

Supporting Statement for VA
Application for Benefits for a Qualifying Veteran's Child Born with Disabilities
Control #2900-0572

Summary of Changes from Previously Approved Collection

- The respondent burden has increased due to the estimated number of receivables averaged over the past year.
- 2 comments were received during the 60-Day comment period.

1. Need for the Information Collection

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), through its Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), administers an integrated program of benefits and services established by law for veterans, service personnel, and their dependents and/or beneficiaries. Information is requested by VA Form 21-0304, *Application for Benefits for a Qualifying Veteran's Child Born with Disabilities*, under the authorities of 38 U.S.C. 1805, 1815, 1821, and 1822, provides monetary benefits to, or on behalf of, children of Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam (RVN), in or near the demilitarized zone (DMZ) in Korea, or in Thailand.

2. Use of the Information

The respondent population for VA Form 21-0304 is composed of children born of Vietnam and certain Thailand or Korea service veterans who are applying for benefits due to Spina Bifida or other birth defects.

3. Use of Information Technology

VA Form 21-0304 is available on the One-VA Website in a fillable electronic format. VBA is currently hosting this form on a secure server and does not currently have the technology in place to allow for the complete submission of the form. Validation edits are performed to assure data integrity. There currently is no utility process in place that will allow the data submitted on the form to be incorporated with an existing centralized legacy database.

4. Non-Duplication

The information obtained through this collection is unique and is not already available for use or adaptation from another cleared source.

5. Burden on Small Businesses

This information collection does not impose a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small businesses or entities.

6. Less Frequent Collection

VA Form 21-0304 is used to determine the monetary allowance for a child born with Spina Bifida or certain birth defects who is the natural child of a Vietnam and certain Thailand or

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Korea service veterans. Without this information, VA would be unable to effectively administer 38 U.S.C. 1805, 1815, 1821, and 1822.

7. Paperwork Reduction Act Guidelines

This collection of information does not require collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with the guidelines delineated in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

8. Consultation and Public Comments

Part A: PUBLIC NOTICE

A 60-Day Federal Register Notice (FRN) for the collection published on Tuesday, December 30, 2025. The 60-Day FRN citation is 90 FRN 61224.

2 comments were received during the 60-Day comment period. The first comment was received on January 19, 2026, and the second comment was received on February 28, 2026. See the uploaded supplementary documents for both comments and their responses.

A 30-Day Federal Register Notice for the collection published on Thursday, March 12, 2026. The 30-Day FRN citation is 91 FRN 12280.

Part B: CONSULTATION

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

9. Gifts or Payments

No payments or gifts to respondents have been made under this collection of information.

10. Confidentiality

The records are maintained in the appropriate Privacy Act System of Records identified as "Compensation, Pension, Education, and Veteran Readiness and Employment Records-VA (58VA21/22/28)," published at 74 FR 29275 on June 19, 2009, and last amended at 87 FR 8740 (February 16, 2022).

11. Sensitive Questions

No questions considered sensitive are being asked in this collection.

12. Respondent Burden and its Labor Costs

a. Number of Respondents is estimated at **1,209** per year.

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- b. Frequency of Response is **one time**.
- c. Annual burden hours are **202** hours.
- d. The estimated completion time for each form is **10** minutes.
- 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 uses general wage data to estimate the respondents' costs associated with completing the information collection.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) gathers information on full-time wage and salary workers. According to the latest available BLS data, 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>.

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 \$6,597.32 (202 burden hours x \$32.66 per hour).

13. Respondent Costs Other Than Burden Hour Costs

There are no annualized costs to respondents other than the labor burden costs addressed in Section 12 of this document to complete this collection.

14. Costs to the Federal Government

Grade	Step	Burden Time	Fraction of Hour	Hourly Rate	Cost Per Response	Total Responses	Total
7	3	30	0.50	\$ 22.03	11.015	1,209	\$ 13,317.14
Overhead at 100% Salary							\$ 13,317.14
9	3	15	0.25	\$ 26.95	6.738	1,209	\$ 8,145.64
Overhead at 100% Salary							\$ 8,145.64
11	3	10	0.17	\$ 32.61	5.435	1,209	\$ 6,570.92
Overhead at 100% Salary							\$ 6,570.92
Processing / Analyzing Costs							\$ 56,067.38
Printing and Production Cost							\$ 622.97
Total Cost to Government							\$ 56,690.35

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

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Printing and production costs approximates the cost of printing this information collection per year. (Processing/Analyzing Cost total divided by \$90).

Note: The hourly wage information above is based on the hourly 2026 General Schedule (Base) Pay (https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2026/GS_h.pdf). 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

The respondent burden has increased due to the estimated number of receivables averaged over the past year.

16. Publication of Results

The results of this information collection will not be published

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.