



VETERAN READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT: CHAPTER 31 ★



If you have a service-connected disability that makes it hard for you to succeed in your employment path, you may be interested in the Employment Through Long-Term Services track. Our training can help you find work in a different field that better suits your current abilities and interests.

EMPLOYMENT THROUGH LONG-TERM SERVICES TRACK

You may be eligible for these benefits if you're a service member or Veteran with a service-connected disability, and you meet all of the requirements listed below.

All of these must be true:

- You have an employment barrier or handicap, and
- You're enrolled in VR&E, and
- Your service-connected disability makes it hard for you to prepare for, obtain, and maintain suitable employment (a job that doesn't make your disability worse, is stable, and matches your abilities, aptitudes, and interests)

WHAT KIND OF BENEFITS CAN I GET?

- A complete skills assessment
- Career guidance
- Job-market evaluation
- Education and training for a professional or vocational field that's a good fit for you
- Apprenticeship, on-the-job training, and volunteer opportunities
- Employment assistance

VR&E provides tuition costs, books, fees and equipment. The program also provides a monthly allowance during training.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE VR&E PROGRAM

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BASIC PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY

There is a 12-year basic period of eligibility for VR&E services. The period begins on the latter of the following dates:

- Date of separation from active duty
- Date you were first notified of a service-connected disability rating

WHO IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE VR&E SERVICES?

Active-duty Servicemembers who:

- Expect to receive an honorable discharge
- Obtain a VA memorandum rating of 20 percent or more
- Are participating in the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) or have an injury or illness that prevents them from performing military duties
 - Servicemembers participating in IDDES are presumed entitled
- Are determined by VR&E to need vocational rehabilitation services

Veterans who:

- Have received an honorable or other than dishonorable discharge
- Have a VA service-connected disability rating of:
 - 10 percent with a serious employment handicap, or
 - 20 percent or more with an employment handicap
- Are determined by VR&E to need rehabilitation services

HOW DO I GET THESE BENEFITS?

First, you'll need to apply for VR&E benefits. Then, you'll work with your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC). If you've received your VA disability rating, you can apply online right now.

APPLY FOR VR&E BENEFITS

In person

Go to a VA regional office and have a VA employee help you. [Find a VA regional office near you](#)

With the help of a trained professional

You can work with a trained professional called an accredited representative to get help applying for VR&E benefits. [Get help filing your claim](#)

Note: You can apply if you're a service member who hasn't received a disability rating yet.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- Connect with your local VA Regional Office to speak with a VR&E representative. [You can find your closest VA Regional Office here](#)
- Call 800-827-1000
- Visit <https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation/>

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