Media Report 12 April 2024

This weeks media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking and local Media Articles and An illness or injury can have an impact on your ability to adjust to life after service. We all need healthcare services. The Treatment benefits program provides coverage for a variety of benefits and services to help you get—and stay healthy'

Disability benefits

About this program

A disability benefit is a tax-free, financial payment to support your well-being.

The amount you receive depends on the degree to which your condition is related to your service (entitlement) and the severity of your condition, including its impact on your quality of life (assessment).

Do you qualify?

To qualify for a disability benefit you must be one of the following:

- Canadian Armed Forces member or Veteran,
- a current or former member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP),
- Second World War or Korean War Veteran (includes Merchant Navy), or
- certain civilians who served in the Second World War.

You should apply for a disability benefit if you:

- 1. have a diagnosed medical condition or disability; and
- 2. are able to show that the condition is related to your service.

If you qualify for a disability benefit, you will receive either a:

- 1. **Pain and Suffering Compensation** a life-time monthly benefit or lump sum benefit the choice is yours.
 - View the My VAC Account

Mail or in person

Download the application form. Then, drop it off at any <u>VAC office</u>, <u>CAF Transition Centre</u> or <u>Service</u> <u>Canada office</u>. You can also mail your completed form directly to the address listed on the form.



Get help with your application

The staff at any <u>VAC office</u>, <u>CAF Transition Centre</u> or <u>Service Canada office</u> can assist you or call us at 1-866-522-2122. Service Officers with <u>The Royal Canadian Legion</u> or <u>The War Amps of Canada</u> can also assist you with your application, including helping you get all of the information you need to support your application. Their assistance is free of charge.

Disability Pension corrective payment

If you received a benefit from VAC between 2003 and 2010 and it was under the Pension Act, you may receive a corrective payment because of a discrepancy in our calculations. **Most payments are automatic**, however, Please <u>contact us</u> at 1-866-522-2122 if:

- You no longer receive a benefit from VAC, or
- You represent the estate of a deceased recipient.

If you are legally entitled to inherit assets from the estate of a deceased recipient, you may <u>apply to receive a corrective payment</u> if you are eligible.

Additional information

<u>The application package</u>: learn more about all of the components that make up an application for a disability benefit.

<u>How we review a claim for a disability benefit</u>: learn more about how your disability claim is reviewed by the department and particularly, by the adjudicator : a trained decision-maker for disability claims.

<u>Disability Pension Corrective Payment</u>: If you are legally entitled to inherit the assets of a deceased benefit recipient, you may apply to receive the corrective payment.

Monthly payment dates - 2024

- January 30
- February 28
- March 27
- April 29
- May 30
- June 27
- July 30
- August 29
- September 26
- October 30
- November 28
- December 23

Reviews and appeals

If you do not agree with the decision made regarding your application for disability benefits, you may request a Departmental review. Learn more about <u>reviews and appeals</u>.

Reassessment

If the disability for which you are receiving VAC benefits worsens and medical evidence can show this change in your condition, you can request a reassessment. If the reassessment confirms that your condition has worsened, your disability benefit, will be adjusted accordingly – unless you are already receiving the maximum amount of the benefit. To request a reassessment, your first step should be to <u>call us or visit your local VAC office</u>.

Tools for Adjudication

<u>Eligibility Entitlement Guidelines</u> – These guidelines are current medical and scientific descriptions of known injuries and diseases related to service.

<u>Table of Disabilities</u> – This table helps the adjudicator assess the level of impairment and the impact that impairment has on your quality of life.

Related programs

<u>Critical injury benefit</u> - A one-time payment that recognizes the immediate impact of the most severe and traumatic service-related injuries or diseases.

Rehabilitation services - Services to improve your health and adjust to life after service.

<u>Clothing allowance</u> - Monthly payments if you need new or special clothing due to your health issues.

<u>Treatment Benefits</u> – Coverage for medical and health related services.

<u>Benefits for survivors</u> – Financial support or compensation for the survivors of a disability pensioner or of a member or Veteran who died in service or as a result of a service-related illness or injury.

<u>Financial advice</u> - If you receive a lump-sum payment more than 5% of the current maximum, we can pay up to \$500 for professional advice to help you manage your money effectively.

<u>Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation</u> - Monthly payments in recognition of any severe and permanent disability, related to your military service, which creates a barrier to life after service.

<u>Guided support</u> – Sometimes life situations can be challenging. When the challenge is too much to handle independently, Guided Support services can help you and your family.

Programs related to a disability pension:

<u>Attendance allowance</u> - Monthly payments for a disability pensioner whose health needs require daily personal care support.

<u>Exceptional incapacity allowance</u> - Monthly payments if your illness or injury impacts your quality of life.

Disability tax credit (DTC)

The DTC helps reduce the income tax that people with physical or mental impairments, or their supporting family members, may have to pay. It aims to offset some of the costs related to the impairment. Learn more about this non-refundable tax credit available through the <u>Canada Revenue Agency</u>.

Frequently asked questions

If I apply for the benefit and get declined, can I appeal?

Yes. If you are not satisfied with a decision you may apply in writing for a review. Learn more about <u>your review and appeal options.</u>

How is my request for Disability Benefits decided?

Learn more about how we review a disability benefit claim.

Are there policies for this program?

Yes. Read more about the <u>Disability Benefits</u> policies.

Read more FAQs about the disability benefits program.

IN THE MEDIA

Road Map from eFP Latvia Battle Group to Brigade

Canadian Military Family

The road from Battle Group to Brigade in Latvia is well underway. Agreed upon at the 2022 Summit in Madrid and signed on July 11, 2023, at Camp Adazi in Latvia, the National Defence's roadmap envisions the enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) Latvia Battle Group growing to a brigade by 2026. Read More

<u>Insights from Master Corporal Tom Trainor: Reflecting on Operation UNIFIER with 2</u>
Combat Engineer Regiment

Government of Canada

"Be flexible — change happens and we can't do anything about it. We just have to adapt," said Master Corporal (MCpl) Tom Trainor, a Signal Operator from 2 Combat Engineer Regiment in Petawawa, Ontario. MCpl Trainor recently completed a six-month deployment at Operation UNIFIER's Engineer Training Element (ETE) in Poland. MCpl Trainor was deployed as their main Signaller; however, his role evolved throughout the mission to include being ETE's Quartermaster and also part of the Task Force's Information Management team. Read More

<u>Point de vue du caporal-chef Tom Trainor : Réflexions sur l'opération UNIFIER avec le 2e Régiment du génie de combat</u>

Gouvernement du Canada

« Soyez flexible — le changement se produit et nous ne pouvons rien y faire. Nous devons simplement nous adapter », déclare le caporal-chef (Cplc) Tom Trainor, opérateur de transmissions du 2e Régiment du génie de combat à Petawawa, en Ontario. Le Cplc Trainor a récemment terminé un déploiement de six mois à l'élément d'instruction du génie (EIG) de l'Opération UNIFIER en Pologne. Le Cplc Trainor a été déployé en tant que principal opérateur de transmissions, mais son rôle a évolué au cours de la mission pour devenir le

quartier-maître de l'EIG et faire partie de l'équipe de gestion de l'information de la force opérationnelle. Lire Plus

Newly Approved Rapid Blood Test for Traumatic Brain Injury Could Speed Up Treatment for Troops

Military.com

The Food and Drug Administration has approved a blood test to detect concussion that produces results in minutes rather than hours — a breakthrough that could help expedite treatment for service members with traumatic brain injuries, according to the U.S. Army and Abbott Laboratories, the diagnostic's developer. Read More

NATO at 75: Is Canada losing its grip on the world's greatest military alliance?

CBC

Inarguably bigger and more seasoned than it was when it was born from the ashes of the Second World War, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization — the West's great military alliance — celebrated a milestone Thursday: three-quarters of a century of keeping the peace in Europe. NATO formally came into being with the signing of the Washington Treaty in the U.S. capital 75 years ago, when 12 western democracies — including Canada — banded together against what they saw as Soviet Russia's expansionism in Europe. Read More

Canada's Coast Guard begins historic fleet recapitalization

The Maritime Executive

After years of planning, the building of modern vessels for the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) is finally set to commence following the award of multi-million contracts to Canadian shipyards. The Canadian federal government announced that Seaspan Shipyards will construct the first six multi-purpose vessels (MPV), while Chantier Davie will undertake initial works related to the construction of new Program Icebreakers for the CCG. Read More

Canadian military expects to secure contract for B.C. drone base by end of 2024

CTV News

The Department of National Defence expects to have a contract in place by the end of this year to build a new military drone base in British Columbia. The \$53-million facility will house three combat-ready MQ-9B drones built by U.S.-based manufacturer General Atomics, and 25 personnel at the Royal Canadian Air Force base in Comox, B.C., as part of the Canadian government's \$2.49-billion military drone program announced late last year. Read More

Gurkha warriors' long journey to become Combat Engineers finally comes to an end

Forces Net

More than 30 Nepalese men, some of them teenagers, left home to join the British Army, and one year later their journey is at an end. Despite joining the Armed Forces at a dangerous time in terms of global security, the 32 men from Nepal strived to become Gurkha Combat Engineers, earning the respect of their commanders twice over. Read More

They didn't know how to dig fortifications. Often engineering troops have nothing but...

SokaInfo

Why are Ukrainian private companies not involved in the construction of fortifications? One reason is bureaucracy, and another may be basic fear. A military engineer speaks. Read More

STAY IN TOUCH WITH THESE CF NEWSPAPERS

Base/Wing — Newspaper

14 Wing Greenwood — The Aurora
22 Wing North Bay — The Shield
4 Wing Cold Lake — The Courier
CFB Esquimalt — The Lookout
CFSU Ottawa — The Guard
CFB Shilo — The Shilo Stag
19 Wing Comox — The Totem Times
8 Wing Trenton — The Contact
CFB Petawawa — The Petawawa Post

17 Wing Winnipeg — The Voxair
CFB Halifax — The Trident
CFB Edmonton — The Western Sentinel
CFB Valcartier — The Adsum
CFB Kingston — Garrison News
CFB St Jean — The Servir
3 Wing Bagotville — The Vortex
CFB Borden — The Citizen
Base Gagetown — Gagetown Gazette