



Media Release

The Hon Warren Snowdon MP

Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Minister for Defence Science and Personnel

Minister for Indigenous Health

Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on the Centenary of Anzac

Wednesday, 20 March 2013

VA020

NEW PENSION RATES FOR VETERAN COMMUNITY BEGIN TODAY

New pension and income support payments rates for veterans, their partners, war widows and widowers across Australia come into effect from today, 20 March 2013.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, said today's increase is part of the bi-annual indexation process. Veterans, partners, war widows and widowers will also receive a boost to their payments through the Clean Energy Supplement, a regular payment under the Household Assistance Package to help meet household costs associated with the carbon price."

The first payday which will include payments under the new rates will be 4 April 2013.

Pension	Old Rate (per fortnight)	New Rate (per fortnight)	Indexation increase component	Clean Energy Supplement component
Service Pension—single	\$772.60	\$808.40	\$22.30	\$13.50
Service Pension—couples	\$1,164.80 couple \$582.40 each	\$1,218.80 couple \$609.40 each	\$33.60 \$16.80	\$20.40 \$10.20
War Widow Pension	\$783.60	\$820.70	\$23.40	\$13.70
Income Support Supplement	\$234.40	\$241.50	\$7.10	Nil
Special Rate (TPI) Pension	\$1,182.00	\$1,238.20	\$35.50	\$20.70
Intermediate Rate Disability Pension	\$802.30	\$840.40	\$24.10	\$14.00
Extreme Disablement Adjustment	\$652.70	\$683.70	\$19.60	\$11.40
100 per cent General Rate of Disability	\$420.00	\$440.00	\$12.60	\$7.40

Notes (1) Veterans in receipt of a Disability Pension below 100% will receive \$7.40 for the Clean Energy Supplement.

(2) Veterans in receipt of Disability and Income Support Pensions are entitled to receive both payments of the Clean Energy Supplement.

A full list of the new pension indexation rates is available at www.dva.gov.au or by calling 133 254 or 1800 555 254 from regional Australia.

Reductions to deeming rates also take effect today. The lower deeming rate will decrease from 3 per cent to 2.5 per cent for total financial investments up to \$45,400 for single pensioners or \$75,600 for a couple. The upper deeming rate will decrease from 4.5 per cent to 4 per cent for balances over these amounts. Around 70,000 members of the veteran and defence communities will benefit from these changes.

Media inquiries: Minister Snowdon's Office: 02 6277 7820
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Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) and Veterans Line can be reached 24 hours a day across Australia for crisis support and free and confidential counselling. Phone 1800 011 046

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