

29 AUG 22

From: Office of the Chief Technology Officer
To: Office of General Counsel, Veterans Health Agency
Via: (1)
(2)

Subj: Legal compliance review, opt-in for digital delivery of IRS 1095-B document on VA.gov

Ref: (a) [21st Century IDEA legislation](#)
(b) [Presidential executive order on customer experience](#)
(c) [2021 IRS guidance on 1095-B](#), p. 5
(d) [C.F.R. Title 26, Ch 14 § 1.6055-2](#)

Encl: (1) 1095-B digital retrieval web design
(2) 1095-B opt-in to paperless delivery flow
(3) Legal approval to launch opt-in to paperless delivery of 1095-B

1. Purpose. This letter is to request legal review and approval for VA.gov to launch web components that will allow Veterans to opt-in to paperless delivery of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) tax form 1095-B in accordance with references (c) and (d).

2. Background.

The IRS form 1095-B is used to report to the federal and state tax entities the months that an individual had qualifying minimum essential health coverage for the tax year. In most cases, it is simply a form for one's records. However, some states still have an individual coverage mandate, and in those states, the form is necessary for filing taxes. The form is not required by the IRS, but it is required to be sent by health care providers

The Veterans Administration (VA) currently mails the document out annually to Veterans and other beneficiaries that were enrolled in VA healthcare, annotating the months of coverage. This costs the VA an estimated \$1 million per year, and projected to increase at a rate of 3-4% a year. Many of these documents are rerouted and returned due to incomplete or non-updated addresses, which costs the VHA Health Enrollment Center an additional \$400,000 to resolve.

67% of Veterans who participated in VA.gov's moderated usability research in February 2022, preferred having a paperless delivery option, similar to banking, investment, and employment services. Additionally, they preferred an online method for updating of demographic data, such as addressing.

In March of 2022, VA.gov began work to build a web page that provided content, context, and allowed Veteran's to retrieve their current 1095-B tax document (encl. 1), in accordance with executive direction that all forms must be made available digitally (ref. (a)-(b)). Scheduled to launch in fiscal year 2023; mailed versions will continue.

In July of 2022, VA.gov initiated a coordinated effort to design (encl. 2) and build an opt-in to paperless delivery component to the 1095-B webpage and Veteran profile preferences in accordance with references (c) and (d). Veterans can then chose to opt-in or out of paperless

delivery; those who have not made an election or contact the VHA Health Enrollment Center for assistance, will continue to receive the mailed version under current process. Those that desire paperless delivery will be notified annually that their tax document is ready for retrieval on VA.gov.

3. Discussion: Prior to commencing the engineering of the opt-in to paperless delivery, we would like a legal review, recommendations, and if possible, approval to launch this service on VA.gov.

Tracey Mulrooney

1095-B Digital retrieval web design (Unauthenticated page, public facing)

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Download your IRS 1095-B tax form

Download your IRS 1095-B tax form to show proof that you had VA health coverage in the most recent tax year.

Please sign in to download your 1095-B tax form

Sign in with your existing ID.me, DS Logon, or My HealtheVet account. If you don't have any of these accounts, you can create a free ID.me account now.

[Sign in or create account](#)

How to use your form

Keep this form for your records. Due to changes in the Affordable Care Act (ACA), you no longer need a 1095-B tax form to file your federal taxes.

[Learn more about the ACA and your VA health care](#)

Note: Some states have their own individual health care law. If you don't have health coverage, you may be charged a fee when you file your state taxes.

As of January 2022, these states and the District of Columbia have their own health care law:

- California
- Massachusetts
- New Jersey
- Rhode Island
- Vermont

[Learn more about the state health care laws on HealthCare.gov](#)

How to update your form

Change your address in your VA.gov profile

Changing your address in your VA.gov profile will update your address on your 1095-B form. It will also update your address across several other VA benefits and services.

[Find out how to change your address in your VA.gov profile](#)

Or call us to change your address or other personal information

Call us at [877-222-8387](tel:877-222-8387). We're here Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET.


Note: If we need to change your address, it may take us up to 4 business days to have your revised form ready to download. Other changes to your personal information can take up to 20 days to process.

More resources

[The Affordable Care Act \(ACA\) and your VA health care coverage](#)
Find out what you need to know about the ACA—also known as the health care law—and your health coverage.

[How to change your legal name on file with VA](#)
Find out how to change your name at your VA medical center, each VA program office that you receive direct benefit payments from, and the DEERS support office.

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Download your IRS 1095-B tax form

Download your 1095-B IRS tax form to show proof that you had VA health coverage in the most recent tax year.

Related to: Health care

Document last updated: November 5, 2021

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☒ Option 1: PDF document (best for printing)
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Last updated: December 12, 2021

1095-B Opt-in to paperless delivery web design (Authenticated page)

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Download your 1095-B tax form

Sign up for paperless delivery

We mail you a paper copy of your 1095-B form each year. If you want to stop getting paper forms, you can choose paperless delivery. We'll email you once a year when your new form is ready to download.

Go to your VA.gov profile to choose 1095-B paperless delivery

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Enclosure 2

Veteran profile settings on VA.gov (Authenticated)

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Hector Benjamin Garcia
United States Army
Your disability rating:
40% service connected

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- email.address@provider.com
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Health care

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☐ Don't notify me

Paperless delivery of IRS form 1095-B, Health Coverage

[Learn about 1095-B form paperless delivery](#)

☐ I'll download my 1095-B from VA.gov. Don't mail me a copy.
☐ Mail me a copy of form 1095-B

Prescription shipment and tracking updates

☐ Notify me by text
☐ Don't notify me

Applications, claims, decision reviews, and appeals

Board of Veterans' Appeals hearing reminder

☐ Notify me by text
☐ Don't notify me

Payments

Disability and pension deposit notifications

☐ Notify me by text
☐ Don't notify me

Note: We have limited notification options at this time. Check back for more options in the future.

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Veteran Programs and Services +

Appointment reminders

- ☐ Notify me by text
- ☐ Don't notify me

Paperless delivery of IRS form 1095-B, Health Coverage

[Learn about 1095-B form paperless delivery](#)

Your IRS 1095-B form is used to show proof that you had VA coverage in the most recent tax year.

We mail you a paper copy of this form each year.

If you want to stop getting paper forms, you can choose paperless delivery. We'll send you an email every year when you can download your form from VA.gov. You can update this setting anytime.

[Learn when you need a 1095-B form and how to download a copy](#)

- ☐ I'll download my 1095-B from VA.gov. Don't mail me a copy.
- ☐ Mail me a copy of form 1095-B

Prescription shipment and tracking updates

- ☐ Notify me by text