

Veteran Readiness & Employment (VR&E)

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Chapter 31 Services

Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E)

If you have a service-connected disability that limits your ability to work or prevents you from working VR&E can help. Educational and Career/Vocational Counseling services is a great opportunity for Veterans and Servicemembers to get personalized counseling and support to help guide their career paths, ensure most effective use of their VA benefits, and achieve their goals.

Who May Apply

- **Transitioning Service Members who are within six months prior to discharge from active duty**
- **Veteran within one year following discharge from active duty**
- **Any Service Member/Veteran currently eligible for a VA education benefit**
- **All current VA education beneficiaries**

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VR&E Program Intent

- **Provide services to assist Veterans and Servicemembers with service-connected disabilities to succeed:**
  - In transition … through services to support transition back to civilian life
  - At work … through services resulting in suitable employment
  - On campus … through services to support them during education and training
  - At home … and in their communities … through services to maximize independence in daily living

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VR&E Eligibility Criteria

Veterans:

- Honorable or other than dishonorable discharge
- A VA service-connected disability rating of 10 percent or more; or memorandum rating of 20 percent
- Apply for Veteran Readiness and Employment benefits

Active Duty Servicemembers:

- Expect to receive an honorable discharge
- Obtain a VA memorandum rating of 20 percent or more
- Obtain a Proposed Disability Evaluation Service (DES) rating
- Servicemembers awaiting discharge due to a medical condition resulting from a serious injury or illness that occurred in the line of duty may be automatically entitled to VR&E benefits under the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2008.
- Apply for Veteran Readiness and Employment benefits

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VR&E Basic Benefit Information

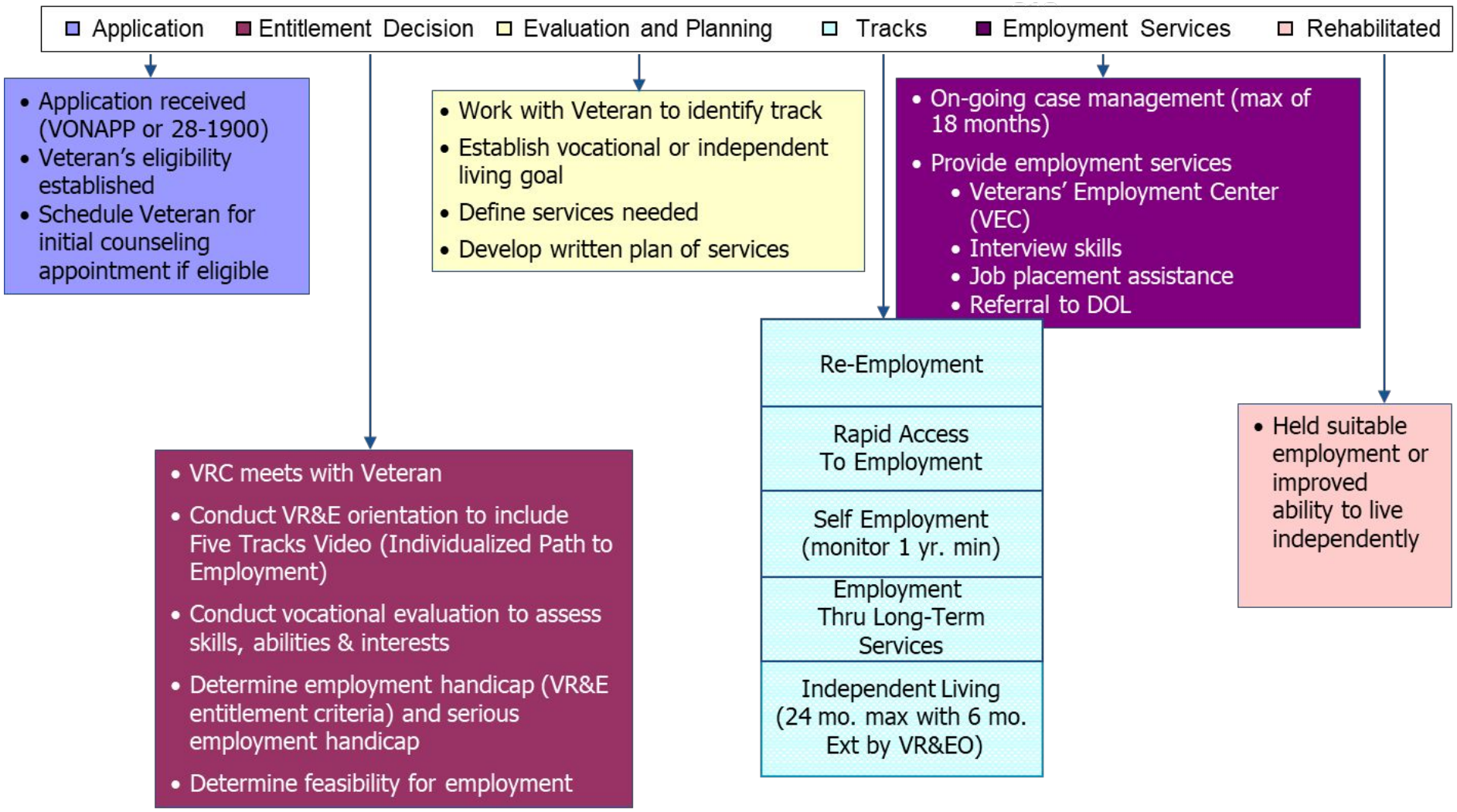
- **A maximum of 48 months of entitlement**

- **May be utilized within 12 years from the date of initial VA disability rating notification. The 12-year period begins on the latter of these dates:**
  - **Note: Effective January 5, 2021, the 12-year eligibility period does not apply to claimants who were discharged or released from active military service on or after January 1, 2013.**
  - Date of separation from active military duty, or
  - Date when the Veteran was first notified of a service-connected disability rating

- **Exception for Veterans with a Serious Employment Handicap**

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VR&E Process



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5 Tracks to Employment

- **Re-employment – Return to work previously held (USERRA)**
- **Rapid Access to Employment – Obtain employment quickly as possible**
- **Employment through Long-Term Services – Majority of Veterans pursue**
- **Independent Living Services – Veterans who cannot pursue vocational goal but need assistance with daily living and independence**
- **Self-Employment - claimants who have the necessary job skills to start a business and for those who have limited access to traditional employment or require a more accommodating work environment due to the effects of a disability. Most difficult track for Veterans**

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VR&E Benefits and GI Bill

Is the VR&E Program the same as the GI Bill?

- No. GI Bill is an educational program.

The purpose of the VR&E Program is to help Veterans with service-connected disabilities and barriers to employment to become suitably employed.

Four of the Five VR&E Tracks of Services are geared specifically toward employment

The "E" in VR&E stands for the program's mission to assist Veterans and Servicemembers with obtaining suitable Employment.

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VR&E Employment Focus

The VR&E Program provides employment services in four of the five rehabilitation tracks. Personalized employment services may include:

- Work-readiness preparation
- Resume development and job-seeking skills
- Employment resources development
- Job accommodations
- Job placement assistance
- Post-Employment Follow-up
- Evaluation of your abilities, aptitudes, and interests
- Career counseling and rehabilitation planning

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VR&E Employment Focus

Other Employment Services may include:

- **Referrals to other employment resources**
  - Veterans Employment Center (VEC)
    Online tools that connects Veterans and employers
    Access through https://www.va.gov/

  - Department of Labor (DOL)
    Employment Assistance
    Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialist (DVOP)
    Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER)

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Applying for Services

Online

- https://www.va.gov
- Veteran Readiness and Employment Orientation | Veteran Affairs (va.gov)

Mail or deliver application to the nearest local VA Regional Office

- 56 Regional Offices around the US
- Address:

Veterans Readiness and Employment (VR&E) Intake Center
P.O. Box 5210
Janesville, WI 53547-5210

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Alabama AOR

Montgomery Regional Office (Main Office) – Montgomery, Alabama

Department of Veterans Affairs VR&E (28) 345 Perry Hill Road Montgomery, AL 36109-3798

Out Stations:

Birmingham

Department of Veterans Affairs VR&E (28) 950 22nd St., North, Suite # 777 Birmingham, AL 35203

Daleville

Department of Veterans Affairs VR&E (28) 807 Donnell Blvd., # 1 Daleville, AL 36322

Huntsville

Department of Veterans Affairs VR&E (28) 400 Meridian Street, # 101 Huntsville, AL 35801

Mobile

Department of Veterans Affairs VR&E (28) 900 Western America Circle, # 104 Mobile, AL 36609

Ft. Walton

Department of Veterans Affairs VR&E (28) 411 NE Racetrack Road Ft. Walton, FL 32547

Pensacola

Department of Veterans Affairs VR&E (28) 1009 N 12th Ave Pensacola, FL 32501

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Thank You!



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