

## *What is the Vietnam Veterans' Sons and Daughters Support Program?*

The Vietnam Veterans' Sons and Daughters Support Program (VVSDSP) provides financial assistance to children of Vietnam veterans who have certain medical conditions, with the out-of-pocket cost medical expenses. The VVSDSP is not a substitute program for other programs which provide assistance, support or benefits for the medical conditions covered by VVSDSP.

## *Who is eligible?*

You are eligible for the program if you are an Australian citizen residing in Australia, the birth child of a Vietnam veteran, and have medical certification for one or more of the following conditions:

- acute myeloid leukaemia;
- adrenal gland cancer;
- spina bifida manifesta;
- cleft lip; and/or
- cleft palate.

Assistance is only available where it is necessitated by one of these conditions.

There is no age limit for assistance under this program.

## *What is covered under the program?*

**NON-HOSPITAL MEDICAL COSTS:** The program will pay the difference between the amount your health provider charges and the amount received from Medicare, private health insurance or all other sources (including the National Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate Program) that are payable for that service.

**ASSISTANCE WITH HOSPITAL:** When you are treated in a public or private hospital as a private patient, providing you have the appropriate private health insurance, the program will cover out-of-pocket costs after refunds from Medicare and your private health insurance.

**AIDS AND APPLIANCES:** Assistance will also be available for specified approved medically necessary aids and appliances.

**ALLIED HEALTH CARE:** Necessary allied care costs (such as physiotherapy) up to a maximum of \$4000 per financial year.

**HOME CARE:** Necessary home care costs for persons living independently, including domestic assistance (\$1,560), personal care (\$6,500) and home and garden maintenance (\$1,300) in a financial year.

**HOME MODIFICATION:** Clinically necessary home modifications not exceeding the amount of, or amounts totalling, \$7,500 per registered person within a five year period.

**PHARMACEUTICAL:** The program will pay the amount above the concessional cost, for all PBS registered medications. The concessional cost is indexed annually.

**PHYSICAL REHABILITATION:** A beneficial physical rehabilitation program, excluding Gym membership and recreational swimming fees.

**RESPITE CARE:** Necessary respite care, in any combination of in-home and institution-based care, up to \$4,000 in a financial year. In addition up to \$1,600 per financial year for emergency short-term relief.

**TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION:** Medically necessary travel and accommodation expenses may be provided if you live in a rural or remote location and are required to travel long distances to receive treatment. Additional travel and accommodation assistance is available to people with acute myeloid leukaemia or adrenal gland cancer including an authorised attendant.



Australian Government  
Department of Veterans' Affairs

## ***How do I receive assistance?***

Telephone the Department of Veterans' Affairs for a registration form on

**1800 550 504.**

Submit the completed form to the Department of Veterans' Affairs in an envelope marked Reply Paid 9998, addressed as follows –

### **The Program Manager**

**Vietnam Veterans' Sons and Daughters Support Program (VVSDSP)**

**Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**GPO Box 9998**

**HOBART, TAS, 7001**

You will also need to include the following documents:

- A letter from an appropriate medical practitioner confirming that you have acute myeloid leukaemia, adrenal gland cancer, spina bifida manifesta, cleft lip and/or cleft palate.
- Details of your veteran parent's service including their dates of service in Vietnam and their service number (if known).
- A certified copy of the full extract of your birth certificate.

If you are unable to provide this information yourself, your parent, guardian or power of attorney can do so on your behalf.

Once the Department of Veterans' Affairs has verified your registration details you will be registered on the program and will be sent a VVSDSP identification card, information on making claims together with Reply Paid envelopes and claim forms.

## ***Further Details:***

For more details on assistance covered under the program please consult the Information Booklet and/or the VVSDSP Guidelines.

## ***Further Information:***

For information on whether you qualify, about registering, or to get a registration form contact the Department of Veterans' Affairs on **1800 550 504.**

# Information brochure

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