



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 555 254.

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](#)

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 pension 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.

Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence

Section 1.

Applicant's (POW or Civilian) Details

Surname

Other names in full

Date of birth

Address where you live now

Daytime phone number *(please include STD code)*

Section 2.

Captivity Details

Were you:

a member of the Army?

a member of the Navy?

a member of the RAAF?

a merchant mariner?

a civilian?

**Please complete
Section 3**

**Please complete
Section 4**

Section 3.

Armed Forces and Mariners Details

What was your rank (or occupation if mariner)

What was your service number (not applicable if mariner)

What was the name of your ship or unit when captured?

Where were you held?

Camp 1
Country
Dates you were held there

Camp 2
Country
Dates you were held there

If you were held in more camps please give details

If insufficient space, please attach a separate sheet

Section 4.

Civilians Details

Dates of Capture and Release

1. Captured	/	/	2. Captured	/	/
Released	/	/	Released	/	/

Your home address when captured

Where were you held?

Camp 1
Country
Dates you were held there
Camp 2
Country
Dates you were held there

If you were held in more camps please give details

If insufficient space, please attach a separate sheet

Please give the following details as far as you are able:

Why were you overseas when you were captured?

When did you leave Australia?

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How long did you intend to remain overseas?

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What was the name of the embarkation ship?

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What was the name of the embarkation port?

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What was the date embarkation?

/ /

Where were you living prior to leaving Australia?

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When did you return to Australia?

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Section 5.

Payment Details

If your claim is successful, the \$25,000 *ex-gratia* payment will be made directly into an account at an Australian bank, credit union or building society.

Name of bank, credit union or building society

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Branch

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Address

Account in the name of

--

BSB number

--

Account number

--

Account type (e.g. savings)

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Section 6.

If you are not a DVA client you are required to show documents that prove your identity when making your claim for payment. You must show original documents or copies that are certified as true copies of the originals.

Declaration

- I declare that the details provided in this form are complete and correct.
- I am aware that there are penalties for making false and misleading statements.
- I authorise the Repatriation Commission and DVA to obtain information needed to process, determine or review this claim.

You must sign this form yourself if you can - even if someone else has filled it in for you. If someone else signs on your behalf they must provide their authority for signing.

Your signature

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Date

/ /

Before returning this form, please check and tick the following:

- Have you signed the declaration and checked this form carefully?
- Have you filled in all parts that apply to you?
- Have you enclosed any other evidence that you feel will support your claim?