VETERANS BENEFITS CLAIMS PROCESS

Standard Claims Process (All claims are unique. The following is meant to be used only as a general guideline.)

1. GET EXPERIENCED HELP	2. COLLECT EVIDENCE	3. SUBMIT CLAIM	4. VA REVIEWS CLAIM	5. VA RATING DECISION
Locate your VA regional office online at va.gov/directory. Find a Veteran's Service Officer (VSO) at NACVSO.org, DAV.org, VFW.org, or LEGION.org. Work with your VSO to determine your eligibility. Work with your VSO to determine the best claim type. Claim Appeals Pro 6. APPEAL TO THE REGION BOARD OF VETERANS A	NAL VA OFFICE/ 7. CO	Register for online claims at eBenefits.gov and submit your claim. There is no cost to regis or process your claim. OR - Have your VSO help you complete and submit your clair You have 1 YEAR from your eBenefits registration or Intent to File to finalize your claim.	ter Watch your mail for requests from the VA for additional information Continue to keep your existir	The VA issues a Rating Decision once they determine, if any, your service connection, percent of disability, and effective date. The VA processes your claim for payments as of the effective date and any back pay owed. ACCEPT the rating decision; your case will be completed. OR - APPEAL if you are not satisfied. See the appeals process below.
The BVA will review your case. BVA ISSUES DECISION You can ACCEPT the decision -OR-Ask the BVA to RECONSIDER -OR-APPEAL to CAVC. A D at y decision the	ing Decision to of Disagreement. Dedical appointments. Decice of Disagreement (NOD) The reviewed either (BVA) in Washington (DRO). The OPROCESS DRO will take a new look rour case and issue a new sision. If they disagree with previous rating decision, you will eive a Statement of Case. The OPROCESS CONTROL The OPROCESS The OPROCESS CONTROL The OPROCESS The O	inue to keep your existing cal appointments. with your VSO to fill out the to know to	You have a limited time from the CAVC decision to file your appeal to the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals. If you choose to appeal, you should contact a lawyer within 10 days. Continue to keep your existing medical appointments. Find a lawyer. You will need to hire a lawyer experienced in veterans benefits appeals for this level of appeal. The Federal Circuit will review your case. COURT ISSUES DECISION You can ACCEPT -OR- APPEAL to the U.S. Supreme Court.	You have a limited time from the Federal Circuit decision to file your appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. If you choose to appeal, you should contact a lawyer within 10 days. Continue to keep your existing medical appointments. Find a lawyer. You will need to hire a lawyer experienced in veterans benefits appeals for this level of appeal. The U.S. Supreme Court may or may not review your case, or may issue a denial. COURT ISSUES DECISION