

White Paper
Non-Substantive Change

REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF STATEMENT ON FORM
OMB Control Number 2900-0009
VA Form 28-1900

The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) is requesting approval of a non-substantive administrative revision of the currently approved information collection under OMB Control Number 2900-0009.

At the time the currently approved information collection under OMB Control Number 2900-0009 was cleared and published, prior reapplication procedures were incorporated into the form. Since that time, VR&E Service has initiated development of updated reapplication procedures for Chapter 31.

Accordingly, VR&E Service requests removal of the note on the first page of the form and item “C” within the instructions (see figures 1 and 2 below). Continued display of this language on the VA.gov version of VAF 28-1900—the primary application platform for Veterans and Service members—may result in confusion or discourage individuals from submitting a reapplication.

Additionally, VR&E Service requests approval of a non-substantive change to Item #10, revising the language from “Number of Years of Education” to “Highest Level of Education Completed” (see figure 3 below) to ensure consistency with VA.gov content standards.

On the Instruction page 3 of the form, VR&E requests non-substantive changes to the language to limit any confusion (see figures 4, 5 and 6 below).

These changes are administrative in nature and do not modify information collected from respondents. No new data elements are added; no new questions are added; no existing data elements are removed; and no changes are made to reporting, recordkeeping, or disclosure requirements.

There is no change to respondent population, number of responses, frequency of collection, time per response, or approval burden hours.

Accordingly, VA has determined this update constitutes a non-substantive administrative revision and respectfully requests OMB approval.

PLEASE READ: DO NOT USE THIS FORM TO REAPPLY FOR CHAPTER 31 BENEFITS IF YOU PREVIOUSLY APPLIED AND RECEIVED AN ENTITLEMENT DECISION FOR THE CHAPTER 31 PROGRAM. TO REQUEST REACTIVATION OF YOUR CLAIM FOR CHAPTER 31 BENEFITS, FOLLOW THE INFORMATION ON REQUESTING A REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS CLOSURE DECISION AT www.va.gov/decision-reviews.

Figure 1

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING FOR CHAPTER 31 BENEFITS

A. INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE:

- To apply for Chapter 31 benefits, you may submit this completed application form to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) Intake Center, P. O. Box 5210, Janesville, WI 53547-5210 or apply online at www.va.gov.
- You may obtain information and assistance from any Veterans Benefits Administration office or online at <https://ask.va.gov>.
- You may obtain assistance from a VA-accredited representative or Veterans Service Organization by visiting <https://www.va.gov/get-help-from-accredited-representative/>.

NOTE: You will not be denied Chapter 31 benefits if you do not have a mailing address as outlined in 38 U.S.C. 5126. However, if you do not have a mailing address, you need to write "NONE" on Question #5 and provide an alternative means of contact, either an address such as an address to a homeless shelter or P.O. Box or telephone number, so you can be scheduled for an initial evaluation appointment.

It is important that you check the box on Section II: Protection of Privacy Information Statement, to ensure that you will be provided appropriate vocational rehabilitation services. If you do not check the box, you will be required to sign a separate VA Form 28-8739a, Protection of Privacy Information Statement.

B. APPLICATION PROCESSING:

Your application will be processed upon receipt to determine if you meet the basic eligibility criteria. Below is the criteria that you must meet to be eligible:

- You must have a qualifying compensable service-connected disability rating of at least 10 percent that has been granted by VA.
- You must have a qualifying military service with an honorable discharge or other than honorable conditions for character of discharge.
- You must be within your 12-year eligibility period from the date of your discharge from active service. This requirement applies only to Veterans discharged before September 11, 2013.

Once you are determined eligible, you will receive an appointment letter for your initial evaluation to determine entitlement to Chapter 31 benefits. If you are determined not eligible, you will receive a notification letter.

C. REAPPLICATION FOR CHAPTER 31 BENEFITS

NOTE: THIS FORM WILL NOT BE USED WHEN REAPPLYING FOR CHAPTER 31 BENEFITS.

Per 38 U.S.C. § 7105(c) and 38 CFR § 21.412(a)(2), a claimant cannot reapply for the same benefit after a decision has been made on his or her claim for entitlement to Chapter 31 benefits.

If you previously applied for Chapter 31 benefits, received an entitlement decision and your case was closed as discontinued or rehabilitated, you must request to reactivate your claim for Chapter 31 benefits by taking one of the following actions:

1. If you have already submitted a request for a Supplemental Claim, Higher-Level Review, or an Appeal to the Board, you do not need to take action at this time. You must wait for the decision on the review you requested.
2. If your case was closed within one year from the date your case was discontinued or rehabilitated, you may complete and submit one of the following forms to request a decision review:
 - VA Form 20-0995, Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim
 - VA Form 20-0996, Decision Review Request: Higher Level Review
 - VA Form 10182, Decision Review Request: Board Appeal
3. If your case was closed as discontinued or rehabilitated more than one year after VA provided notice of the decision, you must complete VA Form 20-0995, Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim, and must submit new and relevant evidence.

Figure 2

Apply for Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E)

VA Form 28-1900

4 of 5 Education

Add your education

Highest level of education completed (*Required)

- Select -

[Finish this application later](#)

Update

Cancel

Figure 3

B. APPLICATION PROCESSING:

Your application will be processed upon receipt to determine if you meet the basic eligibility criteria. Below is the criteria that you must meet to be eligible:

- You must have a qualifying compensable service-connected disability rating of at least 10 percent that has been granted by VA.
- You must have a qualifying military service with an honorable discharge or other than honorable conditions for character of discharge.
- You must be within your 12-year eligibility period from the date of your discharge from active service. This requirement applies only to Veterans discharged before September 11, 2013.

Once you are determined eligible, you will receive an appointment letter for your initial evaluation to determine entitlement to Chapter 31 benefits. If you are determined not eligible, you will receive a notification letter.

Figure 4