Department of Veterans Affairs

PRIORITY PROCESSING REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete the attached form to submit a request for priority processing of a claim due to certain circumstances or status as described below along with any supporting information or evidence.

If you are...	Then submit the following evidence if available or not already on file with VA....
• Experiencing extreme financial hardship	Documentation showing extreme financial hardship, including but not limited to the following: • Copy of an eviction notice or statement of foreclosure • Copy of notices of past-due utility bills • Copy of collection notices from creditors
• Terminally ill	• Copy of medical evidence showing illness that is terminal in nature, and/or • If you want VA to get your private treatment records, submit a completed VA Form 21-4142, *Authorization to Disclose Information to the Department of Veterans Affairs*, and VA Form 21-4142a, *General Release for Medical Provider Information to the Department of Veterans* Affairs. **NOTE:** VA Forms are available at: www.va.gov/vaforms
• Diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) also known as Lou Gehrig's disease	• Copy of medical evidence showing ALS also known as Lou Gehrig's disease diagnosis, and/or • If you want VA to get your private treatment records, submit a completed VA Form 21-4142 and VA Form 21-4142a.
• Very Seriously Injured/Ill or Seriously Injured/Ill during military operations (Defined as a disability resulting from a military operation that will likely result in discharge from military service)	• Copy of military personnel records, such as a determination from the Department of Defense (DOD), and • Medical evidence showing severe disability or injury, and/or • If you want to get your private treatment records, submit a completed VA Form 21-4142 and VA Form 21-4142a.
• Age 85 or older	• Date of birth
• Former Prisoner of War	• Copy of military personnel records such as DD Form 214*, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, or • Information such as service number, branch and dates of service, dates and location of internment, detaining power, or any other information relevant to the detainment.
• Medal of Honor or Purple Heart Award recipient	• Copy of military personnel records such as DD Form 214, or • Information showing recipient of Medal of Honor or Purple Heart Award.

WHERE TO SEND INFORMATION AND EVIDENCE:

The time it takes your response to reach VA affects how long it takes us to process your request. We recommend calling our National Call Center at 1-800-827-1000 for immediate assistance whenever possible. If you are not a claimant or representative, we recommend mailing the information.

NOTE: You may designate one person or organization as a third-party representative to act on your behalf. A third-party may be a family member or other designated person who is not a Power of Attorney (POA), agent, or fiduciary. If you designate a third-party to represent you, a VA Form 21-0845, *Authorization to Disclose Personal Information to a Third-Party*, must be attached or of record.

The **fastest** way to respond to VA is to contact us at **1-800-827-1000.**

If you need to mail your correspondence, identify the benefit type; then use the corresponding mailing address below:

MAILING ADDRESS	
Compensation Claims Department of Veterans Affairs Compensation Intake Center P.O. Box 4444 Janesville, WI 53547	**Pension & Survivors Benefit Claims** Department of Veterans Affairs Pension Intake Center P.O. Box 5365 Janesville, WI 53547
Board of Veterans' Appeals Department of Veterans Affairs Board of Veterans' Appeals P.O. Box 27063 Washington, DC 20038	**Fiduciary** Department of Veterans Affairs Fiduciary Intake Center P.O. Box 5211 Janesville, WI 53547

These addresses serve **all United States and foreign locations.**

ATTENTION: If you are currently receiving GI Bill Education benefits and are experiencing any of the reasons listed within Section III: Reason(s) for Request, please call **1-888-GIBILL1 (1-888-442-4551)** or send an email through Ask A Question at www.gibill.va.gov for immediate assistance.

IMPORTANT

If you or someone you know is in crisis, call the Veterans Crisis Line at 988 and then press 1, or visit https://VeteransCrisisLine.net to chat online, or send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Support for deaf and hard of hearing individuals is available.

OMB Approved No. 2900-0877
Respondent Burden: 7 Minutes
Expiration Date: 08/31/2026

Department of Veterans Affairs

VA DATE STAMP
(DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE)

PRIORITY PROCESSING REQUEST

INSTRUCTIONS: Before completing this form, read the Privacy Act and Respondent Burden on page 5. Use this form to request priority processing of a claim due to certain status or circumstances. For additional information you may contact us online through Ask VA at: https://ask.va.gov/ or call us toll-free at 1-800-698-2411 (TTY: 711). VA forms are available at www.va.gov/vaforms. After completing the form, mail to the corresponding address listed in the instructions on page 2.

SECTION I: VETERAN'S IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION
(This information is required to process your request)

NOTE: You may complete the form online or by hand. If completing by hand, print neatly and legibly in ink, and completely fill in each applicable check box to help expedite processing of the form.

1. VETERAN'S NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)

2. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

3. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)

4. VA FILE NUMBER (If applicable)

5. INSURANCE NUMBER (If applicable)

6. CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS (Number and street or rural route, P.O. Box, City, State, ZIP Code and Country)

No. & Street

Apt./Unit Number

City

State/Province

Country

ZIP Code/Postal Code

7. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)

Enter International Phone Number (If applicable)

8. E-MAIL ADDRESS ☐ I agree to receive electronic correspondence from VA in regards to my claim.

SECTION II: CLAIMANT'S IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION *(If other than veteran)*

9. CLAIMANT'S NAME (First, Middle Initial, Last)

10. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

11. VA FILE NUMBER (If applicable)

12. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)

13. CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS (Number and street or rural route, P.O. Box, City, State, ZIP Code and Country)

No. & Street

Apt./Unit Number

City

State/Province

Country

ZIP Code/Postal Code

14. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)

Enter International Phone Number (If applicable)

15. E-MAIL ADDRESS ☐ I agree to receive electronic correspondence from VA in regards to my claim.

SECTION III: REASON(S) FOR REQUEST *(This information is required in order to complete your request)*

16. HOMELESS INFORMATION *(Check all that apply)*

16A. ARE YOU CURRENTLY HOMELESS OR AT RISK OF BECOMING HOMELESS?

☐ YES (If "YES," complete Items 16B through 16D regarding your living situation)

☐ NO (If "NO," skip to Item 17)

SECTION III: REASON(S) FOR REQUEST *(Continued)*

16B. WHICH OF THESE STATEMENTS BEST DESCRIBES YOUR LIVING SITUATION? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ I LIVE OR SLEEP OVERNIGHT IN A PLACE THAT IS NOT MEANT FOR REGULAR SLEEPING (e.g., a car, park, abandoned building, bus station, train station, airport, or camp ground)
- ☐ I LIVE IN A SHELTER (e.g., a hotel or motel that is meant for temporary stays)
- ☐ I AM STAYING WITH A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER, BECAUSE I AM UNABLE TO OWN A HOME RIGHT NOW
- ☐ IN THE NEXT 30 DAYS, I WILL HAVE TO LEAVE A FACILITY, LIKE A HOMELESS SHELTER
- ☐ IN THE NEXT 30 DAYS, I WILL LOSE MY HOME
  (Note: This selection includes any house, apartment, trailer, or other living space that you own, rent, or live in without paying rent, any hotels or motels that are meant for temporary stays, or a living space that you share with others.)
- ☐ NONE OF THESE SITUATIONS APPLY TO ME

(Note: We understand that you may have other housing risks not listed here. If you feel comfortable sharing more about your situation, you can check 'other' and specify in the space provided. Or you can check 'other' and not include any details. We will use this information only to prioritize your request.)

- ☐ OTHER (Specify)

16C. POINT OF CONTACT (Name of person VA can contact in order to get in touch with you)	16D. POINT OF CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) ___ – ___ – ____ Enter International Phone Number (If applicable)

17. OTHER REASON(S)/CIRCUMSTANCES FOR REQUEST *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ EXPERIENCING EXTREME FINANCIAL HARDSHIP
- ☐ TERMINALLY ILL
- ☐ MEDAL OF HONOR/PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT
- ☐ DIAGNOSED WITH AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS (ALS) ALSO KNOWN AS LOU GEHRIG'S DISEASE
- ☐ 85 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
- ☐ VERY SERIOUSLY INJURED/ILL OR SERIOUSLY ILL/INJURED (VSI/SI) DURING MILITARY SERVICE
- ☐ FORMER PRISONER OF WAR (Provide date(s) of confinement) (MM/DD/YYYY):

FROM: Month __ – Day __ – Year ____ TO: Month __ – Day __ – Year ____

FROM: Month __ – Day __ – Year ____ TO: Month __ – Day __ – Year ____

SECTION IV: REPORT OF MEDICAL TREATMENT *(If applicable)*

18. LIST VA MEDICAL CENTERS (VAMC), DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD) MILITARY TREATMENT FACILITIES (MTF), OR PRIVATE MEDICAL FACILITIES WHERE YOU WERE TREATED FOR THE CIRCUMSTANCE YOU IDENTIFIED IN ITEM 17 AND PROVIDE APPROXIMATE BEGINNING DATE OF TREATMENT

18A. NAME AND LOCATION OF TREATMENT FACILIY	18B. DATE OF TREATMENT
NAME/LOCATION OF TREATMENT FACILITY	DATE OF TREATMENT (MM/DD/YYYY) __ – __ – ____
NAME/LOCATION OF TREATMENT FACILITY	DATE OF TREATMENT (MM/DD/YYYY) __ – __ – ____
NAME/LOCATION OF TREATMENT FACILITY	DATE OF TREATMENT (MM/DD/YYYY) __ – __ – ____
NAME/LOCATION OF TREATMENT FACILITY	DATE OF TREATMENT (MM/DD/YYYY) __ – __ – ____

VETERAN'S SSN ☐☐☐ – ☐☐ – ☐☐☐☐

SECTION V: CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

I CERTIFY THAT I have completed this form and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

19A. REQUESTER SIGNATURE **(REQUIRED)**	19B. DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY) ☐☐ – ☐☐ – ☐☐☐☐

SECTION VI: THIRD PARTY SIGNATURE
(Only required if requester has an authorized third party)

I CERTIFY THAT the veteran/claimant has authorized me as the undersigned representative and certifies that the information contained in this document is true and complete to the best of the veteran/claimant's knowledge.

NOTE: A third-party signature ***will not*** be accepted unless a valid VA Form 21-0845, *Authorization to Disclose Personal Information to a Third-Party*, is of record or attached to this request. A third-party may be a family member or other designated person who is not a Power of Attorney, agent, or fiduciary.

20A. THIRD PARTY SIGNATURE **(REQUIRED)**	20B. DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY) ☐☐ – ☐☐ – ☐☐☐☐

SECTION VII: POWER OF ATTORNEY (POA) SIGNATURE
(Required only if requester has an authorized POA representation)

I CERTIFY THAT the veteran/claimant has authorized me as the undersigned representative and certifies that the information contained in this document is true and complete to the best of the veteran/claimant's knowledge.

NOTE: A POA's signature ***will not*** be accepted unless a valid VA Form 21-22, *Appointment of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative,* or VA Form 21-22a, *Appointment of Individual as Claimant's Representative,* is of record or attached to this request.

21A. POWER OF ATTORNEY (POA) SIGNATURE **(REQUIRED)**	21B. DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY) ☐☐ – ☐☐ – ☐☐☐☐

PENALTY: The law provides severe penalties (including fine and/or imprisonment) for willfully submitting any statement or evidence of a material fact you know to be false, or for fraudulent receipt of any document you are not entitled to.

PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION: VA will not disclose information collected on this form to any source other than what has been authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974 or Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.576 for routine uses (i.e., civil or criminal law enforcement, congressional communications, epidemiological or research studies, the collection of money owed to the United States, litigation in which the United States is a party or has an interest, the administration of VA programs and delivery of VA benefits, verification of identity and status, and personnel administration) as identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pension, Education, and Veteran Readiness and Employment Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is voluntary.

RESPONDENT BURDEN: An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control Number. The OMB control number for this project is 2900-0877, and it expires 08/31/2026. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 7 minutes per respondent, per year, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate and any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden to VA Reports Clearance Officer at **VACOPaperworkReduAct@VA.gov**. Please refer to OMB Control No. 2900-0877 in any correspondence. Do not send your completed VA Form 20-10207 to this email address.