



CHECKS *for* VETS

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QUICKSTART GUIDE

OBTAINING WARTIME SERVICE VETERAN PENSIONS

WARTIME SERVICE VETERANS AND SURVIVING SPOUSES: If you take the right steps and prepare your applications properly, you'll get the best response in the shortest amount of time. Here's a quick 7-step guide:

1. **Obtain the veteran's discharge record.** Locate and get a copy of your discharge record, because you must have it to file a pension application.
2. **Locate other important documents,** such as marriage and death certificates. You will need these documents to support your claim.
3. **Locate and select a veteran service officer** in your local area. A veteran service officer is a great resource for filing pension claims. There is no fee for their services and you do not need to be a member of their organization to gain their help.
4. **Identify suitable assisted living facilities or homecare agencies.** Plan ahead: Don't wait until you have an immediate need for care. These facilities offer tours and an explanation of services to help you decide if the care provider may be right for you. Care providers will give you the information you will need to support your claim.
5. **Don't use outdated pension claim forms.** Use only the most current forms, so that you only have to fill in the forms once.
6. **Don't make errors when completing claim forms.** Do it right the first time. Errors will cause delays in the processing of your claim.
7. **Don't pay for prescription medications.** Veterans can apply for free health benefits that can save hundreds of dollars per year.

**Call Toll-Free 877-CHX-VETS
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