

**Chapter 3: Assessment of Income**

**(ii) Non-exempt Income**

**(j) Income Support and Veteran’s Affairs Allowances**

<b>Intent:</b>	To provide information on Veteran’s Affairs Allowances and their impact on Income Support eligibility.
<b>Act:</b> (if applicable)	N/A
<b>Regulations:</b>	<p>8 (c) "non-exempt income" means income received by an applicant or recipient for which no exemption applies and which is used in determining eligibility but does not include partially exempt income, and which may be obtained by means of</p> <p>(i) payments under the Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security benefits, Veterans’ Allowance, compensation under the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Act , employment insurance benefits, and pensions to the applicant or recipient or to his or her dependent from other sources,</p>
<b>Overview:</b> (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recipients of a War Veteran’s Allowance may be eligible to apply for additional Veteran’s Affairs Allowances such as the Veteran’s Independence Program as well as the New Veteran’s Independence Program Expansion after they turn 65 years of age or older. Please visit their website @ <a href="http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/financial-support/income-support/war-veterans-allowance">www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/financial-support/income-support/war-veterans-allowance</a> for more information.</li> <li>Veterans may also be eligible for the Royal Canadian Naval Benevolent Fund, the Canadian Army Welfare Fund and the Royal Canadian Air Force Benevolent Fund.</li> </ul>
<b>Policy:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Veteran’s Allowance benefits are non-exempt income and deducted from Income Support eligibility.</li> <li>For individuals receiving additional benefits (Independence Programs), their eligibility for Income Support is not affected unless and only to the extent that the two programs duplicate services. Individuals who do receive these benefits may also be eligible to receive burial &amp; funeral assistance through Veteran’s Affairs. This needs to be addressed if individuals are also in receipt of Income Support benefits or are making application for</li> </ul>

	<p>assistance at the time of death. See the policy on <a href="#">burials/funerals</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits and services under the Veteran’s Independence Program include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nursing &amp; personal care in the home</li> <li>○ Grounds-keeping &amp; housekeeping</li> <li>○ Adaptations to the home</li> <li>○ Specialized services offered through daycare centres &amp; hospitals</li> <li>○ Transportation for essential social activities</li> <li>○ Care in residential institutions or nursing homes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Procedure:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants/recipients declaring War Veteran’s Allowance will have the income assessed as non-exempt income.</li> <li>• Veterans Affairs Canada has agreed to reimburse the Department for Income Support benefits provided while the individual was waiting for approval of a War Veteran’s Allowance (WVA) or Civilian War Related Allowance (CWA).</li> <li>• Reimbursement of Income Support will be made through the completion of an Assignment DVA form: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The WVA/CWA recipient must receive no less than one months entitlement in the first payment.</li> <li>○ The Income Support that was paid prior to the effective date of approval for the WVA/CWA will not be reimbursed.</li> <li>○ If the recipient will suffer hardship as a result, then there will not be a reimbursement completed.</li> <li>○ There will be no reimbursement for an amount of \$100.00 or less.</li> <li>○ The recipient has to provide written consent for the reimbursement.</li> <li>○ There has to be 60 days elapsed since the recipient was informed of the approval in writing by Veteran’s Affairs Canada before the reimbursement will be initiated.</li> <li>○ The assignment form should be completed and include all the Income Support that was issued after the form was signed and dated. A copy is given to the recipient, one placed in the recipient’s electronic file and the original sent to:</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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- Only the overpayment of Income Support while the recipient is waiting for the WVA/CWA will be reimbursed. The Department cannot recover an overpayment from a pension.
- The overpayment should only be set up after notice is received from Veteran's Affairs Canada.
- The rates for WVA/CWA are increased quarterly and the recipient's file is updated in CAPS by provincial office. Verification of the maximum rates will also be sent to the local offices for information purposes only.

**Authority Level:** Client Services Officer

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