

Get Help Filing Your Claim or Appeal



Accredited attorneys, claims agents, or Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) can help you file a claim or appeal with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). These individuals are trained and certified in VA's claims and appeals processes so they can help you with your VA-related needs.

What They Do

Accredited representatives and VSOs can help you understand and apply for VA benefits. They can also:

- Help you gather supporting documents, such as doctor's reports or medical test results,
- File a claim or appeal on your behalf
- Provide added support, such as helping with transportation to medical appointments or emergency funds
- Request a faster Higher-Level Review decision through a [Claim Accuracy Request](#) if you received a decision notice on your claim that has a clear factual or legal error

Find a Representative

A claim may be filed online, by mail, or in-person. To find a representative near you to assist with the claim process, check out the [VA Office of the General Counsel's list](#) of accredited attorneys, claims agents and VSOs. You can search for a representative by name, city, state, or zip code.

VA-recognized VSOs always provide their services on benefit claims free of charge. VA-accredited attorneys and agents may charge you a fee for their representation in appealing or requesting additional review of your rating decision.

Get Set Up

There are several ways to get started with an accredited representative or VSO.



If you want to ...	You need to ...
Get help filing your claim or appeal	Visit va.gov
Have a VSO help you	Complete VA Form 21-22, Appointment of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative
Have a claims agent or attorney help you	Complete VA Form 21-22a, Appointment of Individual as Claimant's Representative

If you are filling out a paper version of the form, you must mail it to the [centralized claims intake center](#) as instructed in the Where to Send Your Written Correspondence section. Please speak with the service organization or representative before you send your request.

Learn More

To learn more about working with accredited representatives, including costs and what it takes to become accredited, visit www.va.gov/disability/get-help-filing-claim/. Please call 800-827-1000, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST, if you have any further questions.

[f @VeteransBenefits](#)
[t @VAVetBenefits](#)
[i @vabenefits](#)
[y @VAVetBenefits](#)