

SUPPORTING STATEMENT – PART A
VA FORM 29-357
CLAIM FOR DISABILITY INSURANCE BENEFITS, GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE
2900-0016

Summary of Changes:

- This ICR is being submitted as an “Extension” since there are no changes to the burden or the information collection instruments.
- No Comments have been received on the 60-Day FRN.
- Title: Claim for Disability Insurance Benefits, Government Life Insurance, VA Form 29-357.
- No comments received during the comment period.

1. Need for the Information Collection

This form is used by the policyholder to claim disability insurance benefits on S-DVI, NSLI and USGLI policies. The information requested is authorized by law, 38 U.S.C. sections 1912, 1915, 1922, 1942 and 1948.

2. Use of the Information

The information collected on the form is used by Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to establish the insured’s eligibility for disability insurance benefits. This application is to be completed by veterans who have government life insurance and become totally disabled.

3. Use of the Information Technology

VA Form 29-357 has been added to our VBA website for downloading. The insured is now able to complete the form electronically, print and submit the claim by mail.

4. Non-duplication

The information is not contained in any other VA records. Similar information is not available elsewhere.

5. Burden on Small Businesses

The information does not involve any small businesses.

6. Less Frequent Collection

This form is designed for use by the insurance activity to determine the insured’s eligibility for disability insurance benefits.

7. Paperwork Reduction Act Guidelines

There are no special circumstances requiring that the collection of information be conducted in a manner inconsistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR Section 1320.6.

8. Consultation and Public Comments

Part A: PUBLIC NOTICE:

A 60-Day Federal Register Notice (FRN) for the collection published on Friday, June 27, 2025. The 60-Day FRN citation is 90 FRN 27759.

No comments were received during the 60-Day Comment Period.

A 30-Day Federal Register Notice for the collection published on Friday, August 29, 2025. The 30-Day FRN citation is 90 FRN 42307.

Part B: CONSULTATION:

No additional consultation apart from soliciting public comments through the Federal Register was conducted for this submission.

9. Gifts or Payment

No payments or gifts are being offered to respondents as an incentive to participate in the collection.

10. Confidentiality

The information collection conforms to the Privacy Act of 1974 and is subject to the conditions of disclosure contained therein. The records are maintained in the system identified as 36VA29 Veterans and Uniformed Services Personnel Program of U.S. Government Life Insurance – VA” as contained in the Privacy Act Issuances, 2011 Compilation.

11. Sensitive Questions

There are no questions of a sensitive nature.

12. Respondent Burden and its Labor Costs

- a. Number of Respondents: 8,100
- b. Frequency of Response: Once
- c. Annual Burden Hours: 14,175 hours

- d. Estimated Completion Time: 1 hour and 45 minutes (We arrived at this estimate by initiating a trial with a VA staff member unfamiliar with the forms.)
- e. VA cannot make further assumptions about the population of respondents because of the variability of factors such as the educational background and wage potential of respondents. Therefore, VBA used general wage data to estimate the respondents' costs associated with completing the information collection.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (B:S) gathers information on full-time wage and salary workers. According to the latest available BLS data, the mean weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers are \$1,304.40. Assuming a forty (40) hour work week, the mean hourly wage is \$32.66 based on the BLS wage code – “00-0000 All Occupations.” This information was taken from the following website: (<https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/industry/000000>, May 2024).

Legally, respondents may not pay a person or business for assistance in completing the information collection. Therefore, there are no expected overhead costs for completing the information collection. VBA estimates the total cost to all respondents to be **\$462,956** (14,175 burden hours x \$32.66 per hour).

13. Respondent Costs Other Than Burden Hour Costs

This submission does not involve any record keeping costs.

14. Costs to the Federal Government

Grade	Step	Burden Time	Fraction of Hour	Hourly Rate	Cost Per Response	Total Responses	Total
9	3	105	1.75	\$26.24	\$46.00	8,100	\$372,600.00
Overhead at 100% Salary							\$372,600.00
5	3	2	0.03	\$17.31	\$0.52	8100	\$4,212.00
Overhead at 100% Salary							\$4,212.00
4	3	2	0.03	\$15.48	\$0.46	8100	\$3,726.00
Overhead at 100% Salary							\$3,726.00
Processing / Analyzing Costs							\$761,076.00
Printing and Production Cost							\$54.00
Total Cost to Government							\$761,130.00

Overhead costs are 100% of salary and are the same as the wage listed above and the amounts are included in the total.

Printing and production costs approximates the cost of printing this information collection per year. (Processing/Analyzing Cost total divided by \$54).

Note: The hourly wage information above is based on the hourly 2024 General Schedule (Base) Pay (https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/24Tables/html/GS_h.aspx). This rate does not include any locality adjustment as applicable.

The processing time estimates above are based on the actual amount of time employees of each grade level spend to process to completion a claim received on this form. The within-grade step (3) of each employee represents the average experience of employees within each grade.

15. Reason for Change in Burden

There is no change in respondent burden.

16. Publication of Results

The information is collected for insurance purposes only and there are no plans for publication.

17. Non-Display of OMB Expiration Date

We are not seeking approval to omit the display of the expiration date of the OMB approval on the collection instrument.

18. Exceptions to “Certification for Paperwork Reduction Submissions”

We are not requesting any exemptions to the provisions stated in 5 CFR 1320.9.