can assist families with obtaining copies if they do not have originals on hand.

Types of benefits

A few of the benefits to which veterans and their dependents may be entitled to are:

- *Survivors Benefits.* The VA provides assistance to the surviving spouses and dependents of veterans, even if they died after active duty.
- *Death Pension.* The death pension is a need-based benefit paid to a surviving spouse and eligible children of a wartime veteran.
- *Burial Benefits.* The VA may cover some or all of the burial costs and funeral expenses. Veterans are also eligible to be buried in military cemeteries.

The VITAS social worker and the program veterans liaison can help patients and families contact the Veterans Benefits Administration to determine the maximum benefits they may receive.



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For more information about our hospice services for veterans, call our dedicated veterans line at 866.791.2229.

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