



Pension Payment Details for Widow or Widower of a Deceased Veteran

Important Information

The information sought on this form is required before you can be paid a pension as the widow or widower of a deceased veteran under the *Veterans Entitlement Act 1986*.

Proving your identity to DVA

Before you can be paid a pension by DVA, you must show documents from the Category A and B lists below which prove your identity.

You must show original documents or true and certified copies of these documents. (See 'Who can certify copies of documents' on page 2.)

If you mail your claim and originals of your proof of identity documents, your documents will be returned by registered post.

From the lists of Category A and B documents on this page, you must provide **3 different documents** with 1 document from Category A and two documents from Category B. If none of the documents you produce to satisfy Category A or B provides evidence of your current residential address, then you must also produce a document from Category C:

A B B OR **A B B C**

If any of the documents are in a previous name, you must provide an additional document which shows how your name was changed (e.g. a marriage certificate).

Category A documents

Documents from Category A provide proof of birth or arrival in Australia

- Australian passport (current) - not to be used concurrently as a Category B document
- Full Australian birth certificate
- Record of Immigration Status
- Foreign passport and current Australian Visa
- Travel document and current Australian Visa
- Certificate of Evidence of residential status
- Citizenship Certificate

Category B documents

Documents from Category B provide evidence of your identity existing in the community

- Australian driver's licence (current and original)
- Australian passport (current) - not to be used concurrently as a Category A document
- Australian Defence Force (ADF) identification card (current)
- Firearms licence (current and original)
- Current overseas passport with valid entry stamp or visa
- Medicare card
- Change of name certificate (for marriage or legal name change - showing link with previous name(s))
- Credit or bank account card
- DVA card
- Security Guard/Crowd Control licence
- Australian marriage certificate issued by a government department
- Tertiary identification card

Category C documents

Documents from Category C provide evidence of residential address or residence in a Nursing Home or Residential Care Facility

- Utilities notice
- Rent details
- Document from Nursing Home or Residential Facility that provides evidence of residence

If you don't have the right documents

Other documents may be acceptable. Contact your nearest DVA or VAN office.

Who can certify copies of documents?

When you lodge a claim with DVA, you must provide documents as proof of identity. In response to some questions on the forms, you will also have to provide documents (such as financial documents).

If you provide **original** documents, your documents will be sighted and verified by a DVA officer and returned to you by registered post.

If you provide copies of your documents, they must be **certified copies** (certified as true by a Justice of the Peace or other person as listed below). The person certifying the copies must see the original documents.

Note: DVA employees with 5 years continuous service can certify your documents as true copies and will do so without charge.

Persons who can certify copies include:

- Justice of the Peace
- Commissioner for Declarations
- permanent employee of:
 - the Commonwealth or of a Commonwealth authority, or
 - a State or Territory or of a State or Territory authority, or
 - a local government authority with 5 or more years of continuous service
- member of the Australian Defence Force who is:
 - an officer; or
 - a non-commissioned officer within the meaning of the *Defence Force Discipline Act 1982* with 5 or more years of continuous service; or
 - a warrant officer within the meaning of that Act.
- permanent employee of the Australian Postal Corporation with 5 or more years of continuous service who is employed in an office supplying postal services to the public
- agent of the Australian Postal Corporation who is in charge of an office supplying postal services to the public
- bank officer with 5 or more continuous years of service
- building society officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- credit union officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- finance company officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
- Member of the Association of Taxation and Management Accountant
- Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants or the National Institute of Accountants
- Minister of religion registered under Division 1 Part IV of the *Marriage Act 1961*
- police officer
- chiropractor
- dentist
- legal practitioner
- medical practitioner
- nurse
- pharmacist
- physiotherapist
- veterinary surgeon
- teacher employed on a full time basis at a school or tertiary education institution.

A full list of who can certify documents can be found at:

<http://www.comlaw.gov.au/comlaw/management.nsf/lookupindexpagesbyid/IP200400084?OpenDocument>

If you ask someone to certify copies of your documents, you must make sure that:

- the person certifying is on the above list
- they use the wording "CERTIFIED TRUE COPY"
- they sign and date the copy
- they print their name, address, business hours phone number and profession or qualification to sign or if the certifying officer is a Justice of the Peace or a Commissioner for Declarations they should provide their name and relevant registration number including state/territory of registration.

Privacy notice

Your personal information is protected by law, including the *Privacy Act 1988*. Your personal information may be collected by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) for the delivery of government programs for war veterans, members of the Australian Defence Force, members of the Australian Federal Police and their dependants.

[Read more: How DVA manages personal information.](#)

PART A**Deceased veteran's details****1: DVA file number** (if known)**2: Surname****3: Given name(s)****4: Date of birth** (dd/mm/yyyy)**5: Date of death** (dd/mm/yyyy)**PART B****Your details****6: Surname****7: Given name(s)****8: Date of birth** (dd/mm/yyyy)**9: Address**
(including postcode)

Postcode**10: Contact details**

Home telephone

Work telephone

**11: Your relationship to the
veteran at the time of death** Married and living together

▶ Date of marriage

 Married but unable to live
together due to illness

▶ Date of marriage

 Married but living separately
due to breakdown of
relationship▶ Have you entered into a de facto relationship
with another person? ▼ No Yes - date relationship began Divorced


▶ Date of divorce

 Living together in a de facto
relationship

▶ Date relationship began

 In a de facto relationship but
unable to live together due to
illness

▶ Date relationship began

 Please attach a copy of your marriage certificate or evidence of your relationship with the deceased veteran, unless you have previously supplied this material to the Department.

PART C**Income Support Supplement**

IMPORTANT: If you are granted a war widow/er's pension then any income support pension or benefit paid by Centrelink or DVA will be cancelled. You may however, qualify for the Income Support Supplement (ISS).

ISS is a means-tested payment that is paid by DVA to eligible war widows and widowers in addition to their war widow's pension or MRCA benefits. It was introduced to enable them to receive all their payments from DVA.

There is no age restriction on eligibility for ISS.

ISS may be granted on the basis of invalidity. Invalidity ISS paid to a person who is under pension age is non-taxable income. Pension age for a male is 65 years of age. Pension age for a female is being raised by six months every two years so that by 1 January 2014, female and male qualifying ages will be the same.

Female's date of birth	Pension age
Before 1 July 1947	64
1 July 1947 to 31 December 1948	64.5
1 January 1949 and later	65

To be eligible for invalidity ISS you must be permanently incapacitated for work.

The criteria for permanent incapacity are:

- you are permanently blind in both eyes (even if working); or
- you have a physical, intellectual or psychiatric disability; and
- the disability(ies), assessed under the Impairment Tables in Schedule 1B of the *Social Security Act 1991*, is assessed at 20 points or more; and
- you are unable to work for at least 30 hours per week; and
- the disability(ies) alone prevent you from working for the next 2 years.

A requirement for ISS is that you are an Australian resident and physically in Australia when you lodge your claim.

Note:

For further information about eligibility for ISS, you should contact your nearest DVA or VAN office. You can ask for a copy of the booklet D529B "About Claiming Income Support Supplement".

- 12: Do you wish to claim for the ISS in addition to war widow/er's pension?**
- No - Go to **Question 21**
- Yes - Go to **Question 13**

- 13: Are you receiving (or applying for) a payment from Centrelink?**
- No ► You will need to complete and return to DVA **Claim for Service Pension or Income Support Supplement Part B - Income and Assets - (D648)**. This form will be sent to you or your representative

This includes, for example, age pension, disability support pension, ABSTUDY and payment under the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS).


- Yes ► What is your Customer Reference Number (CRN)

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Current information held by Centrelink on your income and assets will be used to assess ISS payable but you may be contacted if additional details are needed.

- 14: Are you applying for ISS on the basis of invalidity?**
- No - Go to **Question 16**
- Yes - Invalidity ISS paid to a person who is under pension age is non-taxable income. Go to **Question 15**

- 15: On what basis are you applying for invalidity?**
- Invalidity (Blind) ►  Attach a report from an ophthalmologist giving details of the degree of visual impairment.

- Invalidity (Other) ►  You will need to complete and return to DVA the **Medical and Work Details** form (**D571**). This form will be sent to you or your representative.

Pension Bonus Scheme

This question must be answered because once you receive ISS, you cannot ever receive the Pension Bonus.

16: Are you a registered member of the Pension Bonus Scheme?

No - Go to **Question 17**

Yes - You **MUST** claim the Pension Bonus when you apply for income support supplement.



You will need to complete and return to DVA the **Claim for Pension Bonus** form (**D559**). This form will be sent to you or your representative.

Go to **Question 17**

17: Are you:

An Australian citizen

The holder of a permanent visa

The holder of a special purpose visa

The holder of a special category visa



If you are the holder of a permanent visa, special purpose visa or special category visa, attach a copy of documents that show that you are legally allowed to remain in Australia – for example, passport showing your visa.

18: Are you living in Australia permanently?

No

Yes

19: Were you born in Australia?

No - Country of birth ▶

When did you first arrive in Australia?

How long have you lived in Australia?

<input type="text"/>	Years	<input type="text"/>	Months
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Yes - Have you ever lived overseas?

No - Go to **Question 21**

Yes - Go to **Question 20**

20: Have you moved to or returned to live in Australia in the last 12 months?

No

Yes

PART D

Pension Payment Details

IMPORTANT: if a pension is granted, it will be paid fortnightly into an account at an Australian bank, credit union or building society.

21: Provide details of the Australian account you want your pension to be paid in to

Name of bank, credit union or building society

Branch

Address (including Postcode)

Postcode

Account in the name of

Account number

BSB number (*if known*)

PART E

Tax Details

Tax File Numbers

To help ensure that pensions are only paid to eligible persons, we compare our records with those of other government agencies. Your Tax File Number is used for this purpose.

All matching programs are monitored by the Privacy Commissioner who ensures that they are conducted in accordance with the Data-matching Program (Assistance and Tax) Act 1990 and Guidelines.

Access to your Tax File Number is restricted. If you lose or forget your number, you will need to contact the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

For more information about tax and your pension, contact your nearest ATO or DVA.

Once we have recorded your Tax File Number, this portion of the page will be removed and destroyed to ensure that your Tax File Number remains confidential.

22: What is your Tax File Number?

Fill in **ONE** of **A** or **B**

A _____ My Tax File Number is _____

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B I do not have or do not know my Tax File Number
(DVA can help you get you Tax File Number from the Australian Taxation Office - you must complete a *Tax File Number application or enquiry* form NAT 1432)

PART F


Declaration

23: Declaration

I declare that the information I have given is complete and correct.

I am aware there are penalties for making false statements.

Your signature

 _____ / /

PLEASE DO NOT DETACH

For information, please call the Department of Veterans' Affairs

(from anywhere in Australia) on:

133254

Callers from regional Australia can call:

1800 555 254

New South Wales

Centennial Plaza Tower B,
280 Elizabeth Street
GPO BOX 9998
Sydney NSW 2006

Victoria

300 Latrobe Street
GPO Box 9998
Melbourne VIC 3001

Queensland

Bank of Queensland Centre
259 Queen Street
GPO Box 9998
Brisbane QLD 4001

South Australia

Blackburn House
199 Grenfell Street
GPO Box 9998
Adelaide SA 5001

Western Australia

AMP Building
140 St Georges Terrace
GPO Box 9998
Perth WA 6848

Tasmania

Barrack Place
254 - 286 Liverpool Street
GPO Box 9998
Hobart TAS 7001

Northern Territory

Civic Plaza Building, 2 Chung Wah Terrace
Palmerston NT
GPO Box 9998
Darwin NT 0801

Australian Capital Territory

28 - 30 Corinna Street, Woden
GPO Box 9998
Canberra ACT 2601