



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.

The handbook can be used to navigate through some of the available military and veteran disability, compensation, and benefits programs that provide support to wounded, ill, and/or injured Service members during recovery, rehabilitation, and return to duty or transition to the civilian community.

The DoD updates this handbook annually in collaboration with the U.S. Departments of Veterans Affairs (VA), Labor, and 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 April 2018 update replaces all previous versions and includes a wealth of available resources.

Highlights

Chapter Layout

The 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 Benefit 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 appendices:

- **Appendix A:** *TRICARE Benefits and Plans*
- **Appendix B:** *Health Care Privacy Protections*
- **Appendix C:** *National Resource Directory (NRD)*



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

Availability

The handbook is available for download and printing on DoD'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. These updates will be announced on the DoD Warrior Care 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. **Who should I contact if I have questions about content in the handbook?**
 - Contact Information:
 - *Email:* warriorcare@osd.mil (Subject Line: Compensation & Benefits Handbook)
 - *Mail:* 2345 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202