



Department of Veterans Affairs

Veteran Readiness and Employment



What is Veteran Readiness and Employment?

(Formerly called Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment)



Basic Eligibility Criteria for VR&E Services

- Honorable or other-than-dishonorable discharge
- VA service-connected disability rating of 10% or more
- Entitlement is based on establishment of employment handicap resulting from service-connected disabilities
- 12-year basic period of eligibility



Veteran Readiness and Employment Tracks

- Reemployment Track
- Rapid Access to Employment Track
- Self Employment Track
- Independent Living Track
- Employment Through Long Term Services Track



Reemployment Track

Veterans are protected under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)



Rapid Access to Employment Track

Benefits available

- Tools to help with your job search
- Vocational counseling
- Resume writing
- Preparing for interviews
- Veterans' Preference Act of 1944
- Identify workplace accommodations
- Employment services



Employment Services

- VR&E has many partnerships with other Federal facilities for hiring
- Direct Hires are convenient for Federal Employers--saves employer's time
- OJT-Available for Federal and Non-Federal agencies
- Non-paid work experience



Self Employment Track

Benefits available

- Referral to business consulting agencies
- Analysis of business concept
- Training in small-business operations, marketing, and finances
- Guidance in getting the right resources to implement your business plan



Independent Living Track

Benefits Available

- Evaluation and counseling to identify your needs and goals
- Referral to support resources
- Determine eligibility for VR&E home adaptation grant



Employment Through Long Term Services Track

Benefits available

- A complete skills assessment
- Career guidance
- Job-market evaluation
- Education and training for a vocational field
- Apprenticeship, on-the-job training, and volunteer opportunities
- Employment assistance
- Subsistence Allowance



Subsistence Allowance

- Chapter 31 subsistence rate is \$ 670.77 (single, no dependents) for attending full time
- If Veteran qualifies for the Post 911/Chapter 33 services, they can receive the higher Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rate from VR&E
 - BAH rates are determined by these variables
 - Capped or uncapped
 - In residence or online
 - Zip code



Invoice Payment Processing System (IPPS)

Roles and Responsibilities

Case Manager

1. Submitting authorization into IPPS
 - Authorizations 1 year at a time
2. Reviewing invoices submitted by facility
 - Name of vendor, invoice dates, review of itemized costs, BOC codes
3. Processing credit memos
 - Submit to Support Services Division (SSD), and SSD mails debt letter to school

Facility

1. Submit invoice after add/drop period
2. The facility bills VA for cost of tuition and fees assessed by the facility for Veteran's training program after the application of:
 - Any waiver of, or reduction in, tuition and fees
 - Any scholarships, federal, state, institutional, employer-based aid, or financial assistance that is provided directly to the institution and designated for defraying tuition and fees (other than loans and Pell grant)



Invoice Payment Processing System (IPPS)

- For Service Provider Support please contact the following:
 - Email: VAFSCEnterpriseSupport@va.gov
 - Phone number: 1-866-372-1141



Service Members: Basic Eligibility Criteria

- **Active-Duty Service Members**

- Expect to receive an honorable discharge upon separation from active duty
- Have a 20% or higher pre-discharge disability rating (memorandum rating) and will soon leave the military, **or**
- Are participating in the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) process or awaiting discharge due to a medical condition resulting from a serious injury or illness that occurred in the line of duty



Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES)

- If a service member is wounded, injured, or falls ill while serving and can no longer perform the duties, they will be referred to the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES). Through this system, VA works together with the Department of Defense (DoD) to make the disability evaluation simple and fast. If the service member is found to be medically unfit for duty, IDES will give you a proposed VA disability rating before you leave the service, and you'll be entitled to Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) services
- **National Defense Authorization Act (PL 110-181) NDAA**

How we differ from Post 911/GI Bill

- Chapter 33 Post 911 is an “education program” while we are an “employment program”. Employment is our program outcome goal
- Veterans participating in Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment will be case managed by a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and will be required to meet with counselor regularly and provide grades to your counselor each term or semester
- Chapter 31 program able to pay 100% of tuition, books and fees. We can provide supplies/tools required of the program. GI Bill does not pay for supplies or tools. A set amount is paid for books under GI Bill
- We provide up to 18 months of employment services and direct referral to state vocational veteran’s job assistance
- Employment adjustment allowance can also be paid if the Veteran meets the criteria

How to Apply for Benefits:

Easiest, Fastest way to apply!

If you have your VA disability rating, follow these steps to apply:

1. Go to <https://www.va.gov>
2. Click **Apply for Education Benefits**
3. Click **Veteran Readiness and Employment Program**
4. Apply for the Veteran Readiness and Employment program

Or...

If you want to apply with paper application, please call 612-970-5440 for assistance



Who can Help with claims:

County Veterans Service Officers (CVSOs)

Tribal Veterans Service Officers (TVSOs)

Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs)

Accredited VSO representatives are available to assist Servicemembers & Veterans file for VA benefits & services

To obtain a listing of VSOs, visit:

<http://www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation/index.asp>

Questions?

