



Are you separating from active duty within the next 59 days?

Quick Start can help you receive VA disability benefits sooner.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

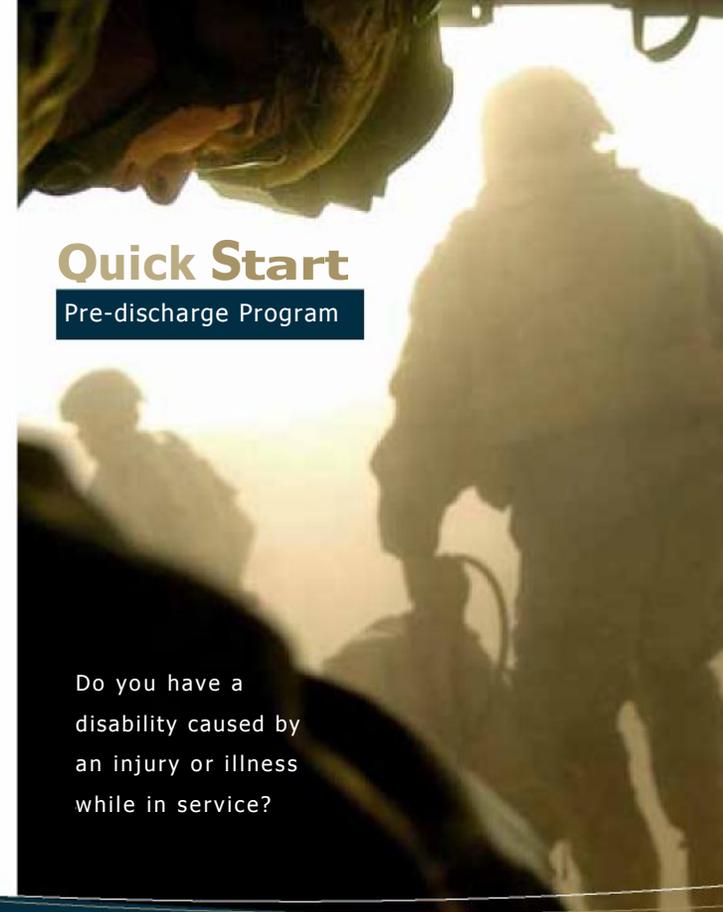
Quick Start is a joint initiative of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.

Quick Start allows servicemembers to submit an application for service-connected disability compensation while still on active duty. This will speed the delivery of VA compensation benefits after separation or retirement.

Three ways to submit a **Quick Start** claim:

1. Complete an application for Compensation and/or Pension and submit it to your nearest VA Office. For the nearest location to file a claim call 1-800-827-1000 or visit our website at: www.vba.va/predischarge.
2. Submit an application online at VA's website (www.va.gov) using the Veterans Online Application (VONAPP).
3. Request a claim form be mailed to you by calling the VA toll-free at **1-800-827-1000**.

Remember, to fully participate in the **Quick Start** Program, you must know your separation or retirement date and then submit an application, along with a **copy (or original) of your service treatment records**.



Quick Start

Pre-discharge Program

Do you have a disability caused by an injury or illness while in service?

Be sure to visit www.TurboTAP.org

and www.MilitaryOneSource.com for 24/7 access to helpful guides on pre-separation and transition, as well as information on employment, education, relocation, benefits, and more.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you are on a military installation, contact your local Transition Assistance Program Office or Army Career and Alumni Program Center for an appointment to attend a VA benefits briefing and learn how to submit your claim. For other questions, call VA toll-free at **1-800-827-1000**.

For more information, explore our website at: www.vba.va.gov/predischarge

Quick step your way to a **Quick Start** Claim

Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits Administration
Washington DC 20420

Quick Start Pre-discharge Program
VA Pamphlet 21-09-2
P96300
April 2010



A Joint VA-DoD initiative
for separating servicemembers

What is Quick Start?

The **Quick Start** Pre-Discharge Program allows servicemembers to apply for disability compensation benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) prior to retirement or separation from military service or, in the case of National Guard and Reserve members, prior to release from active duty.

HOW CAN QUICK START HELP YOU?

- **Quick Start** helps to speed eligibility decisions on claims for VA disability compensation, allowing benefit payments to begin more quickly.
- **Quick Start** allows servicemembers with less than 60 days remaining on active duty to file a VA disability claim before separation, retirement, release from active duty or demobilization.
- **Quick Start** allows National Guard or Reserve members to file a claim while attending demobilization briefings and continue the claim process after returning home.

ATTENTION - NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS

National Guard and Reserve members can file **Quick Start** disability compensation claims while attending demobilization briefings, and then complete the claims process after returning home.

If you are unable to complete your application before separation, release from active duty or demobilization, you can submit a claim at any time following your release from active duty through your local VA facility or online through VA's website at www.va.gov.

GETTING STARTED

FOLLOW THESE STEPS

1. Complete an Application for **Compensation and/or Pension**, and submit it to the nearest VA Office or any location where VA accepts claims. To locate your Regional Office, call VA at **1-800-827-1000**. You can also complete your application at www.va.gov by clicking on the "**Apply Online**" TAB at the top of the screen, then select **Compensation & Pension**, which will take you to the **Veterans Online Application (VONAPP)**.
2. You must have a known separation, retirement, release from active duty or demobilization date.
3. Submit your service treatment records. Either your original records or copies are acceptable. If applying online, you will receive further instructions.
4. Provide VA with a valid forwarding address, telephone number, and e-mail address.
5. **Quick Start** claims must be received by VA prior to the separation, retirement, release from active duty or demobilization date.

do you have less than 60 days remaining on active duty?

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Disabilities determined by VA to be related to your military service can lead to monthly non-taxable compensation, enrollment in VA's healthcare system, hiring preference for federal employment, and other important benefits.

Ask your VA representative or veterans service organization representative about:

- Disability Compensation
- Health Care
- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment
- Educational Assistance
- Home Loan Guaranty
- Insurance
- Survivors' Benefits



remember to attend VA benefits briefings and transition assistance program briefings