



American Legion Post 100 Fact Sheet

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A BENEFITS DELIVERY AT DISCHARGE (BDD) PROGRAM

Service members who are separating from active duty and planning to file for disability can file their claim early through the Veterans Affairs (VA) Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) program. BDD allows a Service member to apply for disability compensation benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) prior to separation from active duty military service. Claims must be filed from 180 to 90 days prior to separation.

HOW CAN BDD HELP ME?

BDD allows Service members to apply for their disability benefits before separation, with most claimants receiving their decision the day after leaving active duty. This provides time for the VA to schedule medical exams, review service treatment records, and evaluate the claim while Service members are still on active duty.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for BDD:

- Service members must have a known separation date and file their claim between 180 and 90 days prior to separation
- Provide a copy of their service treatment record with the claim, and
- Be available for 45 days from the date of claim to attend VA examinations

The following issues/conditions are excluded from BDD:

- Service members who do not meet the requirements above
- Claims requiring case management for a Service member who is seriously or very seriously injured/ill, suffered the loss of a body part, or is terminally ill
- Claims requiring a VA exam in a foreign country, except those that can be processed through Landstuhl, Germany or Yongsan, Korea,
- Claims for Service members waiting discharge while hospitalized in a VA or military treatment facility
- Claims for pregnant service women, or
- Claims that require a character of discharge determination