



Expedited Processing of Veteran's 100% Disability Claims

The Social Security Administration provides expedited processing of disability claims filed by veterans who have a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Compensation rating of 100% Permanent & Total (P&T).

What do I need to know about the Veterans Affairs and Social Security programs?

Both Social Security and Veterans Affairs pay disability benefits to qualifying people, but their programs, processes, and criteria for receiving benefits are different. A Veterans Affairs compensation rating of 100% P&T doesn't guarantee that you'll receive Social Security disability benefits. To receive disability benefits from Social Security, a person must have a severe impairment expected to last at least one year or to result in death. The impairment must be so severe that the person would be unable to perform any substantial work.

NOTE: Receiving Veterans Affairs compensation will not affect your Social Security benefits.

As a veteran rated 100% P&T, how do I receive expedited processing from Social Security?

You must apply for Social Security benefits. There are three ways in which you can apply.

- Apply online at www.ssa.gov.
- Call our toll-free number, **1-800-772-1213**. If you're deaf or hard of hearing, call our toll-free TTY number, **1-800-325-0778**.
- Call or visit your local Social Security office.

What should I do to receive expedited processing of my Social Security disability application?

If you're a disabled veteran rated 100% P&T, you must:

- Identify yourself as a "veteran rated 100% P&T" when you apply for benefits. If you apply in person or over the phone, tell the Social Security representative that you are a veteran rated 100% P&T. If you apply online, enter "Veteran 100% P&T" in the "Remarks" section of the application.
- Provide Social Security with your Veterans Affairs notification letter, which verifies your rating.

How will Social Security expedite my disability claim?

After Social Security identifies you as a veteran rated 100% P&T, we'll treat your claim as a high priority workload. We'll rush it through the application process.

How long does the process take?

The length of time Social Security takes to make a disability decision depends on several factors, primarily:

- The nature of your disability.
- How quickly we get medical evidence from your doctor or other medical sources.
- Whether it's necessary to send you for a medical examination to get evidence to support your claim.

You can assist by having the required information on hand when you apply.

What about veterans who live abroad?

We recognize that many of our veterans live abroad. We have similar processes in place to expedite their claims.

For more information

You can find more information at www.ssa.gov/people/veterans.

Contacting Social Security

The most convenient way to do business with us from anywhere, on any device, is to visit www.ssa.gov. There are several things you can do online: apply for benefits; get useful information; find publications; and get answers to frequently asked questions.

When you open a personal *my* Social Security account, you have more capabilities. You can review your *Social Security Statement*, verify your earnings, and get estimates of future benefits. You can also print a benefit verification letter, change your direct deposit information, request a replacement Medicare card, get a replacement SSA-1099/1042S, and request a replacement Social Security card (if you have no changes and your state participates).

If you don't have access to the internet, we offer many automated services by telephone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call us toll-free at **1-800-772-1213** or at our TTY number, **1-800-325-0778**, if you're deaf or hard of hearing.

A member of our staff can answer your call from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. We ask for your patience during busy periods since you may experience a high rate of busy signals and longer hold times to speak to us. We look forward to serving you.



Securing today
and tomorrow

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