Veterans Hearing Fund Eligibility Application



Eligibility

The Veterans Hearing Fund (VHF) is managed by The Royal British Legion. It endeavours to meet the wellbeing needs of veterans who acquired hearing loss or impairment during their Service in the UK Armed Forces. The VHF is able to fund items that are not available through statutory services such as the NHS.

The VHF is able to fund the following;

- Hearing aids
- Assisted Listening Devices
- Tinnitus Therapies
- Other therapies related to hearing loss

Please note that the VHF is unable to consider funding for hearing aids, hardware or therapies where payment has already been made.

To be Eligible for funding we need to obtain evidence that your hearing loss was acquired during Service, please therefore submit one of the following documents with your Eligibility application. Please note for items 1,2,3,4 if you know longer have documentation confirming this we can verify this for you.

- 1. War pension or AFCS award for your hearing loss
- 2. Lump sum payment for your hearing loss
- 3. Accepted hearing loss was caused by Service by the MOD
- 4. Hearing aids provided through the Defence Audiology Service
- 5. Service medical records

If you do not meet one of the above criteria's please apply for your Service medical records by completing the MOD Subject Access request form. Once completed please send to the relevant address on the form. Once you have received your records please send to us at the below address for our review along with your completed VHF eligibility application form.

Please note it is the applicant's responsibility to submit and monitor the Subject Access Request progress with the relevant MOD records office. We are unable to assist with this. Please contact us however if you have not received your records or any notification of your request for records after 3 months from the date the form was sent.

The MOD subject Access Request form can be found on The Legion's website. Alternatively please call our Contact Centre on 0808 802 8080 or email <u>medicalfunds@britishlegion.org.uk</u> and request for a hard copy to be sent.

Veterans Hearing Fund – Eligibility Application

Next Steps

Please complete the eligibility application and return with the required supporting documentation if you have this to:

Veterans Medical Funds The Royal British Legion 199 Borough High Street London SE1 1AA

Applications received by the Legion will be acknowledged within ten working days.

Please note you will receive a decision on your eligibility once we have processed your application. If your eligibility application is approved or provisionally approved, you will be sent the second stage application form which must be completed by your Audiologist. Please note that an invitation to stage two is not a guarantee that your application for financial assistance will be approved.

For further information on the Veterans Hearing Fund, please visit the Legion's website (<u>www.britishlegion.org.uk</u>), call 0808 802 8080 or email <u>medicalfunds@britishlegion.org.uk</u>.

PERSONAL DETAILS We will use this information to contact you					
Full Name					
Date of Birth					
Telephone					
Email Address- Please only complete if you are a happy to be contacted by email					
Postal Address					
	Postcode				
How did you hear about the Veterans Fund?					
ELIGIBILITY We will use this information to check your Eligibility for the VHF					
Military Service Details					
Service Number					
Division/Regiment(s)					
Enlistment Date	Discharge Date				
Eligibility Criteria					

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 $\hfill\square$ In receipt of a War Pension or AFCS award for your hearing loss

 $\hfill\square$ Received a lump sum payment for your hearing loss

Provided hearing aids by MOD

 \Box Applied for compensation previously for hearing loss but was refused

Submitting service medical records which show hearing loss

Letter from ENT consultant at Institute of Naval Medicine

I no longer have the document and therefore require this to be verified by the MOD. We will contact the Defence Business Services or The Defence Audiology Services to confirm this. Please tick to confirm we can do this

Please advice if you would like your documents submitted with your application disposed off or returned? (please circle)	Dispose	Return

YOUR CONSENT					
Where you have indicated that you no longer have the required documentation we will contact the Defence Business Services or Defence Audiology Services on your behalf to request this.					
If you give us consent to us using and sharing your information in the ways set out above. Please sign and date below.					
Signature		Date			
APPLYING ON SOMEONE ELSE'S BEHALF					
If you are completing this application on someone else's behalf, also provide the following.					
Your relationship to the applicant					
To confirm you have the applicant's permission to give us this information please tick here					