



Special Benefits For Certain World War II Veterans

Special benefits can be paid to certain World War II veterans. These include veterans who served in the active United States military from September 16, 1940, through July 24, 1947. It also includes Filipino veterans who served in the organized military of the Philippines from July 26, 1941, through December 30, 1946 (while those forces were in the service of the U.S. Armed Forces). The special veterans benefits are payable for months in which qualified veterans live outside the United States.

Who may qualify

To qualify for special veterans benefits, you must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be age 65 or older as of December 14, 1999;
- Be a World War II veteran as described above;
- Be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) by December 1999;
- Be eligible for SSI for the month you apply for special veterans benefits; and
- Have other benefit income that is less than 75 percent of the current SSI federal benefit rate.

“Other benefit income” usually means any recurring payments you get regularly, such as annuities, pensions, retirement, or disability benefits. These special veterans benefits can’t be paid to the veteran’s dependents or survivors.

When the benefits start

If you qualify, you’ll receive benefits for each month in which you reside outside the United States on the first day of the month.

When the benefits stop

Benefits will stop if:

- You tell us that you no longer consider yourself to be residing outside the United States;
- You visit the United States and stay for more than a full calendar month. For example, if you come to the United States on the first day of the month and leave before the end of the month (February 1 to the 27), your benefits will not be affected. However, if you come to the United States January 15, your benefits will stop on March 1 as you spent the entire month of February in the country;
- You come to the United States to visit and decide to stay. Your benefits will stop effective with the earlier of the following:
 - The month after the month in which you decide to live in the United States; or
 - The month after the first full calendar month you were in the United States.

Special veterans benefit amount

By law, the amount of the monthly special veterans benefits cannot be more than 75 percent of the current SSI federal benefit rate. To figure out the amount of your monthly special veterans benefits, we take 75 percent of the current SSI federal benefit rate and subtract the amount of any other benefit income you receive for the month.

For 2017, the SSI federal benefit rate is \$735. This means that your total other monthly benefit income must be less than \$551.25 (75 percent of \$735) for you to receive special veterans benefits.

Things you need to give us

Following are examples of the kind of information you may need to provide:

- Proof of birth date;
- Proof of your other income;
- Proof of your military service in World War II, such as U.S. military discharge papers (showing discharge under conditions other than dishonorable);
- Proof of service in the organized forces of the Commonwealth of the Philippines; and
- Proof of residence in a country other than the United States.

Contacting Social Security

For more than 80 years, Social Security has helped secure today and tomorrow by providing information, benefits, and financial protection for millions of people throughout their life's journey.

Contact your local Social Security office for more information about applying for benefits. If you're in the Philippines, contact the Social Security office in Manila, 1201 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita 0930 MANILA.

If you live in Mexico, contact the nearest U.S. Social Security office, or U.S. embassy or consulate.

Contact the nearest Social Security office if you live in American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands. If you live in the British Virgin Islands, Canada, or Samoa, you also may contact a U.S. Social Security office.

If you're living in any other country, contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

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Securing today
and tomorrow

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