

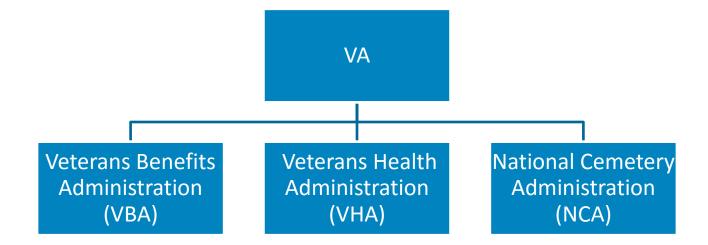
ATSDR Community Assistance Panel Briefing 12/05/15

Brad Flohr, VBA Senior Advisor for Compensation Service

Brady White, VHA Camp Lejeune Program Manager



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Organization



VBA Responsibilities

- Disability Compensation
- Pension
- GI Bill
- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment
- eBenefits Employment Center
- Dependents' Educational Assistance
- Survivor Benefits
- Home Loans
- Life Insurance

VBA - Disability Compensation for Veterans

- Disability compensation is a monthly tax-free benefit paid to Veterans who are at least 10% disabled because of injuries or diseases that were incurred in or aggravated during active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training.
- A disability can apply to physical conditions, such as a chronic knee condition, as well as a mental health conditions, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).
- The benefit amount is graduated according to the degree of the Veteran's disability on a scale from 10 percent to 100 percent (in increments of 10 percent).

VBA - Disability Compensation for Veterans (cont.)

- Compensation may also be paid for post-service disabilities that are considered related or secondary to disabilities occurring in service and for disabilities presumed to be related to circumstances of military service, even though they may arise after service.
- Generally, the degrees of disability specified are also designed to compensate for considerable loss of working time from exacerbations or illnesses.

VBA – Eligibility for Veterans

- Service in the Uniformed Services on active duty, **OR**
- Active duty for training, **OR**
- Inactive duty training, **AND**
- You were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions, **AND**
- You are at least 10% disabled by an injury or disease that was incurred in or aggravated during active duty or active duty for training, or inactive duty training

VHA Responsibilities

- Public Health
- Veterans Access, Choice & Accountability Act
- My HealtheVet
- Prescriptions Refills
- Crisis Prevention
- Mental Health
- PTSD

VHA – Eligibility for Veterans

- If you served in the active military service and were separated under any condition other than dishonorable, you may qualify for VA health care benefits.
- Current and former members of the Reserves or National Guard who were called to active duty by a federal order and completed the full period for which they were called or ordered to active duty may be eligible for VA health benefits as well.

VHA – Enrollment for Veterans

- VA operates an enrollment system that helps to manage the provision of health care.
- VA applies a variety of factors during the application verification process when determining a Veterans' eligibility for enrollment, but once a Veteran is enrolled, that Veteran remains enrolled in the VA health care system and maintains access to certain VA health benefits.
- Once your application is successfully processed, you will be assigned an Enrollment Priority Group.
- Certain Veterans may be eligible for more than one Enrollment Priority Group.
 - VA will always place you in the highest Priority Group that you are eligible.
 - Under the VA Health Benefits Package, the same services are generally available to all enrolled Veterans.
 - Once enrolled, you will receive a personalized Veterans Handbook, which will detail your VA health benefits and provide important information concerning your access to VA health care.

VHA - Care Provisions for Camp Lejeune Veterans

- VA began providing health care to Veterans on August 6, 2012, the day the Camp Lejeune Law was enacted.
- To qualify for VA's Camp Lejeune healthcare benefits, Veterans must meet BOTH the Title 38 definition of a "Veteran", including minimum service time and character of discharge, AND the service requirements stated in the CL Law.
- Qualified CL Veterans are eligible for VA care at the Priority Group (PG) 6 level, unless they qualify for a higher PG due to other, non-CL eligibilities.
- Enrolled CL Veterans do not pay copayments or third party billing for care related to any of the 15 CL illnesses, but may for other care unrelated to Camp Lejeune.