

COMMON VA TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

1151 Claim	A claim for benefits under 38 U.S.C. Section 1151 as a result of injury caused by VA treatment or rehabilitation services
A&A	Aid and attendance
ABCMR	Army Board for Correction of Military Records
ACAP	Annual clothing allowance payment
ACDUTRA	Active duty for training
ACE	Acceptable Clinical Evidence (Able to rate from medical records without holding exam)
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADHC	Adult day health care
ADL	Activities of daily living
ADSO	Assistant Department Service Officer
ADT	Active duty for training
AFB	Air Force Base
AFBCMR	Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records
AFHRA	Air Force Historical Research Agency
AFI	Air Force instruction
AFIP	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology
AFSC	Air Force Specialty Code
AGG	Aggravated in service
AGR	Active Guard Reserve
AHLTA	Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application (Electronic Medical Record System used by DoD)
AHRC	Army Human Resources Command
AL	American Legion
ALJ	Administrative Law Judge
ALS	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
AMC	Appeals Management Center
AML	Acute myelogenous leukemia
AMVETS	American Veterans (formerly American Veterans of WWII and Korea)
AO	Agent Orange or adjudication officer
AOJ	Agency of original jurisdiction
AOR	Agent Orange Registry
APA	Administrative Procedures Act
Appellant	The party in an appeal who is challenging the decision on appeal
Appellee	The party in an appeal who is defending the decision on appeal
ARBA	Army Review Boards Agency
AVSCM	Assistant Veterans Service Center Manager
AWA	All Writs Act

COMMON VA TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AWOL	Absent without official leave
BCD	Bad conduct discharge
BCMR	Board for Correction of Military Records
BCNR	Board for Correction of Naval Records
BDD	Benefits Delivery at Discharge
BDN	Benefits Delivery Network
BHL	Bilateral hearing loss
Board	The Board of Veterans' Appeals or "BVA"
BVA	The Board of Veterans' Appeals
C&P	Compensation and Pension
CAAF	Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces
CAB	Combat Action Badge
CAPRI	Compensation and Pension Record Interchange (of VA Healthcare information)
CAR	Combat Action Ribbon
CARES	Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services
CAVC	The United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims
CBO	Chief business office or Congressional Budget Office
CBOC	Community Based Outpatient Clinic
CCF	Compound comminuted fracture
CDR	Counter designation of record
CEST	Claim Establishment (VA reads claim submission and begins to work claim)
C-file	Claims file
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CG	Coast Guard
CGBCMR	Coast Guard Board for Correction of Military Records
CHAMPUS	Department of Defense Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Service
CHAMPVA	Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs
CHR	Consolidated health record
CIB	Combat Infantryman Badge
CLC	VA Community Living Center (formerly VA Nursing Home Care Units)
CLL	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia
CMB	Combat Medical Badge
CMD	Chief Medical Director
CMO	Chief Medical Officer
CNHC	Community nursing home care
CO	VA Central Office or commanding officer

COMMON VA TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

COD	Character of discharge
COG	Convenience of the government
COLA	Cost-of-living adjustment
COMP	Compensation - A monetary benefit awarded based on the degree of disability caused by a service-connected condition.
CONUS	The Contiguous United States
COVA	Court of Veterans Appeals (Now Renamed Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims)
COVERS	Control of Veterans Records System (VA Computer system tracking paper claims)
COWC	Committee on Waivers and Compromises
CPI	Claims Processing Improvement
CRC	Community residential center
CRDP	Concurrent retirement and disability pay
CRSC	Combat-related special compensation
CUE	Clear and unmistakable error
CURR	Center for Units Records Research
CWT	VA Compensated Work Therapy Program
CVSO	County Veteran Service Officer
D2D	Digits to Digits initiative (Electronic claim submission from your case management system)
DAV	Disabled American Veterans
DBQ	Disability Benefits Questionnaire
DC	Diagnostic code
DD	Dishonorable discharge
DD-214	Discharge certificate
DDD	Degenerative disc disease
DEA	Dependents educational assistance
DEERS	Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System
DES	Disability evaluation system
DFAS	Defense Finance and Accounting Services
DFR	Dropped from the rolls
DIC	Dependency & Indemnity Compensation
DM	Diabetes mellitus
DMZ	Demilitarized zone
DOD	Department of Defense
DOL	Department of Labor
DRB	Discharge Review Board
DRO	Decision Review Officer
DSM	American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders

COMMON VA TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

DSO	Department Service Officer
DTA	Duty to assist
DTR	Deep tendon reflexes
DVA	The Department of Veterans Affairs.
DVOP	Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist
EAD	Entry on active duty
EAJA	Equal Access to Justice Act
eBenefits	VA online portal that allows veterans to manage their benefits and personal information.
ECA	Expedited Claims Adjudication Initiative
eCFR	Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (www.ecfr.gov - most up to date version of CFR)
ED	Erectile dysfunction
EKG	Electrocardiogram
EOB	Explanation of benefits
EOD	Entry on Duty or Explosive Ordinance Disposal
EP	End Product (Used by VA to manage workload)
EPTS	Existed Prior to Service
EVR	Eligibility verification report
FDC	Fully Developed Claim
Fed. Cir.	The United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
Form 9	The form that must be submitted after receipt of a Statement of the Case to perfect an appeal to the Board of Veterans Appeals.
FSGLI	Family Servicemembers Group Life Insurance
FTCA	Federal Tort Claims Act
GAO	Government Accounting Office
GC	General counsel
GPO	Government Printing Office
GSW	Gun shot wound
GWOT	Global War on Terrorism
GWS	Gulf war syndrome
HAIMS	Healthcare Artifact and Image Management Solution (Portal that allows DoD and VA to share medical records)
HB	Housebound
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HISA	Home improvement and structural alterations
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
HO	Hearing officer
IADLs	Independent Activities of Daily Living

COMMON VA TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

IED	Improvised explosive device
IG	Inspector general
IHD	Ischemic heart disease
IHP	Informal Hearing Presentation (Written argument made in place of a hearing)
IME	Independent medical expert or independent medical evaluation
INACDUTRA	Inactive duty for training
INC	Incurred in service
IOM	Institute of Medicine
IOP	Internal operating procedures
IRIS	Inquiry Routing and Information System
ISO	Information Security Officer (VA employee who handles computer and information privacy concerns)
ITF	Intent to File
IU	Individual unemployability
IVAP	Income for VA purposes
JAG	Judge Advocate General
JMR	Joint motion for remand
JSRRC	Joint Services Records Research Center
LOD	Line of duty
LOM	Limitation of motion
LOU	Loss of use
LSW	Licensed social worker
LVER	Local Veterans Employment Representative
M-1	VA Healthcare Adjudication Manual
M-21	VA Claims Adjudication Manual
M21-1	Current Version of VA Claims Adjudication Procedures Manual
M21-1MR	Adjudication Procedures Manual Rewrite
MACR	Missing air crew reports
MAP-D	Modern Award Processing and Development - VA computer system used to track notes by VA employees on claim evidence
MAPR	Maximum annual pension rate
MGIB	Montgomery GI Bill
MIA	Missing in action
MIB	Marine index bureau (Resource for merchant marine claims from WWII)
MOPH	Military order of the purple heart
MOS	Military occupational specialty
MPR	Military personnel records
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging

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MST	Military Sexual Trauma
MUCMI	Medically Unexplained Chronic Multisymptom Illness
NA	National Archives
NACVSO	National Association of County Veterans Service Officers
NARA	National Archives and Records Administration
NAS	National Academy of Sciences
NASDVA	National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs
NAUS	National Association for Uniformed Services
NCA	National Cemetery Administration
NCRBO	National Capital Region Benefits Office (Formerly Washington DC RO)
NHL	Non-hodgkins lymphoma
NMCB	U.S. Navy Mobile Construction Battalion (Seabee battalion)
NME	New and Material Evidence
NOA	Notice of Appeal
NOD	Notice of Disagreement.
NOS	Not otherwise specified
NPC	Naval Personnel Command
NPRC	National Personnel Records Center
NSC	Non-service-connected
NSLI	National Service Life Insurance
NSO	National service officer
NVLSP	National Veterans Legal Services Program
NVS	Veterans of Foreign Wars National Veterans Service
NWQ	National Work Queue
OEF	Operation Enduring Freedom
OF-306	Declaration for Federal Employment
OGC	Office of the General Counsel
OIF	Operation Iraqi Freedom
OIG	Office of Inspector General
OMPF	Official military personnel file (sometimes called "201 File")
OND	Operation New Dawn
OPC	Outpatient clinic
OPT	Outpatient treatment
OTH	Other than honorable
PDBR	Physical Disability Board of Review
PDR	Physicians Desk Reference

COMMON VA TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

PEB	Physical Evaluation Board
PEBLO	Physical Evaluation Board Liaison Officer
Pension	A VA benefit based on financial need available to fully disabled veterans who served during a time of war.
PG	Persian Gulf
PGW	Persian Gulf War
PIES	Personnel Information Exchange System
PIF	Pending issue file
PII	Personally Identifiable Information
PMC	Pension Maintenance Center
POA	Power of attorney
POW	Prisoner-of-war
PRC	Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center
PT	Physical therapy or permanent total disability
PTE	Peace time era
PTSD	Posttraumatic stress disorder
PVA	Paralyzed Veterans of America
QS	Quick Start claim (Claim filed while still on active duty, with 0 to 60 days remaining until discharge)
QTC	QTC Evaluation Services (Contract Company that provides C&P Exams)
RAD	Release from active duty
Rating Schedule	The table of medical conditions/ disabilities that VA raters use to determine the degree of disability for compensation purposes.
RD	Rating Decision
Remand	Return of a decision to the organization that made it for additional review and revision.
REPS	Restored Eligibility Program for Survivors (Joint program of SSA & VA)
RMC	Records Management Center
RMO	Records Management Officer
RN	Registered nurse
RO	Regional Office
ROJ	Regional Office of Jurisdiction
ROO	Regional Office of Origin
ROTC	Reserve Officers' Training Corps
RPO	Regional Processing Office - A VA office that decides claims for education benefits
RVN	Republic of Vietnam
RVSR	Rating Veterans Service Representative
SAH	Specially Adapted Housing
SBP	Survivor Benefit Plan
SC	Service-connected

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SDRP	Special Discharge Review Program
SDVI	Service Disabled Veterans' Insurance
Secretary	The Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
SEP	Stakeholder Enterprise Portal - A VA computer system that allows VSOs to see what the veteran sees in their ebenefits account
SF	Special forces
SF180	REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
SF-26	Award/Contract
SF-424	Application for Federal Assistance
SF88	Report of Medical Examination
SFW	Shell Fragment Wound
SGLI	Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance
SHA	Special Home Adaptation
SHARE	VA computer system used by VSOs to check POA and pending claim status
SMC	Special Monthly Compensation.
SMP	Special monthly pension
SMR	Service medical record
SN	Service number
SOC	Statement of the Case.
SPD	Separation program designator
SPN	Separation program number
SRD	Schedule for Rating Disabilities
SSA	Social Security Administration
SSB	Special separation benefits
SSDI	Social Security Disability Income
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
SSN	Social Security Number
SSOC	Supplemental Statement of the Case
STR	Service treatment records
STS	Soft tissue sarcoma
TAD	Temporary active duty
TAP	Transition Assistance Program
TAPS	Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
TBI	Traumatic brain injury
TCDD	2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzodioxin (contained in some herbicides in Vietnam War)
TDIU	Total Disability based on Individual Unemployability
TDY	Temporary duty

COMMON VA TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

TRDL	Temporary disabled retirement list
TRICARE	U.S. Department of Defense Military Health System (formerly CHAMPUS)
TRIP	Training, Responsibility, Involvement and Preparation of Claims (Basic VA training for VSOs)
TSGLI	Traumatic Injury Protection: Rider to USGLI Life Insurance
UHC	Under honorable conditions
U.S.C.	United States Code
U.S.C.A.	United States Code Annotated
U.S.C.S.	United States Code Service
UCMJ	Uniform Code of Military Justice
USGLI	United States Government Life Insurance
USJSRRC	United States Joint Service Records Research Center
VA	The most commonly used acronym for the Department of Veterans Affairs.
VACO	VA Central Office
VACOLS	Veterans Appeals Control & Location System
VAF	VA form
VAGC	VA General Counsel
VAHAC	VA Health Administration Center
VAMC	VA Medical Center
VAOGC	VA Office of the General Counsel
VAOIG	VA Office of the Inspector General
VAOPC	VA outpatient clinic
VAR	VA regulation
VARO	VA Regional Office
VAVS	Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service
VBA	Veterans Benefits Administration
VBMS	Veterans Benefits Management System - VA computer system used for claim processing and reviewing ratings
VCAA	Veterans Claims Assistance Act
VEAP	Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance Program
Veterans Court	Another common name for the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.
VFW	Veterans of Foreign Wars
VGLI	Veterans' Group Life Insurance
VHA	Veterans Health Administration
VISN	Veterans Integrated Service Network
VJRA	Veterans Judicial Review Act
VLJ	Veterans Law Judge.
VMLI	Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance

COMMON VA TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

VONAPP	Veterans Online Application (Electronic Claim filing through eBenefits)
VRC	Vocational rehabilitation counseling
VRE	Vocational rehab and employment services
VSCM	Veterans Service Center Manager
VSM	Vietnam Service Medal
VSO	Veterans service organization
VSR	Veterans Service Representative
VVA	Vietnam Veterans of America OR Virtual VA, VA computer system that stores electronic claim documents
WRIISC	War Related Illness and Injury Center
XC or XSS	SSN of a deceased veteran