

Retroactive Compensation Pay Project

Presently, more than 140,000 military retirees are or were entitled to dual payments as a result of CRSC and CRDP. Some are due money solely from the military, some are due money solely from VA, and some are due money from both Departments. Effective November 1, 2006, an initial group of 29,688 retirees were referred to VA for possible payment of previously withheld compensation. Of that number, over 28,000 were successfully paid without field station involvement with total payments amounting to more than \$43 million. The November group involved retirees due payment because of CRDP only.

How Retirees Are Selected for Payment

The military retired pay centers govern the order in which retirees' accounts in the current 140,000-retiree potential retroactive pay pool is reviewed. Generally speaking, the retirement pay centers divided the retirees in the identified population into three groups. A retiree in "Level 1" is referred to VA for consideration of retroactive compensation.

Level 1: Retirees for whom there is sufficient information in the retiree pay records to calculate potential retroactive monthly benefits due.

Level 2: Retiree pay records that are missing one or more pieces of data required to calculate potential entitlement. The retired pay centers believe that the missing data for most Level 2 retirees exists in other electronic systems at the payment centers. Importing that data into the pay file will likely enable the record to become a Level 1 record. In some cases, however, a review of historical paper records may be necessary to obtain the data that will enable a retiree's pay file to be updated and moved to Level 1.

Level 3: These are the most complex and difficult records. Level 3, for the most part, consists of the following types of retiree records:

- Retirees who are now deceased but appear to have had some entitlement.
- Retirees who have garnishments due to alimony.
- Retirees with debts.
- Retirees with other garnishments and offsets.

VA's Self Identification of Targeted Disabilities

SPEECH IMPAIRMENTS

- Severe speech malfunction or inability to speak; hearing is normal (Examples: defects of articulation (unclear language sounds); stuttering; aphasia (impaired language function); laryngectomy (removal of the "voice box"))

HEARING IMPAIRMENTS

- Hard of hearing (Total deafness in one ear or inability to hear ordinary conversation, correctable with a hearing aid)
- Total deafness in both ears, with understandable speech
- Total deafness in both ears, and unable to speak clearly

VISION IMPAIRMENTS

- Ability to read ordinary size print with glasses, but with loss of peripheral (side) vision (Restriction of the visual field to the extent that mobility is affected-"Tunnel vision")
- Inability to read ordinary size print, not correctable by glasses (Can read oversized print or use assisting devices such as glass or projector modifier)
- Blind in one eye
- Blind in both eyes (No usable vision, but may have some light perception)

MISSING EXTREMITIES

- One hand
- One arm
- One foot
- One leg
- Both hands or arms
- Both feet or legs
- One hand or arm and one foot or leg
- One hand or arm and both feet or legs
- Both hands or arms and one foot or leg
- Both hands or arms and both feet or legs

NONPARALYTIC ORTHOPEDIC IMPAIRMENTS (Because of chronic pain, stiffness, or weakness in bones or joints, there is some loss of ability to move or use a part or parts of the body)

- One or both hands
- One or both feet
- One or both arms
- One or both legs
- Hip or pelvis
- Back

Any combination of two or more parts of the body

PARTIAL PARALYSIS

(Because of a brain, nerve, or muscle problem, including palsy and cerebral palsy, there is some loss of ability to move or use a part of the body, including legs, arms, and/or trunk.)

- One hand
- One arm, any part
- One leg, any part
- Both hands
- Both legs, any part
- Both arms, any part
- One side of body, including one arm and one leg
- Three or more major parts of the body (arms and legs)

COMPLETE PARALYSIS

(Because of a brain, nerve, or muscle problem, including palsy and cerebral palsy, there is a complete loss of ability to move or use a part of the body, including legs, arms, and/or trunk.)

- One hand
- Both hands
- One arm
- Both arms
- One leg
- Both legs
- Lower half of body, including legs
- One side of body, including one arm and one leg
- Three or more major parts of the body (arms and legs)

OTHER IMPAIRMENTS

- Heart disease with no restriction or limitation of activity (History of heart problems with complete recovery)
- Heart disease with restriction or limitation of activity
- Convulsive disorder (e.g., epilepsy)
- Blood diseases (e.g., sickle cell anemia, leukemia, hemophilia)
- Diabetes
- Pulmonary or respiratory disorders (e.g., tuberculosis, emphysema, asthma)
- Kidney dysfunctioning (e.g., if dialysis [Use of an artificial kidney machine] is required)
- Cancer-a history of cancer with complete recovery
- Cancer-undergoing surgical and medical treatment
- Mental retardation (A chronic and lifelong condition involving a limited ability to learn, to be educated, and to be trained for useful productive employment as certified by a State Vocational Rehabilitation agency under section 213.3102(t) of Schedule A)
- Mental or emotional illness (A history of treatment for mental or emotional problems)
- Severe distortion of limbs and/or spine (e.g., dwarfism, kyphosis [severe distortion of back])
- Disfigurement of face, hands, or feet (e.g., distortion of features on skin, such as those caused by burns, gunshot injuries, and birth defects [gross facial birthmarks, club feet, etc.]
- Learning disability (A disorder in one or more of the processes involved in understanding, perceiving, or using language or concepts [spoken or written]; e.g., dyslexia)

If you believe you suffer from any of the above, please contact your [Veteran Service Officer \(VSO\)](#) immediately.