

Five Reasons You Should Apply for Veterans Disability Compensation

Get True Help® From *Allsup Veterans Disability Appeal Service*™

1. Receive Regular Monthly Income and Financial Support

If you're a military veteran with a service-connected disability, you may qualify for more than \$3,100 in monthly benefits, depending on your level of disability and number of dependents. This income is tax-free and compensates you for injuries or illnesses incurred while on active duty or that were made worse by active military service.

- Veterans are entitled to service-connected disability compensation even if employed.
- If not working, a veteran may collect both Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and service-connected disability compensation at the same time.
- Additional amounts may be paid for dependents.

2. Gain Access to Healthcare and Services between Jobs and After Retirement

You can receive increased access to veterans' healthcare for service-connected disabilities as well as for conditions not related to your military service. This is especially beneficial if you do not have private coverage through an employer.

3. Acquire Benefits for Survivors and Dependents

Veterans receiving disability compensation increase the chances of their family members receiving VA benefits, including eligibility for certain pensions and education benefits.

- Surviving spouses of veterans may receive benefits if the veteran was receiving disability compensation.
- Dependents of a severely disabled veteran may receive education benefits.

4. Qualify for Other Valuable Benefits

- Vocational rehabilitation training for veterans with a disability rating of 20 percent or higher
- VA-guaranteed home loan program that doesn't require the normal funding fee
- Special programs, resources and assistance for long-term care, both in home and in nursing facilities
- Possible property tax exemption
- Preference in government hiring at the state and federal levels
- Special programs that support business development

5. Get an Early Effective Date of Application

There is no time limit to apply for most VA disability benefits. However, you should file your application as soon as possible because the filing date determines when your benefits begin. The VA will only pay disability compensation benefits from the date you apply (unless the application is within one year of discharge).

Disability applications can be more difficult to process if you wait a long time because you must prove that your condition is due to military service. Applying right away will help ensure that you receive all the benefits and income for which you're eligible, including the overall lifetime amount or back pay you receive.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) website reports that 75 percent of all first-time applications for VA benefits are denied. Initial applications are often denied because they are incomplete and do not provide the necessary documentation.

Visit us at veterans.allsup.com or call (888) 372-1190.



Getting Started

For information about how to get started with your disability compensation application, simply visit our website at veterans.allsup.com. You'll find valuable information about what you need to do to file an application for benefits. You'll also learn how to gather the type of evidence and documentation you need to submit your initial claim.

On average, it takes about one year for your application to be reviewed, receive a rating decision and be approved for benefits. There is a significant backlog in the veterans disability system, so qualifying for veterans disability is usually a lengthy process.

How the Allsup Veterans Disability Appeal Service Can Help You

If you're denied benefits or don't receive a fully favorable rating decision, Allsup's VA-accredited Claims Agents can help you file an appeal. If you don't file an appeal within 12 months of receiving your initial decision, you are required to apply again. We encourage you to take advantage of our free disability appeal review to determine if you're eligible or have reason to appeal.

We Specialize in Disability Benefits

Our staff members, many of whom are veterans themselves, understand the complexity of the VA system and your rights in the appeal process. We can save you stress and help you avoid mistakes that could delay or deny your claim and affect your financial situation.

As the nation's premier provider of Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) representation and Medicare plan selection services, we've been helping people navigate complex government programs for more than 25 years.

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Satisfaction and True Help

With Allsup, you can expect caring service from trained and certified VA-accredited Claims Agents who will guide you throughout the VA decision process. People who choose Allsup for assistance with all types of disability-related services consistently report significant satisfaction with the service we provide.

Allsup can provide support during this difficult time period with other valuable services such as the Allsup *Disability Life Planning Service*® (DLPS). This personalized, fee-based service identifies support opportunities and financial assistance programs that can help you survive on a limited income and protect existing assets. For more information or to enroll, please visit dlps.allsup.com or call (888) 271-1173.

Meet Brett Buchanan: An Allsup VA-accredited Claims Agent



Brett attended Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo., and participated in the Army ROTC program. Upon graduation, he was commissioned into the U.S. Army as a field artillery officer and stationed in Germany. He was

deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom where he supervised the security of U.S. Department of Defense officials visiting Baghdad, Iraq, and earned a Bronze Star for combat operations.

After the Army, he attended St. Louis University School of Law. As a student, he worked part-time helping veterans with their claims before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. After graduation, he assisted veterans at both the VA Regional Office and Board of Veterans' Appeals. He became an Allsup VA-accredited Claims Agent in 2012 and now represents veterans nationwide. Brett is a member of the National Organization for Veterans' Advocates.

