



PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Major General James R. Joseph, Acting Adjutant General

Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program 2013 - 2014 Fiscal Year Report

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program

Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
The Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans' Affairs
Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA

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Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefit Program Summary Report

This section includes high level program statistics such as claim volume and dollars awarded. It also provides a summary of key program dates.

On April 24, 2006, the Governor signed House Bill 1820 into law as Act 29 of 2006. This Bill establishes the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program. The Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs administers the benefit which provides a one-time lump sum "bonus" payment to eligible Pennsylvania Veterans of the Persian Gulf War. Eligible Pennsylvania Veterans include current and former members of the United States Armed Forces, a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces, or the Pennsylvania National Guard who served from August 2, 1990 to August 31, 1991 within the program-designated Persian Gulf Conflict Theater of Operations. Additionally, Service Members/Veterans must have been a legal resident of Pennsylvania, received the Southwest Asia Service Medal (SWAM) for active service during the period from August 2, 1990 to August 31, 1991, and been discharged from active duty under honorable conditions, if not currently on active duty. In some cases, surviving relatives of deceased Veterans may receive the "bonus" payment on behalf of eligible Veterans.

Additional details are available:

- 1) On-line at: <http://www.persiangufbonus.state.pa.us>
- 2) Via telephone at 1-866-458-9182, Mon thru Fri between 7AM and 4PM
- 3) Via mail at: Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program, Building S-0-47, Ft Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA 17003-5002

SUMMARY REPORT

Ms. Tracey Ditzler

Veterans' Programs Manager
June 30, 2014

Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program – Summary Report

A. Applications.

<u>Fiscal Year</u> ^[1]	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	TOTAL
Average Applications Received (per Month)	1,207	317	101	62	40	29	33	1,788
Total Applications Received	3,621	3,799	1,208	717	482	342	394	10,221
Total Amount Paid	\$1,135,925	\$1,415,988	\$426,650	\$212,225	\$134,475	\$88,350	112,800	3,426,413

B. Previously Rejected Applications – During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, 88 applications were disapproved. When an application is disapproved, the applicant is notified and he or she is provided an explanation. Applicants are given an opportunity to reapply. Applicants whose applications are disapproved for a second time have the opportunity to submit a request for reconsideration.

C. Key Dates.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
April 24, 2006	The Governor signed House Bill 1820 into law as Act 29 of 2006. This Bill establishes the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Act.
November 7, 2006	On November 7, 2006, Pennsylvania voters gave overwhelming approval to a ballot question to fund the program. The bond issue created a fund for the payment of compensation to, or on behalf of, eligible current and former members of the United States Armed Forces, a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces, or the Pennsylvania National Guard.
April 4, 2008	Program first announced on DMVA website
April 24, 2008	First benefit checks awarded
January, 2013	Program transferred to DMVA at FIG

S U M M A R Y R E P O R T

D. Current Claim Inventory by County for FY 2013-2014

<u>County</u>	<u>Total Claims</u>	<u>Total Claims Paid</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>	<u>Avg Paid Amount</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Total Claims</u>	<u>Total Claims Paid</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>	<u>Avg Paid Amount</u>
(Outside of PA)	121	82	\$31,275.00	\$258.47	Jefferson	1	1	\$375.00	\$375.00
Adams	2	1	\$75.00	\$37.50	Juniata	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Allegheny	28	19	\$7,500.00	\$254.46	Lackawanna	2	1	\$525.00	\$262.50
Armstrong	3	1	\$525.00	\$175.00	Lancaster	6	5	\$1,725.00	\$287.50
Beaver	10	7	\$2,325.00	\$232.50	Lawrence	4	3	\$1,575.00	\$393.75
Bedford	2	2	\$525.00	\$262.50	Lebanon	9	5	\$1,950.00	\$216.67
Berks	6	4	\$1,350.00	\$225.00	Lehigh	9	6	\$2,250.00	\$250.00
Blair	2	1	\$525.00	\$262.50	Luzerne	4	3	\$1,125.00	\$281.25
Bradford	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Lycoming	5	3	\$975.00	\$195.00
Bucks	5	2	\$825.00	\$165.00	McKean	5	4	\$2,025.00	\$405.00
Butler	4	3	\$1,575.00	\$393.75	Mercer	12	7	\$2,850.00	\$237.50
Cambria	3	3	\$1,275.00	\$425.00	Mifflin	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cameron	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Monroe	2	2	\$1,050.00	\$525.00
Carbon	1	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Montgomery	12	6	\$1,500.00	\$125.00
Centre	4	2	\$1,050.00	\$262.50	Montour	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chester	4	3	\$1,275.00	\$318.75	Northampton	4	1	\$225.00	\$56.25
Clarion	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Northumberland	1	1	\$150.00	\$150.00
Clearfield	2	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Perry	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Clinton	1	1	\$375.00	\$375.00	Philadelphia	35	15	\$7,200.00	\$205.71
Columbia	1	1	\$450.00	\$450.00	Pike	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Crawford	5	4	\$1,125.00	\$225.00	Potter	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cumberland	8	5	\$2,100.00	\$262.50	Schuylkill	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dauphin	14	8	\$3,300.00	\$235.71	Snyder	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Delaware	10	6	\$2,325.00	\$232.50	Somerset	2	1	\$525.00	\$262.50
Elk	1	1	\$525.00	\$525.00	Sullivan	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Erie	5	3	\$1,050.00	\$210.00	Susquehanna	1	1	\$525.00	\$525.00
Fayette	2	1	\$150.00	\$75.00	Tioga	4	1	\$525.00	\$131.25
Forest	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Union	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Franklin	1	1	\$525.00	\$525.00	Venango	6	1	\$525.00	\$87.50
Fulton	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Warren	1	1	\$225.00	\$225.00
Greene	1	1	\$525.00	\$525.00	Washington	3	2	\$900.00	\$300.00
Huntingdon	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	Wayne	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Indiana	6	4	\$1,875.00	\$312.50	Westmoreland	10	7	\$2,700.00	\$270.00
					Wyoming	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
					York	4	2	\$900.00	\$225.00
					Totals	394	245	\$96,750.00	\$395.00

Program Statistics

This section will provides detailed statistics, including charts and maps related to:

- Applications Received (volumes, trends, origination (by state and county))
- Payments Approved (totals, trends, destination (by state and county))

Applications Received

This series of charts and graphs provides information concerning the applications received for processing, by the program service center, during the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2014.

Month	Applications per Month	Cumulative Total
13-Jul	26	26
13-Aug	47	73
13-Sep	32	105
13-Oct	50	155
13-Nov	28	183
13-Dec	32	215
14-Jan	37	252
14-Feb	24	276
14-Mar	28	304
14-Apr	29	333
14-May	29	362
14-Jun	32	394

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Applications Received By State for FY 2014

State	Claims
AK	1
AL	3
AP	2
CA	2
CO	3
CT	1
DC	1
FL	8
GA	6
HI	1
IL	3
IN	2
KY	1
MA	1
MD	4
MO	1
MS	1
NC	9
NJ	3
NV	1
OH	39
OK	1
OR	1
PA	274
SC	5
TN	2
TX	4
VA	11
WA	1
WV	2
TOTAL	394

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Applications Received By County for FY 2014

<u>County</u>	<u>Total Claims</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Total Claims</u>
(Outside of PA)	121	Juniata	0
Adams	2	Lackawanna	2
Allegheny	28	Lancaster	6
Armstrong	3	Lawrence	4
Beaver	10	Lebanon	9
Bedford	2	Lehigh	9
Berks	6	Luzerne	4
Blair	2	Lycoming	5
Bradford	0	McKean	5
Bucks	5	Mercer	12
Butler	4	Mifflin	0
Cambria	3	Monroe	2
Cameron	0	Montgomery	12
Carbon	1	Montour	0
Centre	4	Northampton	4
Chester	4	Northumberland	1
Clarion	0	Perry	0
Clearfield	2	Philadelphia	35
Clinton	1	Pike	0
Columbia	1	Potter	0
Crawford	5	Schuylkill	0
Cumberland	8	Snyder	0
Dauphin	14	Somerset	2
Delaware	10	Sullivan	0
Elk	1	Susquehanna	1
Erie	5	Tioga	4
Fayette	2	Union	0
Forest	0	Venango	6
Franklin	1	Warren	1
Fulton	0	Washington	3
Greene	1	Wayne	0
Huntingdon	0	Westmoreland	10
Indiana	6	Wyoming	0
Jefferson	1	York	4
		Total	394

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Payments Approved

This series of charts and graphs provides information concerning the applications that were approved for payment during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014.

Month	Monthly Total		Cumulative Total	
	Count	Amount	Count	Amount
13-Jul	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
13-Aug	33	\$12,675.00	33	\$12,675.00
13-Sep	38	16,275.00	71	\$28,950.00
13-Oct	22	\$8,475.00	93	\$37,425.00
13-Nov	32	\$11,850.00	125	\$49,275.00
13-Dec	0	\$0.00	125	\$49,275.00
14-Jan	32	\$12,975.00	157	\$62,250.00
14-Feb	21	\$7,800.00	178	\$70,050.00
14-Mar	19	\$7,200.00	197	\$77,250.00
14-Apr	35	\$13,650.00	232	\$90,900.00
14-May	26	\$9,525.00	258	\$100,425.00
14-Jun	28	\$12,375.00	286	\$112,800.00

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Payment Amount by State for FY 2013-2014

State	Amount
AE	\$750
AK	\$0
AL	\$1,500
AP	\$975
AR	\$525
AZ	\$75
CA	\$675
CO	\$750
DC	\$75
DE	\$0
FL	\$2,775
GA	\$1,500
HI	\$450
IA	\$0
ID	\$0
IL	\$450

State	Amount
IN	\$825
KS	\$0
KY	\$450
LA	\$0
MA	\$675
MD	\$1,275
ME	\$0
MI	\$0
MN	\$0
MO	\$150
MS	\$375
MT	\$0
NC	\$2,775
ND	\$0
NE	\$0
NH	\$0

State	Amount
NJ	\$525
NM	\$0
NV	\$450
NY	\$150
OH	\$9,075
OK	\$0
OR	\$300
PA	\$77,100
RI	\$0
SC	\$2,025
SD	\$0
TN	\$750
TX	\$1,500
UT	\$0
VA	\$2,850
VT	\$0

State	Amount
WA	\$150
WI	\$0
WV	\$900
WY	\$0
TOTAL	\$112,800

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Payment Amount by County for FY 2013-2014

County	Amount
Outside of PA	\$35,700
Adams	\$75
Allegheny	\$7,800
Armstrong	\$525
Beaver	\$3,375
Bedford	\$525
Berks	\$1,425
Blair	\$1,200
Bradford	\$0
Bucks	\$825
Butler	\$1,575
Cambria	\$1,275
Cameron	\$0
Carbon	\$0
Centre	\$1,050
Chester	\$1,275
Clarion	\$0
Clearfield	\$0

County	Amount
Clinton	\$375
Columbia	\$450
Crawford	\$1,125
Cumberland	\$2,100
Dauphin	\$4,200
Delaware	\$2,400
Elk	\$525
Erie	\$1,050
Fayette	\$150
Forest	\$0
Franklin	\$1,050
Fulton	\$0
Greene	\$525
Huntingdon	\$0
Indiana	\$1,875
Jefferson	\$375
Juniata	\$0

County	Amount
Lackawanna	\$525
Lancaster	\$2,250
Lawrence	\$2,100
Lebanon	\$1,950
Lehigh	\$2,250
Luzerne	\$1,650
Lycoming	\$975
McKean	\$2,025
Mercer	\$2,850
Mifflin	\$375
Monroe	\$1,050
Montgomery	\$1,950
Montour	\$0
Northampton	\$225
Northumberland	\$150
Perry	\$0
Philadelphia	\$9,525

County	Amount
Pike	\$0
Potter	\$375
Schuylkill	\$0
Snyder	\$0
Somerset	\$525
Sullivan	\$0
Susquehanna	\$525
Tioga	\$900
Union	\$0
Venango	\$525
Warren	\$225
Washington	\$2,925
Wayne	\$0
Westmoreland	\$2,700
Wyoming	\$525
York	\$900
TOTAL	\$112,800

Workflow Detail

This section provides a description of key stages of the application processing workflow and relevant, related statistics. It presents metrics on the time-frames for processing applications and identifies the most frequently occurring issues.

Applications Requested

There are several ways in which program applications can be obtained. They are available for download from the DMVA website, at the offices of County Veterans' Services Directors, Legislative Offices, and Veterans Service Organizations.

Requests for applications are processed by the program service center on the day they are received. The appropriate application form (PG-1 Short or PG-1 Long) and a digest are mailed to the requestor within one business day.

Applications Received

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, 394 applications were received by the program service center. The table below depicts the status of these applications as of the end of the period.

Status	Claims
Payment Approved	291
Pending - Insufficient Documentation	15
Rejections - Approved	88
TOTAL	394

Common Issues

The most prevalent reasons that applications could not be processed upon initial submission include:

- The supporting documentation did not specifically state the periods of qualifying service
- The supporting documentation did not show award of Southwest Asia Service Medal
- The supporting documentation did not show type of Character of Service discharge

Outreach and Media Events

This section includes a chronology (dates and descriptions) of the various media and outreach events that occurred during the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2014.

In fiscal year 2013, social media messages were posted on our various outlets: DMVA Facebook, DMVA Twitter, PNG Facebook, PNG Twitter, FTIG Facebook. County Directors of Veterans' Affairs were also reminded to review Veteran information for those who may be eligible at the County Director Annual Training session.

<i>Outreach and Media Events</i>	
Date	Event
7/3/2013	DMVA Twitter - PNG Twitter – PNG Facebook - site postings
7/19/2013	American Legion Conference, Harrisburg, PA – Speech - DAG-VA
11/6/2013	PA Veterans Forum, Harrisburg, PA – Speech - DAG-VA
11/11/2013	PCN Call-in Program, Harrisburg, PA – DAG-VA
1/27/2014	Crawford County Veterans Affairs Office – Speech – DAG-VA
3/10/2014	Year of the Veteran Kickoff – Philadelphia, PA – Speech – DAG-VA
3/19/2014	DMVA Twitter - PNG Twitter – PNG Facebook - site postings
3/23/2014	County Commissioners of PA Committee Meeting – Harrisburg, PA
5/6/2014	Legislative Breakfast – Drexel Hill, PA – Speech – DAG-VA
5/14/2014	Jail Diversion Conference – Harrisburg, PA – Speech – DAG-VA
6/5/2014	DPW Conference – Mechanicsburg, PA – Speech – DAG-VA
6/17/2014	County Directors of Veterans Affairs – Wilkes-Barre, PA – Speech – DAG-VA
6/23/2014	DMVA Press Release
6/24/2014	DMVA Twitter - PNG Twitter – PNG Facebook - site postings
6/27/2014	Marine Corps League Conference – Wilkes Barre, PA – Speech – DAG-VA

Program Overview

This section provides a program summary. It covers the background of the program, enabling enabling legislation, summary of eligibility requirements, program benefits, and the application, reconsideration and appeals processes.

The one year countdown has officially begun, so we're renewing our efforts to spread the word of this bonus to Pennsylvania's Veterans of Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Even if a Veteran already applied for the bonus, but was denied, we encourage them to reapply. We are reviewing all denials prior to the sunset of the program.

Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefit Program



Background—

On April 24, 2006, Governor Edward Rendell signed House Bill 1820 in law as Act 29 of 2006. This Bill establishes the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Act. On November 7, 2006, Pennsylvania voters gave overwhelming approval to a ballot question to fund the program. The bond issue created a fund for the payment of compensation to, or on behalf of, eligible current and former members of the United States Armed Forces, a Reserve Component of the United States Armed Forces, or the Pennsylvania National Guard.

Deadline:

The deadline for submitting applications for the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program is August 31, 2015.

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Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefit Program



Eligibility—

The program allows for compensation to be paid to eligible Service Members (current or former) as well as certain surviving relatives of deceased Veterans. In each case, the Service Member/Veteran must have:

- Served with the United States Armed Forces, a Reserve Component of the United States Armed Forces or the Pennsylvania National Guard
- Served on Active Duty in the Persian Gulf Theater of Operations during the period from 8/2/1990 to 8/31/1991 and received the Southwest Asia Service medal
- Been a legal resident of Pennsylvania at the time of active service (8/2/1990-8/31/1991)

Exceptions:

Service Members, Veterans or their surviving beneficiaries are not eligible for the program, if a bonus, gratuity, or compensation similar to that provided by the Act has been received from any other state or if the Service Member or Veteran has renounced his or her US citizenship, or at any time during the Persian Gulf Conflict or thereafter, been separated from the armed forces under less than honorable conditions.

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Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefit Program



Eligibility—

Surviving Relatives

Eligible beneficiaries of deceased Veterans include, in the following order of precedence:

- **Surviving Spouse**
- **Surviving Children**
- **Surviving Parents**

Payments to multiple children or parents are divided evenly

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Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefit Program



Benefits Amounts –

Eligible Veterans of the Persian Gulf Conflict are entitled to receive:

A one-time benefit of \$75 per month for each month (or major fraction thereof) of Active Service in the Persian Gulf Conflict Theater of Operations during the covered period. The maximum compensation is \$525.

An additional one-time benefit of \$5,000 if the Service Member was declared a Prisoner of War at any time in the Theater during the period of qualifying service.

Eligible beneficiaries of deceased Veterans are entitled to receive:

The benefit described above in addition to a one-time benefit of \$5,000 if the Service Member died in “Active Service” in Theater during the period of August 2, 1990 to August 31, 1991 or as a result of service connected wounds, diseases or injuries sustained during such active service as certified by DoD or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

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Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefit Program



Required Supporting Documentation (All Applicants) –

Service Record:

- For National Guard, Reservists, or Regular Military who are inactive or retired:
 - Certified DD214 (Member Copy) "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty" or if applicable, a DD215 "Correction of DD214" or other military documents must be provided and must document the following:
 - Receipt of Southwest Asia Service Medal
 - Specific dates of service in, or in support of, the Persian Gulf Theater of Operations
 - Character of Service (DD214, Block 24 – Member 4 Copy) (Note: Recommend applicant provides a Member 4 Copy of their DD214 which displays Character of Service in block 24. Member 1 copy does not provide this information which is required to determine eligibility)
- For Service Members who are currently on Active Duty who have not been issued a DD214, a Certified Military Record must be provided documenting:
 - Receipt of Southwest Asia Service Medal
 - Specific dates of service in the Persian Gulf Theater of Operations

If applicable, documentation to support a name change

Proof of Residency in Pennsylvania during the time of the conflict

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Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefit Program



Obtaining Military Records –

Applicants who are unable to locate their Military Records (DD214's, etc) can contact:

National Personnel Records Center – Military Personnel Records
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100
314-801-0800
(toll-free) 1-866-272-6272

Or visit the link below for more information.

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

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Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefit Program



Required Supporting Documentation (Surviving Relatives & Representatives) —

Surviving Relatives must provide:

Proof of Relationship

Spouse: Marriage Certificate

Child: Birth Certificate for all surviving children

Parent: Veteran's Birth Certificate

Other:

Death Certificate

DD Form 1300 (Report of Casualty), if applicable

Veterans Affairs Rating Decision, if applicable

Representatives filing on behalf of a living Veteran must provide a Power of Attorney or similar document.

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Persian Gulf Veterans' Benefit Program



Once an Application is Filed —

The applicant can check the status of his or her application at any time by contacting the following toll-free number: 1-866-458-9182.

Applicants receive written notification when additional information is required or when a determination of eligibility and award is made.

Applicants who are not satisfied with any decision rendered may request reconsideration. If following reconsideration, the applicant is not satisfied, he or she may submit an appeal to the Adjutant General.

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Frequently Asked Questions

This section includes the ten questions that were asked of the program service center staff most frequently and the corresponding answers.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Who is eligible to receive a benefit under the terms of the program?

- A. The program allows for compensation to be paid to eligible Service Members (current and former) as well as certain surviving relatives of deceased Veterans. In each case, the Service Member/Veteran must have:
- Served with the United States Armed Forces, a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces or the Pennsylvania National Guard.
 - For Active Duty – served on active duty in the Persian Gulf Theater of Operations during the period from August 2, 1990 to August 31, 1991 and received the Southwest Asia Service Medal.
 - For National Guard or Reserves – served in support of the Persian Gulf Theater of Operations during the period from August 2, 1990 to August 31, 1991 and received the Southwest Asia Service Medal.
 - Been a legal resident of Pennsylvania at the time of active service (Aug 2, 1990 – Aug 31, 1991).
 - Eligible beneficiaries of deceased Veterans include, in the following order of precedence:
 - Surviving spouse.
 - Surviving children.
 - Surviving parents

A complete explanation of the qualifying criteria is available on the program website: www.persiangufbonus.state.pa.us

Q. How may I obtain an application?

- A. Applications are available online at www.persiangufbonus.state.pa.us or by calling 1-886-458-9182.

Q. What supporting documentation is required?

- A. All applicants must provide proof of the Veteran's service and honorable discharge. This must be supported with a copy of the veterans DD214 or updated DD215 with the Southwest Asia Service Medal receipt shown or, for currently active duty Service Members, Certified Military records with the Southwest Service Medal receipt shown. Also, Pennsylvania residency can be demonstrated by supplying a copy of DD214 that reflects Pennsylvania as the "Home of Record" box 7b. In addition:

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- A relative of a deceased Veteran must submit a legible photocopy of the Veteran's death certificate.
- A relative of a deceased Veteran who died of a service-related injury must submit a Military Death Certificate (DD Form 1300), and Award Letter for Death in Combat (if married) or a USDVA Rating Decision Letter.
- An applicant filing as a surviving spouse must submit a legible photocopy of a marriage certificate.
- An applicant filing as a surviving child must submit legible copy of a birth certificate for himself or herself as well as for each additional surviving child.
- An applicant filing as a surviving parent must submit a legible copy of the Veteran's birth certificate or, in the case of a foster parenting situation, a proof of the fostering relationship must be provided.
- A representative applying for compensation on behalf of a Veteran, who has been declared incompetent, must provide a "Certificate of Representation" (e.g. Power of Attorney).

A complete list of the required documentation is available on the program website: www.persianguulfbonus.state.pa.us

Q. What if my discharge information (DD Form 214) is incomplete?

- A. If your records are not complete (for example, your DD form 214 does not reflect the Southwest Asia Service Medal) you can request a DD form 215 (Correction to DD form 214) by contacting the National Archives. You may call the National Archives by phone at 314-801-0800 or by visiting the website at: www.archives.gov/veterans/. Depending upon the information you are requesting, you may be directed to complete and send an SF 180.

Q. How can I obtain my military records?

- A. You may call the National Archives by phone at 314-801-0800 or by visiting the website at: www.archives.gov/veterans/. Depending upon the information you are requesting, you may be directed to complete and send an SF 180.

Q. How long do I have to file?

- A. The deadline for submitting applications for this benefit is August 31, 2015.

F R E Q U E N T L Y A S K E D Q U E S T I O N S

Q. How is compensation calculated?

- A. Benefit payments, not to exceed \$525, are calculated on the basis of \$75 for the first month for which the Service Member completed one day of qualifying service and \$75 for each full month or major fraction of a month thereafter for which the eligible Veteran completed qualifying service.
- For Active Duty Service Members, service must have been performed in theater.
 - For National Guard and Reserve Service Members, service must have been in support of operations in the Persian Gulf.

Q. How soon should I expect to receive my check?

- A. Your check should arrive within 60-90 days from the date on which you receive a letter stating that you are entitled to an award.

Q. Is this benefit taxable?

- A. Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program payments are exempt from all state taxation. However, Federal taxation may apply. Please consult with a Tax professional for any federal taxation questions.

Q. Can I receive my benefit via direct deposit?

- A. Direct Deposit is not available at this time. All payments will be mailed in the form of a check and will arrive via the US Postal Service within 60 to 90 days of application approval.

Application Forms

This section includes copies of the forms needed to apply for benefits. Included are the short and long application forms and the designation of beneficiary form.

**APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION UNDER THE
PERSIAN GULF CONFLICT VETERANS' BENEFIT PROGRAM, Act 29 of 2006**
-- Form PG-1 (Short), for Veterans or Service Persons filing on their own behalf --

Service Member Data

This section must be completed by any qualifying Service Member or Veteran applying for compensation under the terms of the "Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Act." Items listed with an "" are required.*

1 (A) Provide the following information regarding the Service Member or Veteran applying for compensation:

*Last Name _____	*First Name _____	M.I. _____	Mr/Mrs/Ms _____	*Social Security Number _____
Name under which served (if different): _____				
	*Last Name _____	*First Name _____	M.I. _____	

1 (B) *Awarded the Southwest Asia Service Medal? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Veterans: Attach DD214/215 as supporting documentation

Current Service Members: Attach Certified Military Records as supporting documentation

If you do not have the aforementioned supporting documentation, please refer to the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program Digest or the program website at www.persiangulfbonus.state.pa.us for help.

1 (C) Service Member's dates of service in the Southwest Asian Theater of Operations from 2 August 1990 to 31 August 1991 and/or dates a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard or reserve component of the armed forces of the United States served on active duty for the support of operations in the Persian Gulf Conflict Theater.

	<i>Start Date</i>	<i>End Date</i>
	<i>MM/DD/YYYY</i>	<i>MM/DD/YYYY</i>
*Period 1:	_/_/_/____	_/_/_/____
Period 2:	_/_/_/____	_/_/_/____
Period 3:	_/_/_/____	_/_/_/____

1 (D) During any of the periods listed in 1(C), was the Service Member or Veteran ever officially declared a Prisoner of War?

☐ Yes ☐ No

1 (E) *Service Category

- ☐ Active Duty component of the US Armed Forces
- ☐ Reserve component of the US Armed Forces
- ☐ Member of the Pennsylvania National Guard

Eligibility Information

This section must be completed by any party applying for benefits under the terms of the "Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Act." A response to each item (A) through (C) is required for all applicants.

2(A) *Do you affirm that the Service Member **was** a legal resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he/she was ordered into or volunteered to serve on active duty in the Persian Gulf Theater of Operations?

☐ Yes ☐ No

2(B) *Do you affirm that the Service Member **has not** renounced his/her United States citizenship?

☐ Yes ☐ No

2(C) *Do you affirm that the Service Member **has not** received a bonus, gratuity or compensation of a similar nature from any of the other 49 states?

☐ Yes ☐ No

2(D) *Do you affirm that the Service Member **has not** been separated from the service under less than honorable conditions?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Notes:

1) No sum payable under this act to a Veteran or to any other person under this act shall be subject to attachment, levy or seizure under any legal or equitable process and shall be exempt from all State taxation.

2) A person who charges or collects or attempts to charge or collect, either directly or indirectly, any fee or other compensation for assisting, in any manner, a Veteran in obtaining any of the benefits provided under this act commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.

PG-1 (Short)
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- - Form PG-1 (Long), for persons filing on behalf of a Persian Gulf Veteran - -

This section must be completed by any qualifying Service Member, Veteran, Beneficiary, or Representative applying for compensation under the terms of the "Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Act." Items listed with an "" are required.*

*Last Name *First Name M.I. Mr/Mrs/Ms *Social Security Number

If you do not have the aforementioned supporting documentation, please refer to the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program Digest or the program website at www.persiangulfbonus.state.pa.us for help.

1 (E) *Service Category

☐ Active Duty component of the US Armed Forces

☐ Reserve component of the US Armed Forces

☐ Member of the Pennsylvania National Guard

This section must be completed by any party applying for benefits under the terms of the "Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans Benefit Act." A response to each item (A) through (C) is required for all applicants.

2(D) *Do you affirm that the Service Member **has not** been separated from the service under less than honorable conditions?

☐ Yes ☐ No

- 1) No sum payable under this act to a Veteran or to any other person under this act shall be subject to attachment, levy or seizure under any legal or equitable process and shall be exempt from all State taxation.
- 2) A person who charges or collects or attempts to charge or collect, either directly or indirectly, any fee or other compensation for assisting, in any manner, a Veteran in obtaining any of the benefits provided under this act commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.

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Section 3: Applicant Data

This section must be completed only if the application is being filed by a surviving relative of a deceased veteran or the authorized representative of an incompetent veteran. **Service Members or Veterans filing on their own-behalf should not complete this section.**

Compensation on behalf of a deceased Veteran will be made in the order named to: a surviving spouse, surviving children or surviving parents.

In the case where a Veteran is incompetent, if no guardian has been appointed, payment shall be made as described in the previous paragraph, or in the absence of any such person and if the Veteran is in a facility, to the person in charge of the facility.

3 (A) Provide the following information as it applies to yourself (the applicant) :

*Last Name

*First Name

M.I.

Mr/Mrs/Ms

*Social Security Number

3 (B) Complete this subsection only if the Veteran identified in Section 1 is deceased and you are applying as a surviving family member. All items in this section must be completed.

*Relationship to deceased Veteran:

☐ Spouse - Do you affirm that you **were not** living separate and apart from the eligible Veteran at the time he or she commenced active service?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Child - Do you affirm that there is no qualifying surviving spouse?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Parent - Do you affirm that there is no qualifying surviving spouse or children?

☐ Yes ☐ No

*Did the Veteran's death occur as a result of injuries incurred while serving in the Persian Gulf Conflict during the period of August 2, 1990 through August 31, 1991 as certified by the DoD or U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs?

☐ Yes ☐ No (Attach DD1300 or Veterans Affairs Rating Decision)

3 (C) Complete this subsection only if you are applying as an official representative on behalf of a Veteran who has been declared incompetent.

*Relationship to Veteran (choose one):

☐ Guardian ☐ Holder of Power of Attorney ☐ Qualifying Relative: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Parent

Other (explain) _____

Facility Represented: _____

Section 4: Other Eligible Family Member Data

This section must be completed by a qualifying surviving relative when there are others who are entitled to a share of the compensation. Specifically, an application filed by a surviving child must list all other surviving children. An application filed by a surviving parent must list the other parent if he or she is still living. **Service Members or Veterans filing on their own behalf should not complete this section.**

Other Eligible Child or Parent: ☐ Child ☐ Parent

_____ Last Name	_____ First Name	_____ M.I.	_____ Mr/Mrs/Ms
_____ Street Address		_____ Apt/Unit	
_____ City	_____ State	_____ Zip Code	
_____ Social Security Number		_____ Phone	_____ E-Mail Address

Other Eligible Child :

_____ Last Name	_____ First Name	_____ M.I.	_____ Mr/Mrs/Ms
_____ Street Address		_____ Apt/Unit	
_____ City	_____ State	_____ Zip Code	
_____ Social Security Number		_____ Phone	_____ E-Mail Address

Other Eligible Child:

_____ Last Name	_____ First Name	_____ M.I.	_____ Mr/Mrs/Ms
_____ Street Address		_____ Apt/Unit	
_____ City	_____ State	_____ Zip Code	
_____ Social Security Number		_____ Phone	_____ E-Mail Address

Other Eligible Child:

_____ Last Name	_____ First Name	_____ M.I.	_____ Mr/Mrs/Ms
_____ Street Address		_____ Apt/Unit	
_____ City	_____ State	_____ Zip Code	
_____ Social Security Number		_____ Phone	_____ E-Mail Address

Do you affirm that you have listed all other children (if filing as a surviving child) or another surviving parent if one exists (if filing as a surviving parent)? (Make and attach additional copies of this page as needed.)

☐ Yes ☐ No

Section 5: Signature and Certification

This section must be completed by all applicants.

*Check Mailing Address and Contact Information:

Street Address _____ Apt/Unit _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

County (Required for Pennsylvania Residents Only)

Certification:

I hereby certify, under penalty of law, that the foregoing information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I do not provide accurate information, I will be subject to prosecution for violation of 18 Pa.C.S. paragraph 4904 (relating to non-sworn falsification to authorities).

Signature _____

Date _____

Required Attachments for all Applications:

- ☒ **All applicants** for compensation must submit a legible photocopy of one of the following which indicates service between the dates of August 2, 1990 to August 31, 1991, in the Persian Gulf Theater of Operations:
 - o A certified copy of the Veteran's form DD214 or DD215
 - o For active duty members – a **certified** military record from his or her current command
- ☒ **All applicants** for compensation must submit proof of the service person's residency in Pennsylvania at the time of activation (one of the following - DD214, Leave and Earning Statement, Military Record Audit, State or Federal Tax Return).
- ☒ **Any application** on behalf of a Veteran who served under a name other than his or her most recent name must provide documentation that supports the name change (e.g., marriage certificate, divorce decree, etc.)

In addition:

- ☒ A **relative of a deceased Veteran** must submit a legible photocopy of the Veteran's death certificate.
- ☒ A **relative of a deceased Veteran who died of a service-related injury** must submit a Military Death Certificate (DD Form 1300), and Award Letter for Death in Combat (if married) or a USDVA Rating Decision Letter.
- ☒ An applicant filing as a **surviving spouse** must submit a legible photocopy of a marriage certificate.
- ☒ An applicant filing as a **surviving child** must submit a formal Power of Attorney document or a legible copy of a birth certificate for himself or herself as well as for each additional surviving child.
- ☒ An applicant filing as a **surviving parent** must submit a legible copy of the Veteran's birth certificate or, in the case of a foster parenting situation, a proof of the fostering relationship must be provided.
- ☒ A **representative** applying for compensation on behalf of a Veteran, who has been declared incompetent, must provide a "Certificate of Representation" (e.g. Power of Attorney).

Privacy Act Statement. Authority: Act 22 of 2006. Principle Purpose: This application form is the primary source of information for determining an individual's eligibility for the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program. Routine Use: The information you provide will be used to review and evaluate your application for compensation under the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program. The information may be provided to other state and federal agencies and non-governmental organizations in connection with review of your application. Voluntary Disclosure: Disclosure of information requested on this application, including Social Security Number, is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information may mean the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs will be unable to evaluate the application, verify the information provided, or award compensation under the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program because of incomplete information.

Completed applications with attachments should be mailed to:
Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Program
Bldg 0-47, Ft Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002

For information on the program, refer to <http://www.persiangufbonus.state.pa.us>
If you still have questions, please call 1-866-458-9182 between 7AM and 4PM, Mon. through Fri.

PG-1 (Long)
4/15/2008