**Topic/Summary**

The Pre-Discharge Programs staff, in conjunction with the Medical Disability Evaluation Office (MDEO), requests the below language in red be added to the VA.gov’s Benefit Delivery at Discharge (BDD) claim application stream process wherever BDD criteria is viewed.

The BDD program has expanded its requirements, namely that Service members must now also submit a completed *Separation Health Assessment - Part A Self-Assessment* in order to participate in the BDD program. The Part A will be posted to the VA’s [Public Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs) - Compensation (va.gov)](https://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/dbq_publicdbqs.asp) switchboard o/a April 1, 2023.

The <https://staging.va.gov/> environment was used for the below suggested examples. Please let us know if you have any questions.

1. From <https://staging.va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/when-to-file/pre-discharge-claim/>:

**Can I use the BDD program to get my disability compensation sooner?**

You can use the BDD program if you meet all of these requirements.

**All of these must be true:**

* You’re a service member on full-time active duty (including a member of the National Guard, Reserves, or Coast Guard), **and**
* You have a known separation date, **and**
* Your separation date is in the next 180 to 90 days, **and**
* You’re available to go to VA exams for 45 days from the date you submitted your claim, **and**
* You can provide a copy of your service treatment records for your current period of service when you file your claim
* You can provide a completed *Separation Health Assessment - Part A Self-Assessment* (download from [Public Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs)](https://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/dbq_publicdbqs.asp)

1. From <https://staging.va.gov/disability/file-disability-claim-form-21-526ez/introduction>:

When you file a disability claim, you’ll have a chance to provide evidence to support your claim. Evidence could include:

* + A completed *Separation Health Assessment - Part A Self-Assessment* (download from [Public Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs) - Compensation (va.gov)](https://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/dbq_publicdbqs.asp))
  + Service treatment records, VA medical records and hospital records that relate to your claimed condition or that show your rated disability has gotten worse
  + Private medical records and hospital reports that relate to your claimed condition or that show your disability has gotten worse
  + Supporting statements from family, friends, coworkers, clergy, or law enforcement personnel with knowledge about how and when your disability happened or how it got worse

**Please be aware that you’ll need to be available for 45 days after you file a BDD claim to complete a VA exam.**

1. From <https://staging.va.gov/disability/file-disability-claim-form-21-526ez/supporting-evidence/service-treatment-records>

**Step 3 of 5: Supporting evidence** Your application will be saved on every change. Your application ID number is 17818.

1. Top of Form

Do you want to upload your service treatment records or your *Separation Health Assessment - Part A Self-Assessment*? (You’ll have a chance to upload these documents ~~your medical records~~ later in the application.) (\*Required)

Yes

No, I will submit them later.

1. Bottom of Form

(If “Yes” checked)

**Step 3 of 5: Supporting evidence** Your application will be saved on every change. Your application ID number is 17818.

Upload your service treatment records and your *Separation Health Assessment - Part A Self-Assessment* (\*Required)

You can upload your document in a .pdf, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .gif, .bmp, or .txt file format. You’ll first need to scan a copy of your document onto your computer or mobile phone. You can then upload the document from there.Bottom of Form

(If “No, I will submit them later checked)

**Please submit your service treatment records as soon as possible**

You don’t have to turn in your service treatment records with your application, but your eligibility for the BDD program could expire if there is a delay in us receiving them. Additionally, for us to request your necessary VA examinations we must receive your completed *Separation Health Assessment - Part A Self-Assessment* (download from [Public Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs)](https://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/dbq_publicdbqs.asp)

4. From <https://staging.va.gov/disability/file-disability-claim-form-21-526ez/supporting-evidence/evidence-types-bdd>:

**Step 3 of 5: Supporting evidence** Your application will be saved on every change. Your application ID number is 17818.Top of Form

Is there any evidence that you’d like us to review as part of your claim?(\*Required)

YesNo

**What type of evidence do you want to submit as part of your claim?**

Private medical records

Additional VA forms, *Separation Health Assessment - Part A Self-Assessment,* medical records, separation documents (DD Form 214), supporting (lay) statements, or other evidence

Which evidence type should I choose?

**Types of evidence**

*Separation Health Assessment - Part A Self-Assessment*. The Document Type for this evidence is “Disability Benefits Questionnaire”.

**Private medical records**

If you were treated by a private doctor, including a Veteran’s Choice doctor, you’ll have private medical records. We’ll need to see those records to make a decision on your claim. A Disability Benefits Questionnaire is an example of a private medical record.

**References**

<https://staging.va.gov/>

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/dbq_publicdbqs.asp>

**Points of Contact**

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