

## Housing Benefit Circular

Department for Work and Pensions  
Caxton House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NA

# HB A2/2015

### ADJUDICATION AND OPERATIONS CIRCULAR

<b>WHO SHOULD READ</b>	All Housing Benefit staff
<b>ACTION</b>	For information
<b>SUBJECT</b>	War Pensions: Uprating 2015 - 16

### Guidance Manual

The information in this circular doesn't affect the content of the HB Guidance Manual.

### Queries

- **extra copies of this circular/copies of previous circulars** can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/housing-benefit-for-local-authorities-circulars#adjudication-circulars-2015>
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Contents

para

**War Pensions: Uprating 2015 - 16**

Introduction ..... 1

War Pensions Rates.....Annex A

## War Pensions: Upating 2015 – 2016

1. On 17 December 2014 we issued our annual Housing Benefit Upating circular for 2015 - 16, HB A18/2014, unfortunately at that time the War Pensions rates were not available.
2. The Ministry of Defence announced the new War Pensions rates on 14 January 2015. The rates are set out in Annex A of this circular. The annual uprating of War Pensions and allowances for 2015 will take place from the week beginning 6 April 2015, the effective date of change will be the following Monday 13 April. Rates for 2015 -16 are increasing by 1.2% in line with the September 2014 Consumer Price Index.
3. Additional information may be obtained from the Veterans agency section of GOV.UK website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/veterans-uk>

## Annex A

## War Pensions Rates

War Pensions Scheme Benefits	April 2014 £ Weekly	April 2015 £ Weekly
<b>Armed Forces Independence Payment</b>	138.05	139.75
<b>War Pensions</b>		
Disablement Pension (100% rates) officer (£ per annum)	9,189.00	9,298.00
Other ranks	176.10	178.20
<b>Age allowances payable from age 65</b>		
40% - 50%	11.80	11.95
Over 50% but not over 70%	18.15	18.35
Over 70% but not over 90%	25.80	26.10
Over 90%	36.30	36.70
<b>Disablement gratuity (one-off payment)</b>		
Specified minor injury (min)	1,123.00	1,136.00
Specified minor injury (max)	8,374.00	8,474.00
1 – 5% gratuity	2,800.00	2,834.00
6 – 14% gratuity	6,225.00	6,300.00
15 – 19% gratuity	10,887.00	11,018.00
<b>Supplementary Allowances</b>		
<b><i>Unemployability allowance</i></b>		
Personal	108.80	110.10
Adult dependency increase	60.45	61.20
Increase for first child	14.05	14.20
Increase for subsequent children	16.55	16.75
<b>Invalidity allowance</b>		
Higher rate	21.55	21.80
Middle rate	14.00	14.20
Lower rate	7.00	7.10
<b>Constant attendance allowance</b>		
Exceptional rate	132.80	134.40
Intermediate rate	99.60	100.80
Full day rate	66.40	67.20
Part day rate	33.20	33.60
<b>Comforts allowance</b>		
Higher rate	28.60	28.90
Lower rate	14.30	14.45
<b>Mobility supplement</b>	63.40	64.15

<b>War Pensions Scheme Benefits</b>	<b>April 2014 £ Weekly</b>	<b>April 2015 £ Weekly</b>
<b>Allowance for lowered standard occupation (maximum)</b>	66.40	67.20
<b>Therapeutic earnings limit (annual rate)</b>	5,252.00	5,408.00
<b>Exceptionally severe disablement allowance</b>	66.40	67.20
<b>Severe disablement occupational allowance</b>	33.20	33.60
<b>Clothing allowance (£ per annum)</b>	227.00	230.00
<b>Education allowance (£ per annum) (max)</b>	120.00	120.00
<b>Widow(er)s benefits</b>		
Widow(er) – other ranks (basic with children) (weekly amount)	133.55	135.15
Widow(er) – Officer higher rate both wars (basic with children) (per annum)	7,102.00	7,187.00
Childless widow(er) under 40 (other ranks)(weekly amount)	31.99	32.37
Widow(er) – officer lower rates both wars (£ per annum)	2,467.00	2,496.00
<b>Supplementary 1973 Widows/Widowers pension</b>	89.34	90.41
Age allowance		
(a) age 65 to 69	15.20	15.40
(b) age 70 to 79	29.25	29.60
(c) age 80 and over	43.40	43.90
<b>Children's allowance</b>		
Increase for first child	20.95	21.20
Increase for subsequent children	23.45	23.75
<b>Orphan's pension</b>		
Increase for first child	23.95	24.25
Increase for subsequent children	26.25	26.55
<b>Unmarried dependant living as spouse (max)</b>	131.20	132.80
<b>Rent allowance (maximum)</b>	50.30	50.90
<b>Adult orphan's pension (maximum)</b>	102.60	103.85