



Common questions that families have when learning about VA benefits:

1. What if the spouse divorced the veterans and never remarried- is she still eligible?
No she is not- they must have been married when he passed- however if she divorced him due to circumstance like: cruelty or an event that made her have to divorce- him she can submit that documented info and there may be a possibility they may award benefits still-
2. What if the care is for a living veteran's wife?
In order for a living veteran to claim a basic pension (worth about 8-900 a month) for his wife- he has to already be receiving a service connected compensation benefit to get an additional income to help his wife.
3. What if the client has many funds in savings- can they reduce or move funds to qualify?
We are not financial planners and we do not refer to them- however from what we understand, there is no look back with the VA and it can be done.
4. Do they have to start services first to apply?
By starting services, it will show two things
 - *They are in financial hardship and need this money because they do not have any positive cash flow left after paying a provider for their care (along with other medical expenses- RX-DR co pays-hearing aids-diapers and so on)*
 - *The purpose behind the benefit "Aid in Attendance" is exactly that- they need an aid in attendance, so yes they need to show proof that there is a care plan in progress using up all of their money.*
5. Can I start out with just a few hours and increase their care later due to the fact the VA takes so long to kick in?
It comes down to showing the VA there is no money left after all medical expenses are paid. Not hours of care- all medical expenses in the last year reported on the 21-8416 should show little or no money left when they are added up annually and subtracted form the income reported.
6. What if they stop care after an application was filed?
Well you should remind them at any time the VA can call the provider to ask this question or send an expense form to the provider to verify care is in place- they may lose their case.