



**Please read
before you
complete this
form**

The Children's Pension provides financial support to the children of veterans, who served in Viet Nam or before 1 April 1974, either affected by significant service-related impairment or whose death was due to qualifying service.

The application form should be completed by the person responsible for the care of the child, if the child is not yet 16 years of age; or if the child is 16 years of age or more but suffering from any mental or physical infirmity. If the pension is granted, payment will be made to the person responsible for the care of the child; unless Veterans' Affairs considers payment should be made to another person or to trustees.

In all other cases the child must complete and sign the application form themselves. If the pension is granted, payment will be made to the child.

To apply, you must fully complete this application form and provide any supporting information or evidence required by Veterans' Affairs (VA).

If your application is incomplete it will be returned to you unprocessed.

Further information can be found in the Children's Pension factsheet on our website.

If a Children's Pension has been granted and there is a change in circumstances, please complete the Update of Circumstances form on our website.

Eligibility
(section 72,
Veterans' Support
Act 2014)

Children of Scheme One veterans are eligible for the Children's Pension if they are under 18 years of age and their veteran parent is receiving a War Disablement Pension of 70% or more, or a Disablement Pension of 52% or more in relation to whole-person impairment.

Children are also eligible if their veteran parent's death was service-related or the deceased veteran was, or could have been eligible for a permanent War Disablement Pension of 70% or more, or a permanent Disablement Pension of 52% or more had they not died.

There are some specific situations where a child is eligible to continue to receive the Children's Pension, or may apply for the Children's Pension after they become 18 years of age.

These are when:

- (i) The child suffers from any mental or physical infirmity:
Veterans' Affairs has the discretion to continue paying the Children's Pension for as long as the child continues to suffer the infirmity.
- (ii) A child is undertaking full-time study:
The child is entitled to continue to receive the Children's Pension until the day they turn 23.

Definition
(section 7,
Veterans' Support
Act 2014)

The Veterans' Support Act 2014 defines the child of a veteran as:

- a natural child of the veteran; or
- an adopted child of the veteran; or
- any other child who would ordinarily be regarded as a child of the veteran because the veteran is or was the spouse or partner of one of the child's parents; and acted as a parent of the child.

Offences
(section 270,
Veterans' Support
Act 2014)

It is an offence to make a false statement or provide misleading information to VA, and anyone who does so commits an offence against this section and is liable on conviction to a term of imprisonment not exceeding 3 months or a fine not exceeding \$5,000.

Assistance

If you have any questions or require assistance completing this form, you can contact us using the details shown below:

Freephone 0800 483 8372 / 0800 4 VETERANS (or +64 4 495 2070 if calling from overseas)

You can email: veterans@nzdf.mil.nz or visit our website: www.veteransaffairs.mil.nz

Completing your Application

If the child is not yet 16 years of age; or if the child is 16 years of age or more but suffering from any mental or physical infirmity the application form must be completed and signed by:

- the person responsible for the care of the child ("the applicant").
- any person requested by the applicant to complete the form (the applicant must complete the Signature & Acknowledgement); or
- the holder of a Power of Attorney or other recognised authority (refer to page 4).

In all other cases the child ("the applicant") must complete and sign the application form themselves. If the pension is granted, payment will be made to the child.

Step 1:

Read page 3 of the Information Sheet regarding documentation required and completion of the application form.

Complete page 1, and 2 if applicable; read the Privacy Statement on page 3 and complete the Signature & Acknowledgement on page 4.

If a question is not applicable, please write N/A. If there is insufficient space to answer a question, please include additional sheet/s of paper to complete your answer, including the question or page number it relates to.

Step 2:

Complete the Checklist and Receipt on page 5, then send your fully completed application and all supporting documentation to VA at the address shown.

If the veteran is deceased and was not receiving a War Disablement Pension of 70% or more, or a Disablement Pension of 52% or more in relation to whole-person impairment (or was not receiving any pension), further information may be required, such as the veteran's employment/service/medical history. If this situation applies, please contact us to discuss your situation.

Process for deciding claims

(sections 11, 73
and 209,
Veterans' Support
Act 2014)

VA will make a decision on your claim within **30 working days** of receipt of the application. However, the 30 working days does not include any period while VA is waiting for further information that it requires to determine whether to accept the claim.

If an application is accepted by VA, the child's entitlement to the Children's Pension is to be treated as beginning on:

- a) the day on which VA received the application, if the veteran is living; or
- b) the day after the veteran's death, if the application is received by VA within 6 months after the veteran's death; or
- c) the day on which VA received the application, if the application is received by VA more than 6 months after the veteran's death.

Child over 18 undertaking full-time study

A course is considered full-time if it meets the equivalent full-time study (EFTS) rating.

- a) full-time study for a year must be at least 0.8 EFTS.
- b) for courses less than a year, the full-time EFTS rating will depend on the length of the course.

Further information on EFTS is available on the Study link website www.studylink.govt.nz

Recipients studying full-time will receive the Children's Pension, until 31st December, unless the recipient has informed VA in writing that they intend to undertake full-time study in the following year. Recipients **must** inform VA if they withdraw from, suspend or complete their studies.

Children's Bursary

Recipients of the Children's Pension may also be entitled to a bursary. The bursary provides annual payments to assist with study at New Zealand secondary schools or tertiary institutions.

Further information can be found in the Children's Bursary factsheet on our website.

Documents required with a first-time application

A **first-time** application for a Children's Pension must include the following documentation:

- Evidence of the child's relationship to the veteran and age:
 - A certified copy of the full birth certificate for natural children.
 - A certified copy of the adoptive birth certificate for adopted children.
 - A certified copy of the full birth certificate for stepchildren; and a statutory declaration that the veteran acted or acts as a parent of the child and was or is the spouse or partner of the child's mother or father. Statutory declaration to include the full name and date of birth of each child for whom an application for a Children's Pension is being made.
- An original or certified copy of the bank statement showing the account number and name OR a pre printed deposit slip stamped by the bank of the account the pension is to be paid to.
- If applicable, medical evidence of the child's mental or physical infirmity from a Medical Practitioner.
- If applicable, evidence that you are responsible for the child such as a statutory declaration from spouse or partner; Court custody documents.
- If applicable, a certified copy of the late veteran's death certificate (if not already provided).

If you are a child 18 years of age or more and undertaking full-time study, you must also include:

- A statutory declaration that you are undertaking full-time study in New Zealand.
- Evidence that the course meets the equivalent full-time study (EFTS) rating.

Pension payments

The pension is paid to the person responsible for the child's care until the child's 16th birthday. If you are a child turning 16 years of age, to apply to have the payments transferred to your own bank account, you must:

- Complete an Update of Circumstances form and attach the documentation requested.

The pension will cease being paid on the child's 18th birthday.

If you are the person responsible for the care of a child who continues to suffer from mental or physical infirmity, to apply to have the pension extended you must:

- Complete an Update of Circumstances form and attach the documentation requested.

The pension will cease being paid if the child no longer suffers from the mental or physical infirmity. You must inform VA if the child's medical circumstances change.

If you are a child undertaking full-time study, to apply to have the pension continued you must:

- Complete an Update of Circumstances form and attach the documentation requested.

The pension will cease being paid on the child's 23rd birthday; or if the child is no longer undertaking full-time study. You must confirm your study commitments annually and inform VA if you withdraw from, suspend or complete your studies.

A 'certified' copy is an original document that has been photocopied and certified as a true copy by one of the following:

- Work and Income; Justice of the Peace; Solicitor; Police Officer; Registered Medical Professional; Court Registrar; or other people authorised to take statutory declarations.

A 'statutory declaration' is a statement of facts, usually made in writing before someone authorised to take a statutory declaration such as:

- Justice of the Peace; Solicitor, Court Registrar; Notary Public.

Details of person responsible for child's care

These details are to be completed for applications when the child is under 16 years of age; or the child is suffering from any mental or physical infirmity.

9 Work and Income / Client Number (if known)

10 Title Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr Other

11 Surname

12 Given Name/s

13 Date of Birth / /

14 Address and Contact Details

Postal Address	
<input type="text"/>	
Physical Address	
<input type="text"/>	
Daytime Contact Number	Mobile Number
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E-mail Address	
<input type="text"/>	

15 Relationship and Living Arrangements

What is your relationship to the child?

What is/was your relationship to the veteran (if applicable)?

Are you responsible for the care of the child? No Yes

Does the child live with you full-time? No Yes

If No, please provide details regarding living arrangements:

<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>

Veteran's Details

These details are to be completed for all first-time applications unless the veteran is the person responsible for the care of the child as listed above. *If the veteran is deceased and was not on a pension with VA, please provide the veteran's service number and military service i.e. Army, Navy, Air Force.

16 Work and Income / Client Number (if known)

17 Title Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr Other
(tick)

18 Surname

19 Given Name/s

20 Date of Birth / /

21 Date of Death / / (If known and applicable)

22 *Service details

Privacy Statement

The Veterans' Support Act 2014 (the Act) which is administered by the New Zealand Defence Force allows us to obtain further information about you to help us assess your application. This may happen when you apply for or are receiving an entitlement. The Privacy Act 1993 requires us to tell you why we collect the information and what we will do with it.

You are not required to give Veterans' Affairs any information, but if you do not provide all the information we ask for, your application for an entitlement and/or assistance may not be able to be processed and may be returned to you.

Why we collect information

The information we collect about you will be held by Veterans' Affairs New Zealand (Veterans' Affairs), which is a unit of the New Zealand Defence Force. We use this information for the purpose of:

- Administering claims and entitlements under the Veterans' Support Act 2014
- Enabling a comprehensive claims database to be maintained
- To monitor and evaluate the nature, incidence, severity and consequences of service-related illness and injuries
- The provision of appropriate treatment, rehabilitation and compensation
- Facilitating the monitoring of the operation of the Act and policy development
- The information you give us may be shared with other government agencies for several purposes, such as the Ministry of Social Development – consistency with other benefits, Accident Compensation Commission – consistency with other claims, Maritime New Zealand – for merchant navy records, Inland Revenue – for payment of tax on taxable entitlements, Archives New Zealand – for service records and the Department of Internal Affairs – to verify your date of birth.

We only collect information needed to manage the entitlements we administer.

Using and sharing personal and health-related information

Veterans' Affairs may exchange information about you with your health practitioner(s) in order to provide you with the correct entitlements and assistance, to clarify any health-related information you give us and for the purposes of putting in place treatment and rehabilitation if required.

Veterans' Affairs will also collect personal and health information from a variety of sources including information provided when making an application to Veterans' Affairs, information supplied by others including treatment providers, and other government agencies.

The information we collect about you can be via various channels, such as email, telephone, face to face and in various formats, such as letters, forms and electronic file notes.

Veterans' Affairs uses personal information provided only for the purposes consistent with the reason it was obtained and will not share it with other parties unless there is a legal authority to do so.

You have the right to access and correct your personal information

You may access personal information that we hold about you. You can ask us to correct errors contained in the information we have about you.

You can contact us at anytime if you have concerns on what information about you we are collecting and how it is or may be used.

Please complete the Signature & Acknowledgement on page 4



Signature & Acknowledgement

By signing this application form I acknowledge and understand that:

- The information provided in this application form is, to the best of my knowledge, true and complete.
- As part of processing this application, Veterans' Affairs may obtain further information in addition to what I have provided.
- I am consenting to the release and collection of health, clinical or other information to Veterans' Affairs held by any health practitioner, hospital, clinic, insurance company, Accident Compensation Commission, Ministry of Social Development, Department of Internal Affairs or other persons or agencies for the purposes of assessing and processing this application and administering any resulting entitlement or assistance.
- I am aware there are penalties for providing false information as set out in the information sheet at the front of this application.
- I have read and understand the Privacy Statement contained in this form.
- The Power of Attorney or Enduring Power of Attorney document attached to this application is current (where the application is being signed by a person holding this document).

Applicant or Power of Attorney's name (print)

Signature

Date

If you had assistance completing this form, print the persons name (and organisation they represent if applicable) below:

If the applicant is unable to sign due to physical or mental incapacity, the application must be signed by a person with authority to act on behalf of the applicant. If this situation applies you must also attach a certified copy of at least one of the following documents:

- **Power of Attorney or Enduring Power of Attorney (in relation to Property)**
- **Court Order**
- **Certificate of Administration (from the Public Trustee)**

Checklist

- Please complete the checklist below to ensure your application is complete:**
- I have completed the relevant sections of the application form.
- I have attached certified copies of the required evidence relevant to my circumstance.
- I have attached an original or certified copy of my bank statement OR a pre printed deposit slip stamped by my bank.
- If applicable, I have provided a certified copy of the late veteran's death certificate (if not already provided).
- I have read the Privacy Statement on page 3 and completed the Signature & Acknowledgement on page 4.
- I have written my name and address in the application receipt below (we will return this to you when we receive your application for your records).

Send your completed application to:

Veterans' Affairs
PO Box 5146
Lambton Quay
WELLINGTON 6140

Children's Pension Application Receipt

This is to acknowledge Veterans' Affairs has received your application. Provided no further information is required you will be advised of a decision within 30 working days.

Please write your name and address details below:

Office Date Stamp