

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR
VA FORM 28-1900
(2900-0009)**

A. Justification

Justification

1. VA Form 28-1900, Disabled Veteran's Application for Vocational Rehabilitation, is used by service-connected disabled veterans and servicepersons awaiting discharge for disability to apply for vocational rehabilitation benefits available under chapter 31 of title 38 United States Code. It is the initial source of information to evaluate an applicant's claim for these benefits. Under 38 U.S.C. 501(a)(1) and 5101(a) and 38 CFR 21.30, VA requires a veteran submit the information to properly determine the veterans eligibility for and entitlement to these benefits.
2. The VR&E Division will establish Counseling/Evaluation/Rehabilitation folder for the applicant and schedule him or her for an evaluation appointment with a counseling psychologist (CP) or a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) after verifying the information against VA file data to determine if the claimant meets basic entitlement criteria. The CP or VRC uses the information on the application as a starting point to plan the initial evaluation sessions.
3. The VA has implemented an electronic version of the VA Form 28-1900 which is available in VONAPP and www.va.gov/vaforms, allowing veterans to apply over Internet. The elements in this electronic application are the same as on the printed form.
4. Reviews of this form have eliminated collection of information otherwise readily available to application processors. There is no known Department or Agency that maintains the necessary information; neither is it available from other sources within VA.
5. Collection of this information does not impact small business or other small entities.
6. Less frequent collection of this information is not possible, as it involves application for a specific benefit.
7. There are no special circumstances involved in this information collection that require collection in a manner inconsistent with 5 CFR 1320.6 guidelines.

8. The Department notice was published in the *Federal Register* on January 16, 2014, Vol. 79, No. 11, pages 2944-2945. No comments were received in response to this notice.
9. Neither payment nor gifts are made to applicants under this information collection.
10. Clients are assured of confidentiality of their responses under Compensation, pension, education and Rehabilitation Records—VA(58VA21/22/28), contained in the Privacy Act Issuances, 1993 Compilation.

11. This form does not collect sensitive information.

12. Estimate of Annual Information collection burden

- a. Number of estimated applicants: 67,844
- b. Frequency of response 1
- c. Burden hours 16,961
- d. The estimated 15 minutes for completion time is based on field experience observing applicants completing the form.
- e. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Average Hourly earnings, the cost to the respondent is \$24, making the total cost to the Respondents and estimated \$407,064, based on (16,961 hours x \$24.00 per hour).

13. This information collection imposes no recordkeeping burden on the public.

14. Estimated Cost to the Federal Government

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|--------------|---|
| a. \$461,624 | Estimated Adjudication Division cost for FY 2014
67,844 applications X 15 minutes X \$ 27.21
(average GS 9/4 hour wage rate of adjudicator in
field station)) |
| b. \$223,094 | Estimated Vocational Rehabilitation and
Counseling Division cost for FY 2014 (67,844
applications X 5 Minutes X \$39.46 (average GS
12/4 hourly wage rate of CP or VRC in field
station)) |
| c. \$1,356 | Estimated printing cost |
| d. \$686,074 | Total estimated cost to Federal Government |

15. There is no change to the burden hours. The expiration date placeholder has been added to the form.

16. VA does not tabulate nor does it intend to publish this information collection.

17. We are not seeking approval to omit the expiration date for OMB approval.

18. This submission does not contain any exceptions to the certificate statement.

B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

This collection of information does not employ statistical methods.