

# What is Benefits Delivery at Discharge?

**A ONE-STOP SHOP** for departing military personnel, launched in 2001, Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) assists you with everything from filing a VA claim to getting your entitled educational benefits. BDD program currently consists of VFW field service representatives (counselors) at major installations from North Carolina to California.



Jay Boone, VFW's BDD representative at Ft. Bragg, N.C., reviews the steps for filing a VA claim with a GI preparing for discharge.

# Do You Know What to Do Before Departing?

If you are within 60 to 180 days of discharge, you need to **LOOK US UP**—we're here to see your needs are met. Attend the official VA briefing (one is usually held each week on base) and listen to our VFW BDD representative.

## We Can Help You

Ask your BDD representative for more information about the following:

- **DISABILITY CLAIMS** can be significantly expedited. Through BDD, a VA decision can be made within **90 DAYS** as opposed to the usual six to nine months.
- Montgomery GI Bill **EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS** information is available so you can prepare to begin your college or vocational education.
- **VA HEALTHCARE BENEFITS** and the various types offered through VA hospitals and clinics are explained.
- VA's **HOME LOAN GUARANTEE** program permits veterans to obtain a mortgage with a competitive interest rate.
- **LIFE INSURANCE** is another benefit offered through VA, and your BDD representative can provide you with the details you need to get signed up.

# Here's What to Know

## When Filing a Disability Claim:

Most departing military personnel working with BDD reps seek disability **CLAIMS ASSISTANCE**. To make your filing process run smoother, please review the following steps:

- 1)** At your installation's weekly VA briefing, get VA Form 21-526 (*Veterans Application for Compensation*). If you do not have one, drop by the BDD office and obtain the form.
- 2)** Make a copy (no originals, please) of your service medical records.
- 3)** The BDD representative will review your service records and assist you in filling out your application for benefits.
- 4)** At this point, you will be scheduled for a complete VA examination.
- 5)** Once you are discharged, bring your DD-214 (discharge papers) to the VA office on your base so a decision can be issued.
- 6)** VA will notify you at your home of record of its decision within 60-90 days of separation.

Should you need further assistance, contact the VFW Department service officer in your state. The BDD representative should provide the contact information to you when you depart. These highly trained service officers can continue helping you after you have left the military.

# We Want the Best for You

America's oldest major veterans organization, VFW will see you through your discharge and beyond. **SINCE 1899**, we've fought to preserve veterans rights and benefits—a battle still raging today. We wish you well and thank you for your service to this country.

## What Veterans Are Saying About Us

*"My family and I owe a large amount of gratitude to our local VA and VFW for their sincere and speedy aid in helping us with our VA decision. Like the cavalry coming to the rescue, they secured my family's future and literally saved us from the impending nightmare of having nothing."*

**Kevin Breaux**, a retired Army sergeant who received assistance from BDD Field Service Representative Tom Parker in Ft. Hood, Texas, following an early retirement due to his disabilities.

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Contact Us  
**TODAY**



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# WHAT SHOULD YOU GET at discharge time?

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VFW's **BENEFITS DELIVERY AT DISCHARGE** program can help you smooth the transition from active-duty military to civilian life.

