



## DOD WOUNDED, ILL, AND/OR INJURED COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS HANDBOOK

Providing Service members and their support networks with a comprehensive guide to compensation and benefits as they navigate the phases of recovery and reintegration.

### Overview

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Wounded, Ill, and/or Injured Compensation and Benefits Handbook provides Service members of the Armed Forces and their support network with a reference guide to answer some of the most pressing questions that arise for wounded, ill, and/or injured Service members.

It is designed to help wounded, ill, and/or injured Service members, as well as their support network, navigate through some of the available military and veteran disability, compensation, and benefits programs that support them during recovery, rehabilitation, and return to duty or transition to the civilian community.

The DoD's Office of Warrior Care Policy (WCP) updates this handbook annually in collaboration with the U.S. Departments of Veterans Affairs (VA), Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, as well as the U.S. Social Security Administration and the U.S. Military Services, to ensure that Service members and their support network have the most current resources.

This September 2016 update replaces all previous versions, and includes a wealth of new information and available resources.

### Highlights

#### New Layout

Reorganized chapters mirror a Service member's journey from point of wound, illness, and/or injury through recovery and transition:

- **Chapter 1:** *Recovery*
- **Chapter 2:** *Your Medical Care*
- **Chapter 3:** *Family and Caregiver Support*
- **Chapter 4:** *DoD Pay and Allowances*
- **Chapter 5:** *Disability Evaluation*
- **Chapter 6:** *DoD Disability Compensation*
- **Chapter 7:** *Social Security Benefits*
- **Chapter 8:** *The Survivor Benefits Plan (SBP)*
- **Chapter 9:** *Reintegration into Civilian Life*
- **Chapter 10:** *Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Benefits*

Streamlined content increases readability and provides appendices with over 150 external links to find more detailed information.

#### Updated Content

Available external resources included throughout the handbook are hyperlinked for easy navigation. Additional resources are also cited in nine new appendices:

- **Appendix A:** *TRICARE Plans and Programs*
- **Appendix B:** *Health Care Privacy Protections*
- **Appendix C:** *National Resource Directory*



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- **Appendix D:** *DoD-Approved Military Service Organizations, Veterans Service Organizations, and Military-Supporting Nonprofits*
- **Appendix E:** *SBP Beneficiary Categories*
- **Appendix F:** *Reintegration to Civilian Life Resources*
- **Appendix G:** *VA-Recognized Service Organizations*
- **Appendix H:** *Useful Links*
- **Appendix I:** *Acronyms*

### Availability

The handbook is available for download and printing on WCP's Warrior Care Blog. Download your copy here: <http://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/benefits/compensation-and-benefits/>.

### Frequently Asked Questions

1. **When is the handbook updated?**
  - The e-version of the handbook, located on WCP's Warrior Care Blog, will be updated annually and more frequently when or if available information changes. These updates will be announced on the WCP Blog and social media platforms.
2. **Does this handbook include all compensation and benefits that wounded, ill, and/or injured Service members may be eligible for?**
  - Although the handbook includes many available types of compensation and benefits provided by DoD, VA, and other federal agencies, some compensation and benefits that may be available to all wounded, ill, and/or injured Service members are not included.
3. **If I have questions about content in the handbook, who should I contact?**
  - Contact WCP via:
    - *Email:* [warriorcare@osd.mil](mailto:warriorcare@osd.mil) (Subject Line: Compensation & Benefits Handbook)
    - *Mail:* Office of Warrior Care Policy, 2345 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202