

## Transitioning from the military?

If you are separating from active duty within the next 60 to 180 days, BDD can help you receive VA disability benefits sooner.



Be sure to visit [www.TurboTAP.org](http://www.TurboTAP.org) and [www.MilitaryOneSource.com](http://www.MilitaryOneSource.com) for 24/7 access to helpful pre-separation and transition guides; employment, education, and relocation information, benefits checklist; and more.

## What you should know

BDD is a time-sensitive process. To receive your VA disability benefits within the goal of 60 days following separation, you **must** submit your claim 60 to 180 days prior to your release or retirement from active duty. This time is needed to complete your medical examinations before you leave your point of separation.

If you are closer than 60 days to separation from service, you can submit a **Quick Start** claim. Call the VA today at **1-800-827-1000** to learn about this process and get started.

## Where to get an application

VA Form 21-526 can be downloaded from the VA website at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). An on-line application can also be submitted on that website using the Veterans Online Application (VONAPP). You may also call VA toll free at **1-800-827-1000** to have a claim form mailed to you.

Remember, to fully participate in the BDD Program, you must submit VA Form 21-526, along with a copy of your service treatment records (or original), and be available to attend and complete all phases of the VA/DoD medical separation examination.

## How to obtain more information

If you are on a military installation, contact your local Transition Assistance Office or ACAP Center (Army only) to schedule appointments to attend VA benefits briefings and learn how to initiate your claim. You can also call the VA toll-free number, **1-800-827-1000**.

For general information, explore our website at: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)



## BENEFITS DELIVERY AT DISCHARGE (BDD)

*A Joint VA-DOD Initiative*

*If you were injured or  
have a chronic disability  
I want **YOU** to file your  
VA disability claim*



*See how you can get started!*



## What Is Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD)?

The Benefits Delivery at Discharge Program or **BDD** allows a servicemember to apply for disability compensation benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) prior to retirement or separation from military service.

### How can BDD help me?

- **BDD** is offered to accelerate receipt of VA disability benefits, with a goal of providing benefits within 60 days after release or discharge.
- **BDD** allows a servicemember with at least 60 days, but not more than 180 days, remaining on active duty to file a VA disability claim *prior to* release or discharge.
- **BDD** requires a minimum of 60 days to allow sufficient time to complete the medical examination process (which may involve multiple specialty clinics) prior to separation from service.

## Getting Started

**ARE YOU SEPARATING FROM ACTIVE DUTY WITHIN 2 TO 6 MONTHS?**

### COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING STEPS

1. Submit VA Form 21-526, *Veteran's Application for Compensation and/or Pension*, and submit it to the nearest VA Regional Office. You can also complete your application on-line at VA's website ([www.VA.gov](http://www.VA.gov)) using the Veterans Online Application (VONAPP). For the VA Regional Office nearest you, call the VA toll free number at **1-800-827-1000**.
2. Submit your service treatment records. Either your original records or copies are acceptable.
3. Attend and complete all phases of your VA/DoD medical separation examination process.



## Important VA Information

Disabilities determined by VA to be related to your military service can lead to monthly non-taxable compensation, priority health care for those disabilities, a 10-point hiring preference for federal employment, and other important benefits.

### REMEMBER TO ATTEND VA BENEFITS BRIEFINGS AND DISABILITY TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BRIEFINGS.

Ask your VA representative or veterans service organization representative about:

- Disability Compensation
- Health Care
- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment
- Educational Assistance
- Home Loan Guaranty
- Insurance
- Survivors' Benefits