U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

YOUR RIGHT TO SEEK REVIEW OF OUR DECISION

This document outlines your right to seek review of our decision on any issue with which you disagree. You may generally select any one of the three different review options for each issue decided by VA. However, you may not request review of the same issue using more than one option at the same time. Below is information on the three different review options.

	Supplemental Claim	OR	Higher-Level Review	OR	Board Appeal
By Selecting This Option	You are adding or identifying new and relevant evidence to support your claim that we did not previously consider. VA will assist you in gathering new and relevant evidence that you identify to support your claim and determine whether the evidence changes the prior decision. You are entitled to a hearing at any time in the supplemental claim process.		You have no additional evidence to submit to support your claim, but you believe there was an error in the prior decision. A Higher-Level Reviewer will review your decision using the same evidence VA considered in the prior decision. You can request an optional, one-time, informal conference with the Higher-Level Reviewer to identify specific errors in the case, although requesting this conference may delay the review. To request the conference, complete the informal conference section on the form.		You are appealing to a Veterans Law Judge at the Board of Veterans' Appeals (Board). When you select this option, you must choose a docket: **Direct Review** - You do not want to submit evidence or have a hearing. **Evidence Submission** - You choose to submit additional evidence without a hearing. **Hearing** - You choose to have a hearing with a Veterans Law Judge.
How To File	**VA Form 20-0995** *Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim* This form is available at www.va.gov/find-forms or use the QR code to access more information and find the form online.		**VA Form 20-0996** *Decision Review Request: Higher-Level Review* This form is available at www.va.gov/find-forms or use the QR code to access more information and find the form online.		**VA Form 10182** *Decision Review Request: Board Appeal (Notice of Disagreement)* This form is available at www.va.gov/find-forms or use the QR code to access more information and find the form online.

For most VA benefits, **you have 1 year from the date on your decision notice to request a decision review to ensure the earliest possible effective date.** Consult your decision notice for specific limitations.

What to Know About Submission Timelines After 1 Year

If you do not submit a decision review request within 1 year from the date of your decision notice, you may only seek review through the following:

- A request to revise the decision based on a clear and unmistakable error, or
- A Supplemental Claim. If you file a Supplemental Claim after the **1-year** time limit, the effective date for any resulting award of benefits generally will be tied to the date VA receives the Supplemental Claim.

What to Know About Supplemental Claim Hearings

If you wish to have a hearing during the supplemental claim process, you can contact us online through Ask VA: https://ask.va.gov/ or call us toll-free at 1-800-827-1000 (TTY:711).

Limitations on the Type of Decision Review You May Request

While most decision review options are available to you, there are limitations based on the type of decision you received.

- If you are a party to a **contested claim** - such as claims for apportionment, attorney fee disagreement, or multiple parties filing for survivor's benefits or claims for life insurance - your *only* option for disagreeing with your decision is to file a Board Appeal within **60 days** of the date on your decision notice.
- If you are seeking review of an **insurance decision** you have an *additional* option to challenge VA's decision by filing a complaint with a United States district court in the jurisdiction in which you reside within 6 years from when the right of action first accrues. Consult your decision notice for details on what options are available and where to send the request.
- If you are seeking review of a Supplemental Claim decision, you may file another Supplemental Claim with new relevant evidence, you may request a Higher-Level Review, or you may file a Board Appeal.
- If you are seeking review of a Higher-Level Review decision, you may file a Supplemental Claim with new and relevant evidence or you may file a Board Appeal.
- If you are seeking review of a Board decision, you may file a Supplemental Claim with new and relevant evidence or appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

How You Can Get Help with Your Review Request

For more information on all the available review options, contact us at 1-800-827-1000 or visit www.va.gov/decision-reviews/. If you need help filing a decision review, you may want to work with an accredited attorney, claims agent, or a Veterans Service Organization (VSO) representative. Additional information about working with an accredited attorney, claims agent, or VSO representative is available at www.va.gov/decision-reviews/get-help-with-review-request/. You can find a searchable database of VA-recognized representatives at www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation.