

VA.gov Homepage

(Redesigned)

Debut Date: December 2022 | Sitewide Homepage

Version 1.0

Revision History

Date	Version	Description	Author
12/2022	1	Redesigned product debut	Michelle Middaugh
XX/XX/XXX X	2	XXX (what changes/updates/additions)	XXX

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1. Product Overview

VA.gov has become the front-door to top tasks, tools, and information for Veterans and their beneficiaries. The homepage serves as a task-based landing page that helps Veterans and beneficiaries do the following:

- Explore and obtain the latest information about VA benefits and services
- Complete tasks to manage benefits and services
- Log in for access to a personalized, streamlined experience

This product guide covers the iterative redesign of the body of the VA.gov homepage.

2. User Access

The VA.gov homepage exists in an unauthenticated space. As such, all navigation and content are available to the public, although users may be directed to log in to complete some tasks after navigating away from the homepage.

During soft launch, Veterans and beneficiaries can experience the redesigned homepage by opting in via a modal displayed on the current homepage (https://www.va.gov/). This modal will be available only on the existing homepage and only once per user session during the soft launch period. The existing homepage functionality and appearance will remain.



Figure 1. Soft launch modal.

Following soft launch, the current homepage will be replaced by the newly redesigned VA.gov experience.

3. Navigation

The existing header, megamenu, and footer are not part of this redesign and will continue to be available for navigation.

4. Functionality

The redesigned homepage has several main areas, each described and pictured below.

Benefit promo

- Source: Drupal
- This area features rotating content highlighting a recent update to a benefit, service, or program.



Figure 2. Benefit promo area of the newly redesigned homepage.

Create account

- This component is designed to increase use of the logged in experience and account creation originating on the homepage with a more prominent position.
- It also incorporates a new flow to a *pending* Resources and Support page which educates new users about the benefits of an account and supports VA.gov account creation.

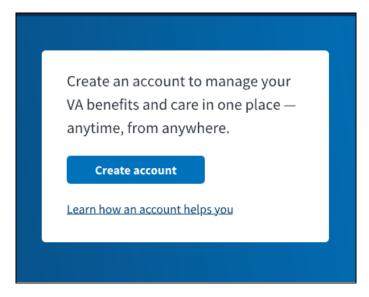


Figure 3. "Create account" component of the newly redesigned homepage.

Search and other search tools

• This in-page search option has the same functionality as the site search in a more prominent, in-page location. It is followed by a list of other search tools which are not available through Search (such as Resources and Support, Find a VA form, and Facility Locator).

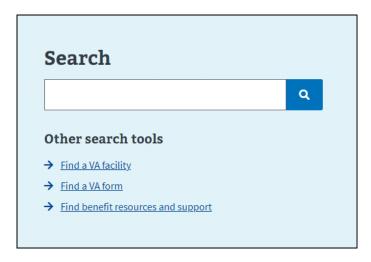


Figure 4. Search area on the newly redesigned homepage.

Top tasks

- Source: Drupal
- This list makes several common tasks available to VA.gov users as quick links. It serves as an alternative to browsing/searching from the homepage. The list will evolve over time.

Top Pages Check your claim or appeal status Set mental health care Review your payment history. File for disability compensation Schedule or manage health appointments Refill or track a prescription Compare GI Bill benefits Get mental health care Review or update your dependents Get reimbursed for travel pay. Get your VA medical records

Figure 5. Task links area on the newly redesigned homepage.

News promo

- Source: Drupal
- This area features rotating news story content with a link to more VA news in a more prominent location to improve user comprehension and engagement.
- The mobile experience will not include the image in this area.

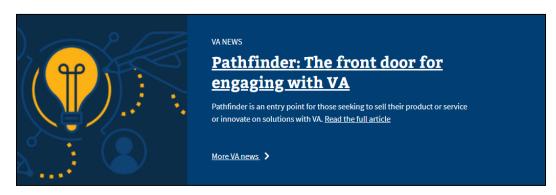


Figure 6. News promo area on the newly redesigned homepage.

Benefits hub

- Source: Drupal
- Hub pages direct to top level pages for a benefits area which provides links to pages that help Veterans and beneficiaries learn about, apply for, and manage their benefits.
- The area includes a link to the new Departments page, to direct non-Veteran/beneficiary audiences where to go for information and tasks appropriate to their needs.

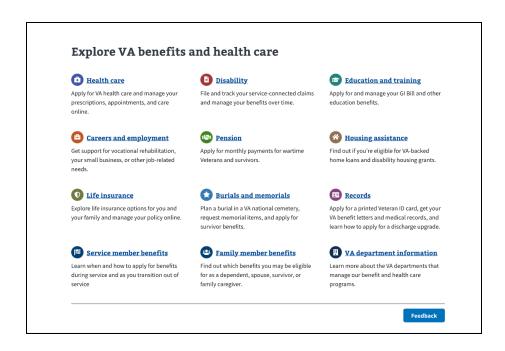


Figure 7. Benefits hub area on the newly redesigned homepage.

Subscribe to email

- Source: https://www.choose.va.gov/
- Veterans and beneficiaries can sign up to receive updates and information, rather than having to seek them out.

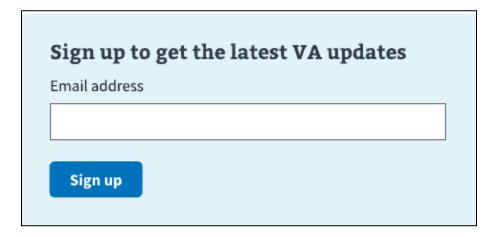


Figure 8. Subscription to updates area on the newly redesigned homepage.

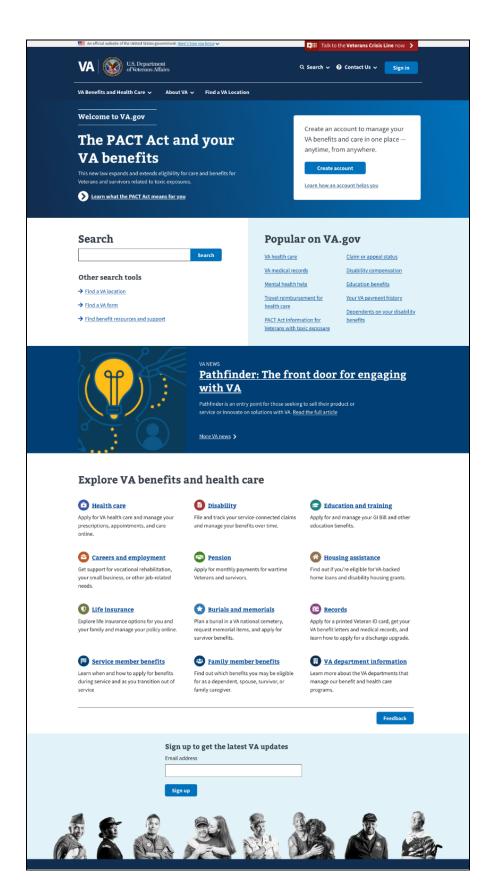


Figure 9. Desktop view of the redesigned homepage.

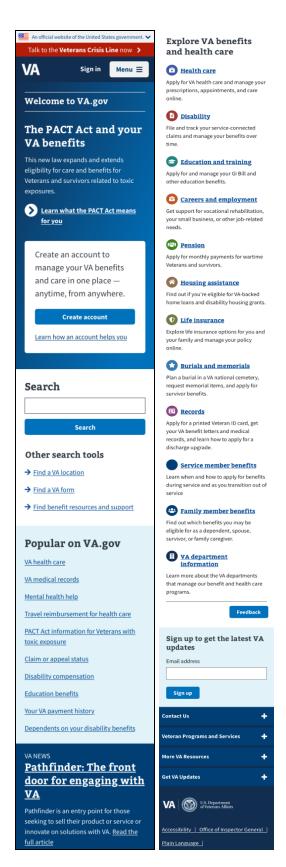


Figure 10. Split view of the redesigned mobile homepage (mobile view is single-column).

5. Major Issues and Error Messages

The standard error messaging applies to any outages affecting the VA.gov website.

Any issues with the header or footer are outside the scope of this product and should be referred to the Public Websites team.

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