

2023 VFW NVS Basic Skill Level Training
Sunday, September 10, 2023
Doubletree Annapolis

SUNDAY BASIC SESSION CLASSES WILL TAKE PLACE IN COASTAL MAIN & EAST	
7:00	Registration
8:00	Introductions & The Role of the VFW Representative <i>Mike Figlioli, Director, NVS</i>
9:00	Break
9:10	NVS Policy & Procedure <i>Brad Hazell, Assistant Director, Compensation & Pension Policy</i>
10:00	Break
10:10	How to Read 38 CFR <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
11:00	Lunch - On your own
Homework	38 CFR Practice
GENERAL SESSION - MAINSAIL BALLROOM	
12:30	Introduction of Participants and Guests <i>Mike Figlioli, Director, NVS</i>
1:00	VFW Headquarters Address <i>Carol Whitmore, VFW Junior Vice Commander in Chief</i>
1:15	Keynote Speaker <i>Preston Stewart, US Army Veteran and United States Military Academy at West Point Graduate</i>
1:50	Break
2:00	Department of Veterans Affairs Update
2:50	Break
3:10	Department of Veterans Affairs Update
4:00	POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony
5:00	Reception with Karaoke <i>Sponsored by Humana</i>



2023 VFW NVS Basic Training - Monday, September 11

TIME	All Classes will take place in Mainsail West
7:00	Optional Continental Breakfast
8:00	Review 38 CFR Homework <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
8:15	Powers of Attorney & Intent to File <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
8:50	Break
9:00	Development of Service Connected Claims & Duty to Assist <i>Rick Jones, National Pre-Discharge Claims Consultant</i>
9:50	Break
10:10	Development of Service Connected Claims & Duty to Assist <i>Rick Jones, National Pre-Discharge Claims Consultant</i>
11:00	Break
11:10	Reviewing Medical Records & C&P Examinations <i>Dawn Jirak</i>
12:00	Lunch
1:00	38 CFR Part 4 & VA Math <i>Dawn Jirak</i>
1:50	Break
2:00	38 CFR Part 4 & VA Math <i>Dawn Jirak</i>
2:50	Break
3:10	38 CFR Part 4 & VA Math <i>Dawn Jirak</i>
4:00	Optional Review Session with Instructors
Homework	VA Math Practice

2023 VFW NVS Basic Training - Tuesday, September 12

TIME	All Classes will take place in Mainsail West
7:00	Optional Continental Breakfast
8:00	Review VA Math Homework <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
8:15	Determining the Correct Effective Date of a Claim <i>Mark Barrett, Associate Director, BDD</i>
8:50	Break
9:00	Reviewing Rating Decisions <i>Rick Jones, National Pre-Discharge Claims Consultant</i>
9:50	Break
10:10	Humana <i>Humana</i>
11:00	Break
11:10	Non Service Connected Pension <i>Todd Gruchalla, Regional Quality Assurance Specialist</i>
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Survivor's Benefits <i>Todd Gruchalla, Regional Quality Assurance Specialist</i>
1:50	Break
2:00	Electronic Submissions <i>Brad Hazell, Assistant Director, Compensation & Pension Policy</i>
2:50	Break
3:10	Workload Management <i>Chad Cobb, Claims Consultant, VFW National Headquarters</i>
4:00	Optional Review Session with Instructors
Homework	Effective Dates, Pension and Survivor Benefits Questions
6:00	Trivia Night Sponsored by Chick-fil-A <i>Ports of Call Lookout Room</i>

2023 VFW NVS Basic Training - Wednesday, September 13

TIME	All Classes will take place in Mainsail West
7:00	Optional Continental Breakfast
8:00	Review Effective Dates, Pension and Survivor Benefits Questions <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
8:15	Special Monthly Compensation <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
8:50	Break
9:00	Special Monthly Compensation <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
9:50	Break
10:10	Special Monthly Compensation <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
11:00	Break
11:10	Special Monthly Compensation <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Appeals & Hearings <i>Cynthia Archuletta, Appeals Consultant, NVS</i>
1:50	Break
2:00	Appeals & Hearings <i>Cynthia Archuletta, Appeals Consultant, NVS</i>
2:50	Break
3:10	Writing Appeals Arguments <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
4:00	Optional Review Session with Instructors
Homework	Effective Dates, Pension and Survivor Benefits Questions

2023 VFW NVS Basic Training - Thursday, September 14

TIME	All Classes will take place in Mainsail West
7:00	Optional Continental Breakfast
8:00	Review SMC Homework <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director, Training & Quality Assurance</i>
8:15	TVB Claims Management <i>Dale Phillips, Special Assistant for Training & Quality Assurance</i>
8:50	Break
9:00	TVB Claims Management <i>Dale Phillips, Special Assistant for Training & Quality Assurance</i>
9:50	Break
10:10	VSO Notification Queue <i>Todd Gruchalla, Regional Quality Assurance Specialist</i>
11:00	Break
11:10	Interviewing <i>Gregg Orto, Deputy Director, NVS</i>
12:00	Lunch
1:00	VA Healthcare <i>Julie Holt, Special Assistant for Veterans Health Policy</i>
1:50	Break
2:00	Ancillary Benefits <i>Rick Jones, National Pre-Discharge Claims Consultant</i>
2:50	Break
3:10	Decision Making Scenarios <i>Chris Macinkowicz, Assistant Director for Training & Quality Assurance</i>
4:00	Optional Review Session with Instructors
Homework	None

2023 VFW NVS Basic Training - Friday, September 15

TIME	All Classes will take place in Mainsail West
7:00	<i>Optional Continental Breakfast</i>
8:00	Claims Case Study
8:50	<i>Break</i>
9:00	Claims Case Study
9:50	<i>Break</i>
10:10	Claims Case Study
11:00	<i>Break</i>
11:10	Review Game
12:00	END OF CONFERENCE All online coursework and the End of Conference Test must be completed by Friday, September 29, 2023

2023 VFW NVS BASIC TRAINING

LUNCH MENU

MONDAY	Garden Salad & Maryland Vegetable Crab Soup Seared Flank Steak Grilled Salmon with Fruit Salsa Rice Pilaf Vegetable Medley & Dessert
TUESDAY	Build Your Own Taco & Fajitas with Chicken Strips and Seasoned Beef Black Beans Mexican Rice Dessert
WEDNESDAY	Hamburgers Hot Dogs Potato Salad Salad Dessert
THURSDAY	Ceasar Salad Stuffed Shells with Marinara Linguini with Alfredo Sauce Mediterranean Style Chicken Vegetable Medley Dessert