



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Veterans' Affairs**

# **Claim for \$25,000 *Ex-gratia* Payment by a Prisoner of War in Europe**

- **by a former prisoner of war (POW) of Germany, Italy or their allies, or**
- **by a civilian detained or interned by Germany, Italy or their allies during World War II**

On 8 May 2007 the Australian Government announced that all Australian service personnel who were held prisoner of war (POW) by Germany, Italy or their allies and civilians who were interned or detained by Germany, Italy or their allies will receive an *ex-gratia* payment of \$25,000 in recognition of the unique hardships they suffered.

## **Before completing this form**

POW status was only noted on the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) computer records from 1985 for veterans who were then alive.

You should first contact the DVA to check your eligibility from original records by phoning 1800 VETERAN (1800 383 372).

## **Who is eligible?**

This form relates to a person who was **alive on 1 January 2007**, and they were:

- a veteran who was a POW of Germany, Italy or their allies between 3 September 1939 and 11 May 1945, or
- a civilian, who was interned or detained by Germany, Italy or their allies between 3 September 1939 and 11 May 1945, and was domiciled in Australia immediately before their detention or internment.

If the eligible veteran was alive on **1 January 2007** and:

- has since died the surviving widow/widower will receive the payment;
- in the event that there is no eligible widow/widower or the eligible widow/widower has died since **1 January 2007** a "Surviving Spouse" claim form should be completed by the executor of the estate.

## **Where to lodge this claim**

This claim should be sent to:

Department of Veterans' Affairs  
GPO Box 9998  
Brisbane Qld 4001

## **Extra information**

Please answer all relevant questions and include any other information that you think may help support this claim.

## 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](#)

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### Exempt Status of the \$25,000 ex-gratia lump sum payment

The ex-gratia lump sum payment itself:

- is **not** taxable; and
- does not affect any disability compensation payment or war widow's/widower's pension; and
- is not counted as income for income support payments made by DVA or Centrelink.

However, if it is invested and earns interest this interest will be classed as income and the income test rules will apply.

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### Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence

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