

CRS Report for Congress

Overview of Filipino Veterans' Benefits

February 14, 2007

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Prepared for Members and
Committees of Congress

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Summary

The United States has had a continuous relationship with the Philippine Islands since they were acquired in 1898 by the United States as a result of the Spanish-American War. Moreover, Filipinos have served in and with the U.S. Armed Forces since the time of the Spanish-American War, and especially during World War II. The Islands remained a possession of the United States until 1946.

Since 1946, Congress has passed several laws affecting various categories of Filipino veterans. Many of these laws have been liberalizing laws that have provided Filipino World War II veterans with medical and monetary benefits similar to benefits available to U.S. veterans.

However, not all veterans' benefits have been available to Filipino Commonwealth Army veterans, veterans of Recognized Guerrilla forces, and New Philippine Scouts. In the 110th Congress, two measures, H.R. 760 and S. 57, have been introduced that would eliminate the distinction between the Regular, or "Old," Philippine Scouts and the other three groups of veterans — the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines, Recognized Guerrilla Forces, and New Philippine Scouts — making them all fully eligible for veterans' benefits similar to those received by U.S. veterans.

This report provides an overview of **major** Filipino veterans legislation enacted by Congress from 1946 through 2003. The report begins by defining the specific groups of Filipino nationals who served under the command of the United States, and then outlines the Rescission Acts of 1946, benefit expansions from 1948 onward, and recent legislative proposals. It will be updated as legislative events warrant.

Contents

Background	1
Regular, or “Old,” Philippine Scouts	1
Commonwealth Army of the Philippines	1
Recognized Guerrilla Forces	2
New Philippine Scouts	2
Rescission Acts of 1946	2
Benefit Expansions, 1948-1998	4
Health Care Benefits	4
Non-Health Care Benefits	7
Benefit Expansions, 1999 Onward	8
Recent Legislative Proposals	9

List of Tables

Table 1. Status of Benefits for Filipino Veterans and Survivors	10
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Overview of Filipino Veterans' Benefits

Background

The Philippine Islands became a U.S. possession in 1898, when they were ceded from Spain following the Spanish-American War (1898-1902).¹ The Islands remained a possession of the United States until 1946. In 1934, Congress passed the Philippine Independence Act (Tydings-McDuffie Act; P.L. 73-127), which set a 10-year timetable for the eventual independence of the Philippines and in the interim established a Commonwealth of the Philippines vested with certain powers over its internal affairs. In 1935, the Philippine Constitution was adopted and the first President of the Philippines was elected. The granting of full independence was ultimately delayed until 1946 because of the Japanese occupation of the Islands from 1942-1945. Among other things, P.L. 73-127 reserved to the United States the power to maintain military bases and armed forces in the Philippines and, upon order of the President of the United States, the right to call into the service of the U.S. Armed Forces all military forces organized by the Philippine government. On July 26, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued an executive order inducting all military forces of the Commonwealth of the Philippines under the command of a newly created command structure called the United States Armed Forces of the Far East (USAFFE). These units remained under USAFFE command through the duration of World War II (WWII), until authority over them was returned to the Commonwealth at the time of independence. From time to time since 1946, Congress has passed laws providing and in some instances repealing benefits to Filipino veterans. This report, which will be updated as legislative events warrant, provides an overview of **major** Filipino veterans legislation enacted by Congress from 1946 through 2003. The report begins by defining the specific groups of Filipino nationals who served under the command of the United States, and then outlines the Rescission Acts of 1946, benefit expansions from 1948 onward, and recent legislative proposals.

Regular, or “Old,” Philippine Scouts. These were soldiers who enlisted as Philippine Scouts prior to October 6, 1945. They were members of a small, regular component of the U.S. Army that was considered to be in regular active service. The Regular Philippine Scouts were part of the U.S. Army throughout their existence, and are entitled to all VA benefits by the same criteria that apply to any veteran of U.S. military service.²

Commonwealth Army of the Philippines. These soldiers enlisted in the organized military forces of the Government of the Philippines under the provisions of the Philippine Independence Act of 1934. They served before July 1, 1946, while

¹ 38 U.S.C. §101(6).

² 38 C.F.R. §3.40(a).

such forces were in the service of the U.S. Armed Forces pursuant to the military order of the President of the United States dated July 26, 1941.

Recognized Guerrilla Forces. These were individuals who served in resistance units recognized by and cooperating with the U.S. Armed Forces during the period April 20, 1942, to June 20, 1946.³

New Philippine Scouts. These were Philippine citizens who served with the U.S. Armed Forces with the consent of the Philippine government between October 6, 1945, and June 30, 1947, and who were discharged from such service under conditions other than dishonorable.⁴ Since these scouts were recruited as a result of the Armed Forces Voluntary Recruitment Act of 1945 (P.L. 79-190), they are referred to as “new” Scouts.

Rescission Acts of 1946

In 1946, Congress passed the First Supplemental Surplus Appropriation Rescission Act (P.L. 79-301) and the Second Supplemental Surplus Appropriation Rescission Act (P.L. 79-391), which came to be commonly known as the “Rescission Acts of 1946.” P.L. 79-301, enacted on February 18, 1946, authorized a \$200 million appropriation to the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines with a provision limiting benefits for these veterans to (1) compensation for service-connected disabilities or death, and (2) National Service Life Insurance contracts already in force.⁵ Furthermore, this provision included bill language stating that:

Service before July 1, 1946, in the organized military forces of the government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines while such forces were in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States pursuant to the military order of the President, dated July 26, 1941 ... shall not be deemed to have been active military, naval or air service for the purposes of any law of the United States conferring rights, privileges, or benefits upon any person by reason of the service of such person or the service of any other person in the Armed Forces.⁶

Because of differences between economic conditions and living standards in the United States and the Philippines, P.L. 79-301 also provided that any benefits paid to Commonwealth Army veterans would be paid at the rate of one Philippine peso to each dollar for a veteran who was a member of the U.S. Armed Forces. Prior to the enactment of P.L. 79-301, Commonwealth Army veterans were determined by the then Veterans Administration to be eligible for U.S. veterans’ benefits.⁷

³ 38 C.F.R. §3.40(d).

⁴ 38 C.F.R. §3.40(b).

⁵ P.L. 79-301; 60 Stat. 14.

⁶ Ibid; now codified at 38 U.S.C. §107.

⁷ In 1942, the Solicitor of the VA ruled that members of the Commonwealth Army called into the service of the United States by the President’s order of July 26, 1941, were eligible (continued...)

On May 27, 1946, Congress enacted P.L. 79-391, providing that service in the Philippine Scouts under Section 14 of the Armed Forces Voluntary Recruitment Act of 1945 (P.L. 79-190) shall not be deemed to have been active military or air service for the purpose of any laws administered by the Veterans Administration.

The legislative history of these Rescission Acts provides some context behind the congressional intent in passing these laws. At the end of World War II, when Congress was considering a \$200 million appropriation for the support of the Philippine Army, in accordance with its practice during the war, the chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Appropriations sent a letter to General Omar Bradley, then Director of the Veterans Administration, requesting information concerning the status of the Filipino servicemen and the potential cost of their veteran benefits. In his response to the committee, General Bradley indicated that the total cost of paying veterans' benefits to members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and their dependents, under then existing veterans' laws, would amount in the long run to about \$3 billion. Upon receiving this response, the chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Appropriations made a statement with regard to the then pending (First Supplemental Surplus Appropriation Rescission Act) legislation:

Three billion dollars is a substantial sum of money, and if Filipinos were eligible to receive it, there would be good reason to reduce or eliminate other proposed expenditures by the United States for their benefit. But no one could be found who would assert that it was ever the clear intention of Congress that such benefits as are granted under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1940, as amended — the GI Bill of Rights — should be extended to the soldiers of the Philippine Army. There is nothing in the text of any of the laws enacted by Congress for the benefit of veterans to indicate such intent. The real question in the case of the soldiers of the Philippine Army is whether they have served in the active military or naval service of the United States. There is nothing to indicate that there was any discussion of the meaning of that term, probably because it is generally well recognized and has been used in many statutes having to do with members or former members of the American armed forces. It would normally be construed to include persons regularly enlisted or inducted in the regular manner in the military and naval service of the United States. There is no suggestion that Congress had in mind covering under the GI Bill of Rights any classes not theretofore understood to be included within the meaning of the words 'in the active military or naval service of the United States,' which is the primary basis for entitlement to its benefits. It is certainly unthinkable that the Congress would extend the normal meaning of the term to cover the large number of Filipinos to whom it has been suggested that the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1940 applies, at a cost running into billions of dollars, aside from other consideration, without some reference to it either in the debates in Congress or in the committee reports. Upon the principle that the Philippine Army was serving with our Army but was not a part of the armed forces of the United States, the War Department took prompt action to disapprove the

⁷ (...continued)

for benefits under the Veterans' National Life Insurance Act. In 1945, General Omar Bradley, then Director of the Veterans Administration, expressed an opinion to the Senate Appropriations Committee that the term "veterans" included these Commonwealth Army veterans. *Filipino American Veterans and Dependents Association v. United States of America*, 391 F. Supp. 1314 (N.D. Cal. 1974).

proposal to extend the American pay rates to soldiers serving in the Philippine Army and requested that the proclamation making such a promise be rescinded. Members of the Philippine Army did not actually receive the pay of an American soldier, which has a direct bearing upon the question as to whether that army is a part of the armed forces of the United States.⁸

It is important to note here that the Rescission Acts of 1946 applied only to Filipino veterans (i.e., the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines, Recognized Guerrilla Forces, and New Philippine Scouts). Veterans who served as Regular, or “Old,” Philippine Scouts were categorized as U.S. veterans, and are generally entitled to all veterans’ benefits for which any other U.S. veteran is eligible.

Benefit Expansions, 1948-1998

Health Care Benefits

In July 1948, Congress enacted **P.L. 80-865** and authorized aid not to exceed \$22.5 million for the construction and equipping of a hospital in the Philippines to provide care for Commonwealth Army veterans and Recognized Guerrillas. That same law authorized \$3.3 million annually for a five-year grant program to reimburse the Republic of the Philippines for the care and treatment of service-connected conditions of those veterans.⁹ In 1951, plans for a new hospital were completed; construction of a new hospital began in 1953. Work was completed at a total cost of \$9.4 million, and the hospital was dedicated on November 20, 1955.¹⁰ This facility came to be known as the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC), and the facility was turned over to the Philippine government. The hospital is now organized under the Philippine Department of National Defense.¹¹

In April 1952, Congress enacted **P.L. 82-311** and authorized the President to transfer the United States Army Provisional Philippine Scout Hospital at Fort McKinley, Philippines, to the Republic of the Philippines, including all the equipment contained in the hospital. This act also authorized a grant program for a five-year period to reimburse the Republic of the Philippines for the medical care of Regular Philippine Scouts undergoing treatment at the United States Army Provisional Philippine Scout Hospital. **P.L. 83-421** extended the five-year period of

⁸ Quoted in the *American Veterans and Dependents Association v. United States of America*, 391 F. Supp. 1314 (N.D. Cal. 1974).

⁹ The term “service-connected” means, with respect to disability, that such disability was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service. VA determines whether veterans have service-connected disabilities, and for those with such disabilities, assigns ratings from 0 to 100% based on the severity of the disability. Percentages are assigned in increments of 10%.

¹⁰ U.S. Congress, House Committee on Veterans Affairs, *Medical Care of Veterans*, Committee print, 90th Congress, 1st session, April 17, 1967. House Committee print no. 4, p. 384.

¹¹ See [<http://server.pvao.mil.ph/vmmc.html>]; accessed January 19, 2007.

reimbursement for an additional five years, through June 30, 1958, and authorized payments of \$3 million for the first year, and then payments decreasing by \$500,000 each year. No change was made in the provision stating that funds would be used for either medical care on a contract basis or for hospital operations.

The VMMC was originally intended to provide care to service-connected Filipino veterans only. However, in June 1958, Congress enacted **P.L. 85-461** and expanded its use to include veterans of any war for any nonservice-connected disability if such veterans were unable to defray the expenses of necessary hospital care. The VA was authorized to pay for such care on a contract basis. Furthermore, P.L. 85-461 amended P.L. 85-56. Section 532 of P.L. 85-461 authorized the President, with the concurrence of the Republic of the Philippines, to modify the agreement between the United States and the Philippines with respect to hospital and medical care for Commonwealth Army veterans, including Recognized Guerrilla forces.¹² The law stated that in lieu of any grants made after July 1, 1958, the VA may enter into a contract with the VMMC under which the United States would pay for hospital care in the Republic of the Philippines of Commonwealth Army veterans, including Recognized Guerrilla forces determined by the VA to need such hospital care for service-connected disabilities. The law also required that the contract must be entered into before July 1, 1958, and would be for a period of not more than five consecutive fiscal years beginning July 1, 1958, and shall provide for payments for such hospital care at a per diem rate to be jointly determined for each fiscal year by the two governments to be fair and reasonable.

P.L. 85-461 also authorized the Republic of the Philippines to use at their discretion beds, equipment, and other facilities of the VMMC at Manila, not required for hospital care of Commonwealth Army veterans with service-connected disabilities, for the care of other persons.¹³ **P.L. 88-40**, enacted in June 1963, extended the grant program for another five years through June 30, 1968. Under provisions of this law, costs of any one fiscal year were not to exceed \$500,000.

P.L. 89-612, enacted in September 1966, among other things, expanded the program to include hospital care at the VMMC for Commonwealth Army veterans, determined by the VA to need such care for nonservice-connected disabilities if they were unable to defray the expenses of such care. It also authorized the provision of hospital care to New Philippine Scouts for service-connected disabilities, and for nonservice-connected conditions if they were enlisted before July 4, 1946, the date of Philippine independence. P.L. 89-612 also authorized \$500,000 for replacing and

¹² This law defined “Commonwealth Army Veterans” as “persons who served before July 1, 1946, in the organized military forces of the Government of the Philippines, while such forces were in the service of the Armed Forces pursuant to the military order of the President dated July 26, 1941, including among such military forces organized guerrilla forces under commanders appointed, designated, or subsequently recognized by the Commander in Chief, Southwest Pacific Area, or another competent authority in the Army of the United States, and who were discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable.”

¹³ This language contained in P.L. 85-461 was restated in P.L. 85-857, which consolidated the laws of the Veterans Administration.

upgrading equipment and for restoring the physical plant of the hospital, and provided a yearly appropriation of \$100,000 for six years, beginning in 1967, in grants to the VMMC for medical research and training of health service personnel.

P.L. 93-82 authorized nursing home care for eligible Commonwealth Army veterans and New Philippine Scouts. Further, it provided that available beds, equipment, and other facilities at the VMMC could be made available at the discretion of the Republic of the Philippines for other persons subject to (1) priority of admissions and hospitalizations given to Commonwealth Army veterans or New Philippine scouts needing hospital care for service-connected conditions, and (2) the use of available facilities on a contract basis for hospital care or medical services for persons eligible to receive care from the VA. This law also authorized funding of up to \$2 million annually for medical care, and provided for annual grants up to \$50,000 for education and training of health service personnel at the VMMC, and up to \$50,000 for replacing and upgrading equipment and maintaining the physical plant. In 1981, **P.L. 97-72** made substantial changes to the existing law. It amended section 632 [now 1732] of Title 38 “to make it explicitly clear that it is the position of the United States that the primary responsibility for providing medical care and treatment for Commonwealth Army veterans and New Philippine Scouts rests with the Republic of the Philippines.”¹⁴ The committee report accompanying P.L. 97-72 stated the long-standing position of Congress with regard to health care to Filipino veterans:

There is little doubt that in 1948 when Congress enacted P.L. 80-865, authorizing a 5-year grant program to provide medical benefits to Filipino veterans with service-connected illnesses, including the authorization for constructing and equipping a hospital in Luzon, it intended that this program be temporary and that the Philippine government eventually assume responsibility for funding the program and operations of the hospital.... These grants were renewed for an additional 5 years in 1954, but on a decreasing annual scale of payments (P.L. 83-421). The Committee report on this bill stated that progressively reducing these grants over five years was to make clear the intent of Congress that the Philippine government would be expected to gradually assume full responsibility for the hospital.... However, because of the moral obligation of the United States to provide care for Filipino veterans and the concern that the Philippine government would not be able to maintain a high standard of medical care to these veterans if assistance by the United States were withheld, this program was extended in 5-year increments through [FY] 1978. P.L. 89-612, enacted in September 1966, expanded the program to include medical care for nonservice-connected disabilities if the veteran were unable to defray the expense of medical care and included New Philippine Scouts in the coverage.¹⁵

Furthermore, P.L. 97-72 gave VA the authority to contract for the care and treatment of U.S. veterans in the VMMC, and to provide grant authority of \$500,000 per year for a period of five years for making grants to the VMMC to assist in the replacement

¹⁴ U.S. Congress, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, *Veterans' Health Care, Training, and Small Business Loan Act of 1981*. Report to accompany H.R. 3499. 97th Congress, 1st sess., H.Rept. 97-79.

¹⁵ Ibid.

and upgrading of equipment and the rehabilitation of the physical plant and facilities of the center. **P.L. 100-687**, **P.L. 102-40**, **P.L. 102-86**, and **P.L. 102-585** continued to authorize this program by making amendments to the grant amount and the time frame for entering into contracts.

In 1993, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) discontinued referrals of U.S. veterans to the VMMC, because it was determined that the VMMC was not providing a reasonable standard of care. Until this time, the VMMC had been the primary contract hospital for the VA in the Philippines. Because of this change in the referral process, the grant-in-aid funding for the VMMC was last authorized by **P.L. 102-585** through September 30, 1994, and the program was allowed to expire. However, Congress continued to appropriate funds for the program through September 30, 1996.¹⁶ During a tour of the VMMC in May 2006, the VA Secretary announced that “the VMMC will receive a grant of \$500,000, or approximately 25.5 million pesos, from the U.S. government to help the institution purchase additional equipment and materials for the treatment of Filipino veterans.”¹⁷

Non-Health Care Benefits

Aside from health care benefits, in 1951, Congress enacted **P.L. 82-21** authorizing funeral and burial benefits, including burial flags, for Commonwealth Army veterans residing in the Philippines (at half the rate of U.S. veterans). These benefits were not extended to New Philippine Scouts. In 1966, **P.L. 89-613** extended dependents’ and survivors’ education assistance to include children of Commonwealth Army veterans and New Philippine Scouts. These benefits were made payable at half the rate of the benefits for children of U.S. veterans.

Furthermore, as a result of a Joint Republic of the Philippines-U.S. Commission study of Philippine veterans’ problems, Congress in 1966 authorized a change in how benefits were to be computed. **P.L. 89-640** provided for payment of benefits in pesos equal in value to U.S. 50 cents for each U.S. dollar authorized. In 1978, testifying before the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the General Accounting Office (now the Government Accountability Office) stated that

the intent of the 1966 law was apparently to restore Philippines beneficiaries to approximately their situation in 1946, taking into account the changes occurring in the economies and living standards in the Philippines and the U.S. since 1946. Since the law was enacted, however, legislative increases and devaluations of the peso have provided Filipino veterans with undue increases in benefits and has resulted in Filipino veterans achieving much higher levels of benefits than their counterparts in the U.S.¹⁸

¹⁶ Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1995 (P.L. 103-327).

¹⁷ U.S. Embassy Press Release, “Medical Center to Benefit from 25-Million Peso Grant; Hosts Visiting U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs,” May 1, 2006.

¹⁸ U.S. Congress. Senate Committee on Appropriations, *Veterans Administration Benefits Programs in the Republic of the Philippines*. Hearings, 95th Congress, 1st session, August 31, 1977. Washington: GPO 1978.

Benefit Expansions, 1999 Onward

The 106th Congress enacted several measures to expand benefits for Filipino veterans. **P.L.106-169** expanded U.S. income-based benefits to certain World War II veterans. This included Filipino veterans of World War II who served in the organized military forces of the Philippines while those forces were in the service of the U.S. Armed Forces. Until the enactment of this act, recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) were generally required to reside in the United States to maintain their eligibility. This law enabled eligible Filipino veterans to return to the Philippines and retain 75% of their SSI benefits.¹⁹

The Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (**P.L. 106-377**), changed the rate of compensation payments to veterans of the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines and veterans of Recognized Guerrilla forces who lawfully reside in the United States. This law also authorized VA to provide hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to these two veterans groups, similar to care and services available to U.S. veterans. In order to receive these benefits, they were required to be legal permanent residents of the United States and be receiving VA disability compensation. P.L. 106-377, among other things, authorized outpatient care at the Manila VA Outpatient Clinic to service-connected U.S. veterans for their nonservice-connected disabilities.²⁰ Prior to the enactment of P.L. 106-377, VA was limited to providing outpatient treatment for U.S. veterans in the Philippines only for their service-connected conditions.

The Veterans Benefits and Health Care Improvement Act of 2000 (**P.L. 106-419**) changed the amount of monetary burial benefits that VA will pay to survivors of veterans of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and Recognized Guerrilla forces who lawfully reside in the United States at the time of death. Moreover, the Veterans Health Care, Capital Asset, and Business Improvement Act of 2003 (**P.L.108-170**) authorized VA to provide hospital care, nursing home care, and outpatient medical services to Filipino Commonwealth Army veterans, veterans of Recognized Guerrilla forces, and New Philippine Scouts. Currently, these groups of veterans are eligible for hospital care, nursing home care, and outpatient medical services within the United States. Lastly, the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003 (**P.L. 108-183**) added service in the New Philippine Scouts as qualifying service for payment of compensation, dependency, and indemnity compensation (DIC) and monetary burial benefits at the full-dollar rate, and provided for payment of DIC at the full-dollar rate to survivors of veterans of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and Recognized Guerrilla forces who lawfully reside in the U.S.

It should be noted that veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces have the same entitlement to monetary benefits in the Philippines that they would have in the United States, with the exception of home loans and related programs, which are not

¹⁹ This program is administered by the Social Security Administration.

²⁰ 38 U.S.C. Section 1724(e). This clinic refers to the Manila VA Clinic, which is located at 2201 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, Metro Manila, and not to the VMCC.

available in the Philippines. **Table 1** provides a summary of benefits currently available to certain categories of Filipino veterans.

Recent Legislative Proposals

H.R. 760/S. 57, recently introduced in the 110th Congress, would eliminate the distinction between the Regular or “Old” Philippine Scouts and the other three groups of veterans — Commonwealth Army of the Philippines, Recognized Guerrilla Forces, and New Philippine Scouts — making them all fully eligible for VA benefits similar to those received by U.S. veterans. Similar legislation, H.R. 302, H.R. 4574, and S. 146, was introduced in the 109th Congress. In addition, H.R. 170 was introduced in the last Congress that would have, among other things, provided veterans of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and New Philippine Scouts who served with U.S. Armed Forces during World War II a payment of \$100 a month in compensation for service-connected disabilities. It would have also provided these veterans vocational rehabilitation services, job counseling, training, and placement services, and VA-guaranteed housing loans. H.R. 170 would have also authorized VA to provide outpatient care to veterans of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and New Philippine Scouts, currently residing in the Philippines.

Table 1. Status of Benefits for Filipino Veterans and Survivors

Selected veterans' benefits		Regular, or "Old," Philippine Scouts		Commonwealth Army of the Philippines		Recognized Guerrilla Forces		New Philippine Scouts	
		U.S. citizen or legal resident	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen or legal resident	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen or legal resident	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen or legal resident	Non-U.S. citizen
Compensation for service-connected disability		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (50 cents per \$1)	Yes	Yes (50 cents per \$1)	Yes	Yes (50 cents per \$1)
Dependency and Indemnity Compensation/DIC (survivors)		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (50 cents per \$1)	Yes	Yes (50 cents per \$1)	Yes	Yes (50 cents per \$1)
Medical care	In U.S.	Yes	Yes	Yes; must be service-connected. ^a	No	Yes; must be service-connected. ^a	No	Yes; must be service-connected. ^a	No
	In Philippines	Yes ^b	Yes ^b	No	No	No	No	No	No
GI Bill education benefits for veterans		Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Education benefits for spouses		Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Education benefits for children		Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Pension for nonservice-connected disability		Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Death pension (survivors)		Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Burial allowance		Yes	Yes	Yes (deaths on or after 11/1/2000)	Yes (50 cents per \$1 for deaths on or after 11/1/2000)	Yes (deaths on or after 11/1/2000)	Yes (50 cents per \$1 for deaths on or after 11/1/2000)	Yes (deaths on or after 12/16/2003)	Yes (50 cents per \$1 for deaths on or after 12/16/2003)

Selected veterans' benefits	Regular, or "Old," Philippine Scouts		Commonwealth Army of the Philippines		Recognized Guerrilla Forces		New Philippine Scouts	
	U.S. citizen or legal resident	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen or legal resident	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen or legal resident	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen or legal resident	Non-U.S. citizen
Burial flag	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Clothing allowance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (50 cents per \$1)	Yes	Yes (50 cents per \$1)	Yes	Yes (50 cents per \$1)
Guaranteed housing loans	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Small business loans	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Veterans Employment Training Service (VETS)	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Transition Assistance Program (TAP)	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Adaptive housing adjustments	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Adaptive vehicle adjustments	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No

Source: Table prepared by CRS based on information provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

- a. To be eligible for enrollment, the veteran must be service-connected, but could receive treatment for service-connected or nonservice-connected conditions.
- b. U.S. veterans or Filipino veterans residing in the Philippines are only eligible for hospital care for treatment of service-connected conditions. Filipino veterans are authorized to receive outpatient care in facilities other than the Manila VA Outpatient Clinic for service-connected conditions only. U.S. veterans with service-connected conditions residing or sojourning in the Philippines are eligible to receive care for service-connected and nonservice-connected conditions at the Manila VA Outpatient Clinic based on resources available at the clinic.