

## **ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AVAILABLE to VETERANS RATED 100% PERMANENTLY and TOTALLY DISABLED by the VA**

If a veteran's 100% rating is NOT permanent and total they **WILL** be medically re-evaluated at some point by VA, and their rating adjusted based on those new results. This can result in a rating decrease. ***But a Veteran whose 100% rating is determined by VA to be "permanent and total" is not usually subjected to re-evaluation and is also eligible for additional benefits based on their 100% PT rating, including those outlined below.***

Note: VA will rate a veteran 100% "Total" without being "Permanent" in situations when a medical exam determines that the rated disability may or can improve. You can tell if a 100% award is Permanent and Total (P&T) if the decision notification letter mentions eligibility for both "Dependents Educational Assistance" and "Chapter 35 Benefits".

**1) VA Co-Pay Reimbursement:** If you have been paying Co-Pays and your new Rating Decision is retroactive then you can ask VA to reimburse you for those payments back to the date of the rating.

**2) Dependents Educational Assistance (DEA):** This first proves that VA has deemed your disabilities to be "Permanent and Total" (P&T). It allows your spouse and children to be eligible for certain educational benefits.

A qualifying child of a veteran is authorized 45 months of accredited schooling. VA presently pays a monthly stipend of up to \$975 for a full-time student. If a child has been in school and then the veteran receives a retroactive benefit that includes the school dates, then the student can file for reimbursement for the months that he/she qualified from that retroactive date forward. Under certain circumstances where VA deems it needful, a student may receive an extension on the initial 45 months.

A qualified student is usually 18-23 years of age, and a spouse can also qualify for schooling. **Keep in mind that this is the student's or spouse's benefit drawn on the veteran's grant. The student/spouse must handle all of the paperwork.**

### **3) CHAMPVA Health Insurance for the Spouse and Dependent Children:**

This is an excellent benefit for the spouse/children. Dependents who are eligible for both CHAMPVA and TriCare, by law, must enroll in TriCare. All Medicare eligible applicants must be enrolled in both Medicare Part A and B, however CHAMPVA may replace a costly Medicare supplement. While Veterans must receive their care at/through the VA, their CHAMPVA enrolled dependents can receive care in the private sector from providers who are approved by CHAMPVA to do so (most providers who accept other insurances will also accept CHAMPVA coverage).

There can be some out-of-pocket costs incurred for covered medical services, however there is no monthly premium for CHAMPVA coverage. ChampVA is located in Denver, CO and they are very easy to work with.

*Your local VSO can help you with the initial application forms for enrollment, however **CHAMPVA is the spouse's benefit so he/she/they will have to coordinate with CHAMPVA regarding their benefits.***

VA Health Administration Center

CHAMPVA

P.O. Box 65023 Denver, CO 80206-9023

(800) 733-8387

Fax: (303) 331-7804

<https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/providers/info-champva.asp>

Of course any parent can coordinate for dependent children. The applicant will use the veteran's Claims File number (in upper right hand corner of the VA Rating Decision letter) in order to make the initial ChampVA application request. A county Veterans Service Officer can assist you with these forms.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** If a spouse/children have had any out-of-pocket medical expenses during the time of the veteran's retroactive grant period they can submit them to ChampVA after being approved, and ChampVA will reimburse the expenses. This can be a substantial amount if there have been significant health issues. ChampVA can council you as to forms needed and the procedure used for this type of request.

**NOTE: ChampVA does not cover Dental, Eyeglasses and Elective procedures.**

ChampVA has a "Meds by Mail" program that is very good.

A new law was passed awhile back that gives the spouse "ChampVA for Life". There are stipulations if a divorce is involved.

#### 4) Dental Coverage:

All 100% service-connected veterans are allowed dental care through the VA healthcare system (not ChampVA)

Note: Veterans going through Vocational Rehabilitation are also eligible for some dental care.

#### 5) VA Life Insurance:

When a veteran is deemed 100% Schedular or TDIU VA will grant a \$10,000.00 insurance policy and "waive" the premiums. *A VA criterion states that you must have been granted a "NEW" service-connected condition in the past 2 years to qualify.* It cannot be an increase of an existing condition. **You have only two years from the time of the decision to apply.** Note: VA is now offering this to 70% veterans. The VA insurance division will determine if you qualify for this benefit.

**The key on the application is to write "WAIVED" in the monthly premium amount box when applying for the 10K amount.** VA also offers other small policies, but prices may not be very competitive.

Call this number and tell them your new rating and that you would like to file for the insurance. Contact them at 1 (800) 669-8477 or by filing online at [www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov).

#### 6) Uniformed Services Identification Cards:

The veteran, spouse and children can apply for this card. They are very similar to an old military I.D. card. They are issued by the Department of Defense and allow you to access military facilities. More information is available at: <https://www.cac.mil/Next-Generation-Uniformed-Services-ID-Card/>

If VA did not provide a letter that can be used to verify your rating status without disclosing personal health information, then call your VA Regional Office Public Contact Team, or your claims POA, and ask them to send you a letter verifying that you are a "100% Permanent and Total" disabled veteran. (You can usually use your 'tax letter' for this purpose if you have a current one). The application form is complex and it is recommended that you just take it with you when you apply. Appointments may be required. More information can be found regarding the application process at

[https://www.cac.mil/Portals/53/Documents/FAQs\\_Next%20Gen%20USID%20Card.pdf?ver=2020-07-27-143939-847](https://www.cac.mil/Portals/53/Documents/FAQs_Next%20Gen%20USID%20Card.pdf?ver=2020-07-27-143939-847)

And ID Card Office Locator & Appointments can be found online at: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>

The veteran's ID is marked "PERM" and is for life. The spouse/children I.D.'s are marked "TEMP" and must be renewed every 5 years.

These cards will say "MWR" on them. This means "Morale, Welfare and Recreation". You can use facilities at military bases to include: Exchanges, Commissaries and Recreation facilities. The latter can include Tickets for concerts, boating, weight room, etc. You can even rent items like boats, BBQ's, lawn mowers, rototillers, etc.

To find lots of information on MWR go to: [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) , then type in MWR.

You can also use the card for hotels/motels. Ask for AARP, AAA rates, etc., then ask them for the "Government Rate" or "Veteran Rate". It's usually a few dollars less.

We are authorized to fly "Space A" on USCG transportation

You can stay at "Bachelors Enlisted/Officer Quarters" (BEQ/BOQ) on military bases for \$15-30 a night or you can use their "Lodging" which can run \$45-75. They are nice facilities.

### **7) Free or discounted Hunting and Fishing License/Tags:**

Check your State using the link below:

<https://www.iowadnr.gov/Portals/idnr/uploads/forms/5421412.pdf?ver=1MGWtuHkpQIm-rMU6-3rwg%3d%3d>

### **8) Property Tax Break:**

100% Permanent and Totally Disabled Veterans and those awarded permanent Individual Unemployability status may apply for property tax exemption on their primary dwelling for the current assessment year (and those subsequent.) Contact your County Veterans Affairs Office for details.

### **9) Golden Access Passport:**

The name of this passport has been changed, but the benefits are very similar. If you have the old passport then you can use it as the Federal government will not give you a new one.

The new pass is called "America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass".

The pass allows for 50% off Camping/recreation in Federal Parks. Some State and County Parks will honor it. Here is a link. Be sure to take your Rating Decision letter. [www.nps.gov/fees\\_passes.htm](http://www.nps.gov/fees_passes.htm)

### **10) To check for additional State benefits in IA go to**

<https://dva.iowa.gov/benefits-assistance/benefits>

### **11) Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC):**

The DIC "Clock starts Ticking" once a veteran is rated 100% "Total" or "Permanent and Total". This allows his spouse and dependent children under 18 years of age to receive a monthly benefit if:

- a) The veteran passes of a "service-connected" disability within the first 10 years of being rated 100%.
- b) If the veteran lives the full 10 years then he can pass of any disability.

Currently the monthly payment for DIC is approximately \$1,612.75.

**A widow approved for DIC can also apply for CHAMPVA enrollment.**

Source:

<https://filetransfer.nashville.gov/portals/0/sitecontent/HumanResources/Veterans%20Services/ADDITIONAL%20BENEFITS%20WHEN%20RATED%20100.pdf>

## 12) Travel Pay: (41.5 cents per mile)

All veterans are allowed travel reimbursement for scheduled VA appointments if they are rated 30% service-connected or higher.

VA will also pay travel pay on a “needs basis”. This means if a veteran is under a certain income level then he/she will be paid for scheduled visits.

Claims must be filed with the VAHC system by the Veteran to receive their qualified travel pay.

VA will pay for travel to “Claims and Pension” (C&P) examinations. (this is done automatically).

## 13) “Independent Living Services Program” (ILSP). (VA Healthcare staff must assist w this one)

This is a little known benefit designed to assist any disabled veteran to live a better quality of life despite their service- connected disabilities.

The program shows up briefly on the Vocational Rehabilitation Form 28-1900. I believe that VA has changed the wording on the form to further disguise the program. In fact, they changed the name to “Independent Living Program”. Here is a link to the VA Form 28-1900:

<http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-28-1900-ARE.pdf>

You’ll note on the instructions under “Rehabilitation Services” is states the following:

*“If training is appropriate, VA will provide medical and dental care treatment, employment assistance to get and keep a suitable job, and other services you may need. If a vocational goal is not currently feasible for you, VA may provide services and assistance to improve your capacity for living independently.”*

Here is a link to the Independent Living Program on the VA website:

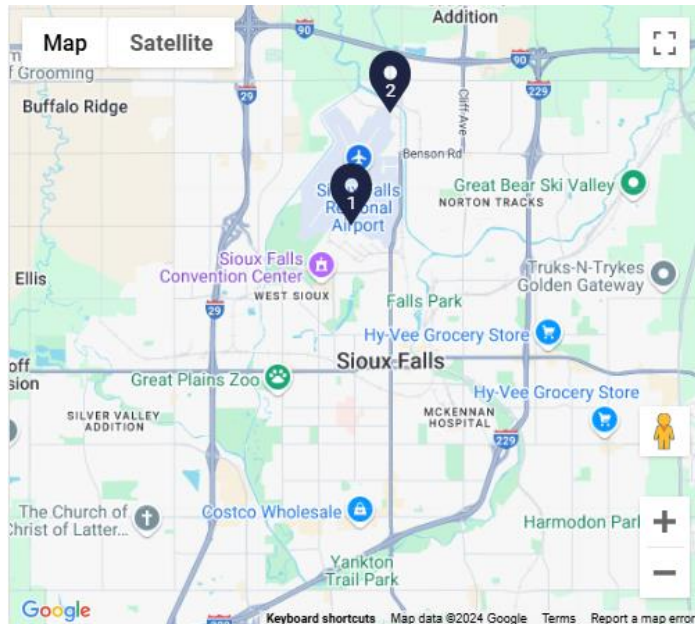
<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/ilp.htm>

The Independent Living program is to make sure that each eligible veteran is able, to the maximum extent possible, to live independently and participate in family and community life increasing their potential to return to work. Services may include the following:

- Assistive technology
- Specialized medical, health, and / or rehabilitation services
- Services to address any personal and / or family adjustment issues
- Independent living skills training
- Connection with community-based support services

**REQUIRED FOR CAC REISSUANCE: All CAC reissuance customers are required to have 2 original identity documents (from the "List of Acceptable Documents" on <https://www.cac.mil/>) in their record. Please bring these documents with you to the ID card site. If your documents are not in your record, your current CAC CANNOT be used as a required identity document.**

## **Uniformed Services -100% PT Disabled Veteran - ID Card Office Locator & Appointments**



### **1. 114th FW South Dakota ANG Sioux Falls**

**1201 W Algonquin St  
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104  
(605) 988-5845**



#### **Office Hours**

**Sunday:**  
**Monday:** 6:45 AM - 5:30 PM  
**Tuesday:** 6:45 AM - 5:30 PM  
**Wednesday:** 6:45 AM - 5:30 PM  
**Thursday:** 6:45 AM - 5:30 PM  
**Friday:** 6:45 AM - 5:30 PM  
**Saturday:**

#### **Important Site Information:**

#### **Required Documents:**

Please make sure to bring 2 current, not expired, forms of identification with you to your appointment. - Military ID - Driver's License - Social Security Card - Passport - Birth Certificate - Other State ID with picture

#### **Directions:**

Located south of the Sioux Falls Airport, 1201 W. Algonquin St. Once inside the gate you will continue to a building with the flag pole in front, our building is the only one on base with flag. Right before the flag there is a small parking lot with Customer Service parking. Enter the main doors of Building 60. Once inside the building you will go down the hall to the right, last door on your right hand side.

#### **New Dependent-Retired Cards:**

If you are a dependent or retiree with an INDEF Identification card that is colored you will need to update your Identification card as well. Everyone should be transitioned to the new identification cards by 2026.

#### **Number of Cards per Appt:**

Please note we are only able to make 1 Identification card per appointment time so please make sure to make enough appointments for your family.

#### **Blocked Cards:**

If you are scheduling an appointment due to a "BLOCKED" Identification card please call (605-988-5845) and talk to someone to get in sooner. If no answer, please leave a message and we will call you back ASAP.

Source: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/locator>

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**New Scheduling Website:**

Starting May 1 [2024] the scheduling website will change to the following:

<https://114thforcesupportsquadron.setmore.com/>

**2. 196th MEB, Sioux Falls**

**801 W. National Guard Drive  
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104  
(605) 357-2900**

**Office Hours**

Sunday:  
Monday:  
Tuesday: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Wednesday: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Thursday: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Friday: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Saturday:

**Walk-In Hours**

Sunday:  
Monday:  
Tuesday: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Wednesday: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Thursday: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Friday: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Saturday:

**3. 185th FW Iowa ANG Sioux City**

**2920 HEADQUARTERS AVE  
SIOUX CITY, IA 51111  
(712) 233-0534**

**Office Hours**

Sunday:  
Monday:  
Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM  
Wednesday:  
Thursday: 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM  
Friday:  
Saturday:

