

Your VA—getting you to your destination!

## Veterans Travel Benefits

### ***Benefit Description***

If you meet the criteria below, you may be eligible for mileage reimbursement or special mode transport in association with obtaining VA health care services.

You qualify if:

- you have a service-connected (SC) rating of 30 percent or more, or
- you are traveling for treatment of a SC condition, or
- you receive a VA pension, or
- your income does not exceed the maximum annual VA pension rate, or
- you are traveling for a scheduled compensation & pension examination

You qualify for Special Mode Transportation (ambulance, wheelchair van, etc.) if:

- your medical condition requires an ambulance or a specially equipped van as determined by a VA clinician, and
- you meet one of the eligibility criteria listed above, and
- the travel is pre-authorized (authorization is not required for emergencies if a delay would be hazardous to life or health)

### ***Waiver of Deductible***

A waiver of the deductible will be provided if you

- are eligible for travel and you:
- are in receipt of a VA pension or;
- are a non service-connected (NSC) Veteran and your previous year's income does not exceed, or your

- projected current calendar year's income, in the year of application will not exceed the applicable VA pension rate, or
- are a SC Veteran and your previous year's income does not exceed, or your projected current calendar
- year's income, in the year of application will not exceed the applicable national means test income threshold or,
- are traveling for a scheduled compensation or pension examination

Note:

For detailed information visit the following links for VA National Income Thresholds

<http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/library/pubs/>

VAIncomeThresholds and Pension income thresholds

<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/rates/pen01.htm>

### ***Mileage Rates***

General Travel: \$0.415 (41.5 cents) per mile

Scheduled appointments qualify for round-trip mileage. Unscheduled visits may be limited to return mileage only.

Deductible ; \$3.00 one-way (\$6.00 round trip)

Deductible requirement is subject to a monthly cap of \$18.00. Upon reaching \$18.00 in deductibles or 6 one-way (3 round) trips, whichever comes first, travel payments made for the balance of that particular month will be free of deductible charges.

### ***More Information***

<http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/Library?FAQs/BeneTravelFAQ.asp> or call 1-877-222-VETS (8387)

## ***Fraud Costs Everyone***

### ***STOP - Don't TRAVEL down the WRONG ROAD***

Beneficiary travel fraud can take money out of the pockets of deserving Veterans. Inappropriate uses of beneficiary travel benefits include:

- incorrect addresses provided resulting in increased mileage
- driving/riding together and making separate claims
- taking no cost transportation, such as Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and making claims Veterans making false statements for beneficiary travel reimbursement may be prosecuted under applicable laws.

38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 70.41, "Recovery of Payments"

38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 70.42, "False Statements"

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 111, 501, 1701, 1714, 1720, 1728, 1782, 1783, E. O. 11302)

### ***Reporting Fraud***

Help VA's secretary ensure the integrity of departmental operations by reporting suspected fraud, waste or abuse in VA programs or operations.

VAOIG toll-free hotline: 1-800-488-8244 (8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Eastern Time Monday–Friday excluding federal holidays)

You may also contact us by mail, e-mail and FAX.

Write the VAOIG Hotline:

VA Inspector General Hotline (53E)

PO Box 50410

Washington, DC 20091-0410

E-mail the VAOIG Hotline: [vaoighotline@va.gov](mailto:vaoighotline@va.gov)

FAX the VAOIG Hotline: (202) 565-7936

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