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Content starts here. Check the status of your claim and upload supporting documents. Check the status of your open compensation appeal. Check the status of your request to transfer educational benefits to your spouse and/or children. Check the status of your open education appeal. Check the status of your open health care appeal. Available Feb 19, 2019. Check the status of your SAH claim. Check the status of your open housing appeal. Check the status of your open insurance appeal. Check the status of your pension claim. You can also upload supporting documents. Check the status of your open pension claim appeal. Content ends here. Veterans are our nation's most precious resource. They served our country when needed, and they should be taken care of in their own time of need as well. This is precisely why the Department of Veterans Affairs was created in the first place: to help those who have sacrificed so much so they can obtain sufficient income to care for their families. Confirmation of Claim Received Initial Review Medical Evidence Gathering Review and Decision Preparation for Notification Claim Complete How do I Check the Claim Status? Some claimants can have trouble when it comes to checking their application status. They may have trouble understanding their claim decision, or how to properly fill out the VA forms. The VA claims process can seem daunting at times, and many give up on receiving disability benefits before they even get started. But all you need is the right information, and you can clear up the confusion. Let's walk you through the VA claim process right now. The VA claim process has a lot of steps involved, and it's important to follow them properly. The process begins with confirming a claim was received and then works towards the status of Claim Complete. We will walk you through these steps and show you how to check your claim status throughout this process. After filing a disability claim with the VA, the VA sends a confirmation to claimants that they have received their claim. Claims sent by mail could take several days to be confirmed. But if you file online, you can receive confirmation immediately after the application is submitted. After eligible veterans have filled out the appropriate VA form, they will be placed into the initial review process. This means the VA is actively reviewing the claim. At this point, a Veterans Service Officer (VSO) Representative is specifically assigned to the case. During this time, VA administrators will let applicants know if any further documentation is necessary. As soon as the case has passed through this initial review process, you will be moved forward to the next phase of filing your claim. Some are surprised at how long this process might take, and find themselves asking the question, "How long does VA claim stay in initial review?" Unfortunately, there is no easy answer to this question. Every case is different and handled on a case-by-case basis. Many claims move on to the evidence-gathering phase after just a couple of weeks, while others can take longer. It all depends on what additional evidence may need to be reviewed, and how long it takes to review it. Some may expedite the process ahead of time, by submitting what the VA refers to as a fully developed claim. Unlike a regular initial claim, with background information painstakingly gathered by a VA representative, a fully developed claim has all the information the VA needs to make a determination already in place. By submitting a fully developed claim, you can speed up the standard VA claims process considerably, ensuring you receive the payment and social security benefits you need. This step of the process entails further medical evidence gathering into the claimant's condition and the nature of their disability. This is normally handled by the VSO representative, stationed out of a VA regional office, who has been assigned to the case. But it's important to note that using a VSO is optional, and other representation can be utilized as well. The claimant can make use of any VA-accredited claims agent or even a veterans disability attorney, who specializes in filing claims with the VA. At this stage medical professionals, employers, or other agencies may be contacted. During this stage, the VA reviews all the evidence, and based on what they see, they come to a determination. It is at this juncture that the claimant is assigned a VA disability rating . The disability rating one receives decides the amount of VA benefits they are awarded. If the claimant receives a 10% disability rating, for example, they will receive the least amount of benefit. A claimant who receives a 100% disability rating, however, will receive the maximum possible VA disability compensation for documented disability sustained during military service. For those below a 100% disability rating, some work, and even unemployment benefits are still possible, even while receiving their VA disability benefits. After the evidence has been gathered and a determination has been made, a packet containing your claim decision will be put together and mailed to the address that the VA has on file. It is this packet that will contain the results of your VA disability claim, and information regarding any subsequent compensation benefits. When you receive your packet, you will be able to go over the details of the determination made regarding your disability claim and expected compensation. The packet is sent through standard U.S. mail, so it may take 7-10 days to receive it. After your packet has arrived, feel free to call your local regional office for any questions you may have about your claim or the nature of any veterans disability determination received. Also, don't hesitate to reach out to your personal service officer for any needed clarification of disability benefits awarded, and to if you would like to file a veterans' appeal. During the appeal, a supplemental claim can be filed so that service members can submit additional evidence not previously included in their original disability claim. Until further notice such as this is received, at this point in the VA claims process, the applicant's claim is considered complete. To check your application status, you will need to go to the official VA website. Once there, scroll down the page until you find the option, "Check your claim or appeal status." (See also this link to VA.gov's website). You will be taken to a page with the heading, "What types of claims and appeals can I track with this tool?" This section will help you to check your VA claim status. Here you can track a wide variety of claims, such as disability compensation and survivors' pension benefits. Survivors' pension cash benefits are usually awarded to the surviving spouse of service members. Other forms of compensation frequently checked are special monthly compensation and burial allowance. This online tool is also frequently used to check up on VA health care benefits, such as the newly rolled out Community Care section, available to all eligible veterans. Other areas of interest include education benefits such as the GI Bill, as well as special employment programs like the VR & E (Veteran Readiness and Employment), which is a great boon for service members struggling with unemployment, along with unemployment insurance benefits through their state government. The tool is also useful for checking the status of home loans, life insurance, and "pre-need determination of eligibility" as it pertains to burial at the VA national cemetery. To use this tool to check the status of all these types of claims, you will need to create at least one of these free accounts: My HealthVet, DS Logon, and ID.me. Create your free account by submitting your social security number, birth date, gender, and other personal information. With your free account established, simply sign in and click on "My VA." Now select the option "Track Claims." From here you can click on the "View Status" link, which will take you to a page which will give you a detailed status report about your recent claim. This section provides details about the status of existing evidence used in the claims process, such as physician testimony, lab work, and other documentation. Just keep in mind, some documents you may not be immediately available for review if you mailed or faxed them in. The same lag time goes for documents dropped off in-person to a VA employee. It might take a few days for the new documents to be added to your claim. Certain submitted documents may be withheld due to certain confidentiality agreements. Information regarding a recent employer, for example, may fall under this category. If you have any further questions about the process you can call the VA directly at 1-800-827-1000, any time between 8 am - 9 pm (EST). Don't lose hope if your VA claim is denied. Unfortunately, claim denials are all too common. But this isn't a reason to give up—it's simply a reason to file an appeal. To appeal a veterans disability claim, you will have to file what's known as an "NOD," NOD stands for "Notice of Disagreement." This is how you can let the VA know that you don't agree with the determination that they have made on your behalf. All applications have one year from the effective date of their claim decision to file their NOD. Your Notice of Disagreement needs to be submitted through the "VA Form 21-0958." But just as any veterans disability attorney might advise you—be careful what you write. Don't put too many unnecessary details about why you reject the VA's denial because just like in a court of law, anything you say, can and will be used against you later. This means that you want to keep things as brief and to the point as possible. The NOD is used to simply state that you disagree with the determination. Just state your wish to appeal, and leave it at that. Once your NOD is filled out, be sure to retain an additional copy for yourself, before sending the form off to the local VA office from which the denied claim originated. You might also want to deliver it via "certified mail" to speed up the veterans' appeals process. The service rendered by our nation's veterans should never be taken lightly. They served our country, and so they too deserve to be served by the country they fought for. Many of our nation's veterans run into difficulty when it comes to getting their benefits, however, and find themselves discouraged by the claims process. Armed with the right information however, the steps to claiming VA benefits are not as difficult as they may first seem. There are many tools available for service members seeking compensation for the time they served. All you need to do is file your claim, wait for confirmation, go through the initial review period, and then await further evidence gathering, review, and decision. After this, you will get your preparation for notification about your VA claim status. If you disagree with the determination, you can go through the appeals process. Winning an appeal is a matter of having the right evidence and information. A VA disability attorney can give professional assistance throughout the claim process and increase your chances of winning an appeal. With expertise spanning local, state, and federal benefit programs, our team is dedicated to guiding individuals towards the perfect program tailored to their unique circumstances. Join our Peak Benefits Newsletter for the latest news, resources, and offers on all things government. Find out what kind of information you can get from our claim status tool. And learn how to use the tool to upload new evidence to support your pending claim. You can check the status of your VA claim, decision review, or appeal online, or appeal online, or appeal online, or appeal online. Check your VA claim status. You will need to sign in first with Logon.gov, ID.me, DS Logon, or My HealthVet. If you don't have any of these accounts, you can create a free Logon.gov or ID.me account now. Sign in or create an account If you need help, please call us at 800-827-1000 (TTY: 711). We're here Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET. You can find out where your claim, decision review, or appeal is in our review process. You can also check these details: Any evidence you've filed online to support your initial claim Any additional evidence we've requested from you Your claim, decision review, or appeal type What you've claimed And you can use the tool for these actions: To upload evidence for an initial claim (you can't use this tool to upload evidence for a decision review or an appeal) To download decision letters for certain types of claims, decision reviews, and appeals Note: The claim status tool won't show documents you brought to us in person or sent by mail or fax. It also won't show documents that we've restricted to protect your or someone else's privacy. The claim status tool won't provide an exact date. But if the status is "complete," this means we've already mailed your letter. It will take 7 to 10 business days to arrive from the date we mailed it. If you don't receive your letter within 10 days, call us at 800-827-1000 (TTY: 711). We're here Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET. For some types of claims, decision reviews, and appeals, you can also download your decision letter in the tool as soon as it's ready. You can use our claim status tool to check the status of a VA claim for compensation. This includes claims for automobile or clothing allowance, pension benefits, and Aid and Attendance. You can also check the status of your VA health care or GI Bill claim. Find out what types of claims you can track online Yes, you can use the claim status tool to upload new evidence. From the Files tab, under "Additional evidence," click the Add Files button to submit more evidence. Note: You can't use this tool to file a claim. Please don't upload claim forms here. We accept these file types: PDF, GIF, JPEG, BMP, and TXT. The maximum file size is 25 MB. If you can't upload your additional evidence because the file is larger than 25 MB, please mail it to us instead. You can send it to the same address where you mailed your claim. You can also bring your additional evidence to the VA regional office near you. Find a VA regional office near you If you need help, you can call us at 800-827-1000 (TTY: 711). We're here Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET. Health care Apply for VA health care, find out how to access services, and manage your health and benefits online. Disability File a claim for disability compensation for conditions related to your military service, and manage your benefits over time. Decision reviews and appeals If you disagree with a VA claim decision, you can request a decision review. Decision review replaces the old ("legacy") VA appeals process. MyVA411 main information line: 800-698-2411 We're sorry, we can't process your request right now. It appears you don't have permission to view this webpage. Incident Number: 18.14fc733e.1748403419.1354dddbd For assistance with your shipping needs, you can call us anytime at or visit fedex.com. Thank you for choosing FedEx. If you're in the process of applying for VA disability benefits or appealing your VA disability rating, you likely want to know what's going on with your claim. This post explains how you can check your VA claim status. Talk to Us About Your Claim: (812) 426-7200 Waiting by the phone, repeatedly checking your inbox, or impatiently waiting for the mail to arrive each day can get frustrating quickly, especially if you're waiting on word about your VA claim's status. You don't have to sit around and wait, though. You can check your VA claim status throughout the process in multiple ways. This post explains. There are multiple ways you can check your VA claim status. You can either check it online, telephone the VA, or visit your regional VA office. One of the easiest and most up-to-date ways to check your VA claim status is through the VA's website. All you have to do is create an account. If you have a Logon.gov or ID.me account, you can also use these credentials to sign in. Once signed in, you must navigate to the My VA dashboard by clicking on the link at the top right-hand corner of the page. Then, scroll down to Track Claims. Here, you should be able to see a list of any open claims and appeals. To check the VA status of a claim in more detail, click on View Status. Here you also can view supporting evidence such as medical reports and test results. You can also use the portal to upload additional evidence to support your claim, but only for a disability claim, not for an appeal. You can also use this online tool to see any evidence you've submitted digitally, what additional evidence the VA may be requesting from you, other types of VA claims and their statuses, like claims related to the GI bill or VA health care, and more. VA disability benefits lawyer Joseph Scott explains how to check your VA claim status, see video transcript. If you're not computer savvy or don't have the ability to get online to check your status, don't worry. You also can check the status of your VA claim by phone. All you'll need to do is call the VA and follow the prompts. The number to call is 1-800-827-1000. If you'd rather seek answers face-to-face and speak directly to a person, you can check your VA claim status by visiting your regional VA office. If you don't know the address of your regional VA office, you can use this location finder. Once you locate the regional office, it's a good idea to check their hours before going there. Be certain you know the regional office's time zone, as well, if it's not in your own city. Some veterans may have to travel several hours to their RO. When you visit the VA office, be sure to have your personal details, ID, and claim number so the representative you speak with can find your claim more easily. Once you have your claim status, how do you know what it means? Here are the main VA claims statuses and what they say about the progress of your claim. Keep in mind the VA does not always use identical, exact language to describe these statuses or steps, but some of the most common statuses you might see include: Once the VA receives your claim, its status is "claim received." This status means the VA officially acknowledges it has your claim. If your claim is "under initial review," it means a VA service representative is reviewing it to find out if any more information or clarification is needed at a basic level before a formal review. They will also make sure you've filled out the correct form. If a claim is in the "gathering of evidence" stage, it means the service representative determined that more information or evidence is required. If you've appealed a decision and requested the VA gather more evidence, your claim could also end up in this stage for that reason. A VA representative may collect this evidence from you, your doctor, or any other appropriate sources to fulfill its duty to assist. However, remember that it can sometimes be your or your VA-accredited attorney's responsibility to provide this information. If the VA service representative needs additional evidence from you, they will typically notify you. During this stage, all the requested information for your claim is present, and the VA is reviewing the evidence. This is when an adjudicator will decide whether to grant your claim for service connection and if so, what rating you will be assigned for your condition. If you see this status on your claim, it means that the decision is being prepared to be sent to you as a packet in the mail. This packet should include specific information on why your claim was or was not granted. "Complete" means your claim is finalized, and the decision has been sent to you. You should receive your packet and also be able to see the decision online within 7-10 business days. Once a decision on a claim is complete, you have the right to appeal if you disagree with it. How long a VA disability claim takes depends a lot on the regional office's workload and how complicated your claim is. The current average wait time for a VA initial claim decision is 131.5 days . If you are appealing a decision, this wait time varies based on many other factors - you can read more here. "The amount of time it takes to make a decision is dependent upon how many steps VA has to work through in order to make a decision and if they believe additional steps are necessary." VA disability lawyer Joseph Scott said. "It is possible that VA will move faster or move on to a different or separate step sooner than you might anticipate. That can happen if you've submitted all necessary evidence to make the decision." Current average wait time for VA claims: There's not much you can do to speed up your VA disability claim unless you qualify to expedite it. To qualify for an expedited claim, you must be experiencing extreme financial hardship, terminal illnesses, or effects from a serious illness or injury that ended your service. This expedited option is also available for Medal of Honor recipients, Purple Heart Award recipients, former prisoners of war, veterans of advanced age, and some other circumstances. The only other thing you can do to help the claims process go more quickly and smoothly is to ensure that your claim information is as complete as possible. To help make sure your claim is complete, take a look at these tips for your VA disability claim. A few tips include ensuring you've filled out the correct form and provided as much relevant evidence as possible. Make sure all documents are completed accurately and that any supplemental information to help the VA decide your case is included. Once you receive the VA's rating decision, if you disagree with it, you can appeal your claim. If you decide to appeal the VA's decision, you must do it within a year of notification of the decision to preserve your earliest effective date. The VA makes mistakes, so appealing is often worth it if you think its ruling was incorrect. Because of the low appeals success rate, the different methods of appealing available, and the additional time it takes for an appeal, you may consider hiring a VA-accredited attorney to represent you through the process. "From the day we contacted [Woods & Woods], they made us feel so comfortable. They treated us like we mattered and we were not just clients but family." L.B., a Navy veteran and wife in Florida From a Google review for Woods & Woods Woods & Woods has worked with thousands of veterans nationwide to get them the VA benefits they deserve. Call us for a free case evaluation to find out how we can help. If we take your case, you only pay us a percentage of back pay and case expenses if we win your case. Talk to Us About Your Claim: (812) 426-7200 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS How do I know if my VA claim was approved? You receive notification in the mail from the VA about whether your claim is approved. Your decision should also be available in your Logon.gov or ID.me account. If your claim was not approved, you can appeal if you think the decision was incorrect or other information should be considered. How long do VA disability claims take? How long it takes to receive approval on a VA claim depends a lot on your claim, how complete and straightforward it is, and how busy your regional VA office is. VA claims at the regional office level generally take a few months to process, but they can take longer. Neil Woods Neil Woods is a VA disability attorney and the owner and president of Woods & Woods. He received his law degree from Western Michigan University. VA Accreditation Number: 44739 We use some essential cookies to make our website work. We'd like to set additional cookies to enhance your navigation, analyze site usage, and assist in our marketing efforts. (See our privacy policy for details.) Choose whether to allow cookies. Accept all cookies. Manage cookies. Decline all cookies. You can change your cookie settings at any time. What Veterans Need to Know About Tracking VA ClaimsGetting info from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) system about your veterans disability claim can sometimes feel impossible. One of the most common concerns for veterans is understanding and tracking the status of their VA claims. Whether you're filing for disability compensation, pension, or other benefits, knowing how to check your VA claim status is crucial. This guide will walk you through the process, provide tips on tracking your claim, and answer common questions about VA claim statuses.Tracking your VA claim is easier than ever before, thanks to modern technology and improved VA systems. Here are the primary methods you can use to check your VA claim status: 1. VA.gov Website: Log in to your VA.gov account Navigate to the "Track Claims" section View real-time updates on your claim's progress 2. VA Mobile App: Download the VA mobile app on your smartphone Log in with your VA.gov credentials Access your claim information on-the-go 3. eBenefits Portal: Log in to your eBenefits account Check the "My Status" section for claim updates 4. VA Regional Office: Contact your local VA regional office Speak with a representative about your claim status 5. VA Claim Status Hotline: Call 1-800-827-1000 Use the automated system or speak with a representative When you check your VA claim status, you may encounter various terms and phrases. Here's what they typically mean: Received: The VA has received your claim and is reviewing it for completeness. Under Review: Your claim is being examined by a VA claims processor. Gathering of Evidence: The VA is collecting necessary documentation to support your claim. Preparation for Decision: The VA is finalizing their review and preparing to make a decision. Pending Decision Approval: A decision has been made and is awaiting final approval. Preparation for Notification: The VA is preparing to notify you of their decision. Complete: A decision has been made, and you will receive notification by mail. The VA typically updates claim statuses as they move through different processing stages. The frequency of updates can vary depending on the complexity of your claim and the current workload at the VA. Generally, you may expect to see updates every few weeks, but some stages may take longer than others.Before you can track a claim, you need to submit one. Here's a quick guide on how to submit a VA claim: Gather necessary documentation (medical records, service records, etc.) Choose your preferred method of submission: Online through VA.gov In-person at a VA regional office By mail With the help of an accredited representative Complete the appropriate claim form (e.g., VA Form 21-526EZ for disability compensation) Submit your claim along with all supporting evidence Respond promptly to any VA requests for additional information Understanding VA Claim Processing TimesOne of the most common questions veterans have is, "How long are VA disability claims taking in 2024?" While processing times can vary, the VA has made significant improvements in recent years. As of 2024, the average processing time for initial disability claims is around 155 days. However, this can vary based on: The complexity of your claim The number of conditions you're claiming The availability of supporting evidence The current VA workload In some cases, you may be eligible for expedited processing. Here's what you need to know about how long expedited VA claims take: Fully Developed Claims (FDC): Can be processed in as little as 90 days Claims for veterans experiencing financial hardship: Prioritized for faster processing Claims for veterans over 75 years old: Also given priority status If you develop a new condition that's related to an existing service-connected disability, you can file a secondary VA claim. Here's how: Gather medical evidence linking your new condition to your service-connected disability Complete VA Form 21-526b (Veteran's Supplemental Claim) Submit the form along with your supporting evidence Track your secondary claim status using the same methods as your primary claim TERA stands for Temporary and Expedient Review Authority. It's a program that allows service members to receive reduced benefits before reaching 20 years of service. If you see TERA mentioned in your VA claim status, it may indicate that your claim is being processed under this specific program's guidelines. The surest way to know if your VA claim was approved is to wait for the official decision letter from the VA. However, you may be able to get an earlier indication by: Checking your eBenefits or VA.gov account for status updates Looking for changes in your VA disability rating Monitoring your bank account for unexpected deposits from the VA Even if you see positive signs, always wait for the official decision letter before taking any action based on an assumed approval.A: A VA claim status number is a unique identifier assigned to your claim. You can use this number when checking your claim status online or speaking with VA representatives.A: You'll receive official results when the VA mails you a decision letter. This typically happens after your claim status shows as "Complete" in the online tracking system.A: While logging in provides the most detailed information, you can check your claim status without an account by calling the VA hotline at 1-800-827-1000 or visiting a VA regional office in person. If you have had a VA disability claim denied and need help appealing it, reach out to our team here at Veterans Disability Aid. Alan Watt is a VA-accredited claims agent and has extensive experience navigating the difficult and often confusing VA claims and appeals process. Give us a call or fill out the contact to get started. You deserve the compensation you are entitled to, and we are dedicated to ensuring you get your correct rating. There is no doubt that you may feel impatient if you have applied for or have appealed for VA disability benefitsFinancial assistance provided to individuals who are unable to work due to a disability, such as Soc... VA claims are known to be slowly approved, and it's not uncommon for cases to become backlogged for months or even years after veterans filed them. VA issues a decision on your claim can take a long time. By understanding what stage your appeal is in, you will better understand how VA claims and appeals work smoothly. If you can't upload your claim information as complete as possible, to help make sure your claim is complete, take a look at these tips for your VA disability claim. A few tips include ensuring you've filled out the correct form and provided as much relevant evidence as possible. Make sure all documents are completed accurately and that any supplemental information to help the VA decide your case is included. Once you receive the VA's rating decision, if you disagree with it, you can appeal your claim. If you decide to appeal the VA's decision, you must do it within a year of notification of the decision to preserve your earliest effective date. 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You receive notification in the mail from the VA about whether your claim is approved. Your decision should also be available in your Logon.gov or ID.me account. If your claim was not approved, you can appeal if you think the decision was incorrect or other information should be considered. How long do VA disability claims take? How long it takes to receive approval on a VA claim depends a lot on your claim, how complete and straightforward it is, and how busy your regional VA office is. VA claims at the regional office level generally take a few months to process, but they can take longer. Neil Woods Neil Woods is a VA disability attorney and the owner and president of Woods & Woods. He received his law degree from Western Michigan University. VA Accreditation Number: 44739 We use some essential cookies to make our website work. We'd like to set additional cookies to enhance your navigation, analyze site usage, and assist in our marketing efforts. (See our privacy policy for details.) Choose whether to allow cookies. Accept all cookies. Manage cookies. Decline all cookies. You can change your cookie settings at any time. What Veterans Need to Know About Tracking VA ClaimsGetting info from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) system about your veterans disability claim can sometimes feel impossible. One of the most common concerns for veterans is understanding and tracking the status of their VA claims. Whether you're filing for disability compensation, pension, or other benefits, knowing how to check your VA claim status is crucial. This guide will walk you through the process, provide tips on tracking your claim, and answer common questions about VA claim statuses.Tracking your VA claim is easier than ever before, thanks to modern technology and improved VA systems. Here are the primary methods you can use to check your VA claim status: 1. VA.gov Website: Log in to your VA.gov account Navigate to the "Track Claims" section View real-time updates on your claim's progress 2. VA Mobile App: Download the VA mobile app on your smartphone Log in with your VA.gov credentials Access your claim information on-the-go 3. eBenefits Portal: Log in to your eBenefits account Check the "My Status" section for claim updates 4. VA Regional Office: Contact your local VA regional office Speak with a representative about your claim status 5. VA Claim Status Hotline: Call 1-800-827-1000 Use the automated system or speak with a representative When you check your VA claim status, you may encounter various terms and phrases. Here's what they typically mean: Received: The VA has received your claim and is reviewing it for completeness. Under Review: Your claim is being examined by a VA claims processor. Gathering of Evidence: The VA is collecting necessary documentation to support your claim. Preparation for Decision: The VA is finalizing their review and preparing to make a decision. Pending Decision Approval: A decision has been made and is awaiting final approval. Preparation for Notification: The VA is preparing to notify you of their decision. Complete: A decision has been made, and you will receive notification by mail. The VA typically updates claim statuses as they move through different processing stages. The frequency of updates can vary depending on the complexity of your claim and the current workload at the VA. Generally, you may expect to see updates every few weeks, but some stages may take longer than others.Before you can track a claim, you need to submit one. 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This typically happens after your claim status shows as "Complete" in the online tracking system.A: While logging in provides the most detailed information, you can check your claim status without an account by calling the VA hotline at 1-800-827-1000 or visiting a VA regional office in person. If you have had a VA disability claim denied and need help appealing it, reach out to our team here at Veterans Disability Aid. Alan Watt is a VA-accredited claims agent and has extensive experience navigating the difficult and often confusing VA claims and appeals process. Give us a call or fill out the contact to get started. You deserve the compensation you are entitled to, and we are dedicated to ensuring you get your correct rating. There is no doubt that you may feel impatient if you have applied for or have appealed for VA disability benefitsFinancial assistance provided to individuals who are unable to work due to a disability, such as Soc... VA claims are known to be slowly approved, and it's not uncommon for cases to become backlogged for months or even years after veterans filed them. VA issues a decision on your claim can take a long time. By understanding what stage your appeal is in, you will better understand how VA claims and appeals work smoothly. If you can't upload your claim information as complete as possible, to help make sure your claim is complete, take a look at these tips for your VA disability claim. A few tips include ensuring you've filled out the correct form and provided as much relevant evidence as possible. Make sure all documents are completed accurately and that any supplemental information to help the VA decide your case is included. Once you receive the VA's rating decision, if you disagree with it, you can appeal your claim. If you decide to appeal the VA's decision, you must do it within a year of notification of the decision to preserve your earliest effective date. The VA makes mistakes, so appealing is often worth it if you think its ruling was incorrect. Because of the low appeals success rate, the different methods of appealing available, and the additional time it takes for an appeal, you may consider hiring a VA-accredited attorney to represent you through the process. "From the day we contacted [Woods & Woods], they made us feel so comfortable. They treated us like we mattered and we were not just clients but family." L.B., a Navy veteran and wife in Florida From a Google review for Woods & Woods Woods & Woods has worked with thousands of veterans nationwide to get them the VA benefits they deserve. Call us for a free case evaluation to find out how we can help. If we take your case, you only pay us a percentage of back pay and case expenses if we win your case. Talk to Us About Your Claim: (812) 426-7200 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS How do I know if my VA claim was approved? You receive notification in the mail from the VA about whether your claim is approved. Your decision should also be available in your Logon.gov or ID.me account. If your claim was not approved, you can appeal if you think the decision was incorrect or other information should be considered. How long do VA disability claims take? How long it takes to receive approval on a VA claim depends a lot on your claim, how complete and straightforward it is, and how busy your regional VA office is. VA claims at the regional office level generally take a few months to process, but they can take longer. Neil Woods Neil Woods is a VA disability attorney and the owner and president of Woods & Woods. He received his law degree from Western Michigan University. VA Accreditation Number: 44739 We use some essential cookies to make our website work. We'd like to set additional cookies to enhance your navigation, analyze site usage, and assist in our marketing efforts. (See our privacy policy for details.) Choose whether to allow cookies. Accept all cookies. Manage cookies. Decline all cookies. You can change your cookie settings at any time. What Veterans Need to Know About Tracking VA ClaimsGetting info from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) system about your veterans disability claim can sometimes feel impossible. One of the most common concerns for veterans is understanding and tracking the status of their VA claims. Whether you're filing for disability compensation, pension, or other benefits, knowing how to check your VA claim status is crucial. This guide will walk you through the process, provide tips on tracking your claim, and answer common questions about VA claim statuses.Tracking your VA claim is easier than ever before, thanks to modern technology and improved VA systems. Here are the primary methods you can use to check your VA claim status: 1. VA.gov Website: Log in to your VA.gov account Navigate to the "Track Claims" section View real-time updates on your claim's progress 2. VA Mobile App: Download the VA mobile app on your smartphone Log in with your VA.gov credentials Access your claim information on-the-go 3. eBenefits Portal: Log in to your eBenefits account Check the "My Status" section for claim updates 4. VA Regional Office: Contact your local VA regional office Speak with a representative about your claim status 5. VA Claim Status Hotline: Call 1-800-827-1000 Use the automated system or speak with a representative When you check your VA claim status, you may encounter various terms and phrases. Here's what they typically mean: Received: The VA has received your claim and is reviewing it for completeness. Under Review: Your claim is being examined by a VA claims processor. Gathering of Evidence: The VA is collecting necessary documentation to support your claim. Preparation for Decision: The VA is finalizing their review and preparing to make a decision. Pending Decision Approval: A decision has been made and is awaiting final approval. Preparation for Notification: The VA is preparing to notify you of their decision. Complete: A decision has been made, and you will receive notification by mail. The VA typically updates claim statuses as they move through different processing stages. The frequency of updates can vary depending on the complexity of your claim and the current workload at the VA. Generally, you may expect to see updates every few weeks, but some stages may take longer than others.Before you can track a claim, you need to submit one. Here's a quick guide on how to submit a VA claim: Gather necessary documentation (medical records, service records, etc.) Choose your preferred method of submission: Online through VA.gov In-person at a VA regional office By mail With the help of an accredited representative Complete the appropriate claim form (e.g., VA Form 21-526EZ for disability compensation) Submit your claim along with all supporting evidence Respond promptly to any VA requests for additional information Understanding VA Claim Processing TimesOne of the most common questions veterans have is, "How long are VA disability claims taking in 2024?" While processing times can vary, the VA has made significant improvements in recent years. As of 2024, the average processing time for initial disability claims is around 155 days. However, this can vary based on: The complexity of your claim The number of conditions you're claiming The availability of supporting evidence The current VA workload In some cases, you may be eligible for expedited processing. Here's what you need to know about how long expedited VA claims take: Fully Developed Claims (FDC): Can be processed in as little as 90 days Claims for veterans experiencing financial hardship: Prioritized for faster processing Claims for veterans over 75 years old: Also given priority status If you develop a new condition that's related to an existing service-connected disability, you can file a secondary VA claim. Here's how: Gather medical evidence linking your new condition to your service-connected disability Complete VA Form 21-526b (Veteran's Supplemental Claim) Submit the form along with your supporting evidence Track your secondary claim status using the same methods as your primary claim TERA stands for Temporary and Expedient Review Authority. 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(See our privacy policy for details.) Choose whether to allow cookies. Accept all cookies. Manage cookies. Decline all cookies. You can change your cookie settings at any time. What Veterans Need to Know About Tracking VA ClaimsGetting info from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) system about your veterans disability claim can sometimes feel impossible. One of the most common concerns for veterans is understanding and tracking the status of their VA claims. Whether you're filing for disability compensation, pension, or other benefits, knowing how to check your VA claim status is crucial. This guide will walk you through the process, provide tips on tracking your claim, and answer common questions about VA claim statuses.Tracking your VA claim is easier than ever before, thanks to modern technology and improved VA systems. Here are the primary methods you can use to check your VA claim status: 1. 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