

**Operator:**

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome and thank you for joining today's webinar overview of the US veteran's benefits administration. Before we begin, please ensure you open the chat panel by using the associated icon located at the bottom of your screen. If you require technical assistance, please send a chat to the event producer. Please note that all connections are muted until the Q&A portion of the call. We will provide you instructions on how to ask a question at that time.

You may submit a written question at any time by selecting all panelists from the drop-down menu in the chat panel, enter your question in the message box and send. This webinar is being recorded and the recording and presentation slides will be emailed to the attendees. With that, I'll turn the call over to Christopher Taylor acting Deputy Director for the Field Policy and Management in the US department of housing and urban development. Please go ahead.

**Christopher Taylor:**

Thank you so much and good afternoon, everyone and welcome to today's webinar. Today's webinar is co-hosted by the United States department of housing, urban development, and us department of veteran affairs. As you just heard my name is Christopher Taylor work in the office of field policy and management, which oversees the departments place based initiatives, including the envision center demonstration. As they designated envision center site, HUD commits to you that we will help enhance the services that you provide to your communities under the four pillars of self sufficiency economic power, educational advancement, health, and wellness, and character and leadership. I personally want to thank you all for your continued service and hard work to help your communities and partners during the ongoing pandemic in economic and social challenges. We appreciate our federal partner at the VA for being available to talk with our envisions center sites today about the veteran's benefits administration.

Many of you serve veterans or are veterans yourself, and we thought it was important to highlight the critical resources and services that the VA offers. We are hoping the knowledge shared by our presenter today will help enhance how the envision center serve their communities. Without further ado I have the honor of introducing Julian Wright from the VAs veteran's benefits administration. Mr. Wright is the foreign services program manager and minority veterans program manager with the VBA. Mr. Wright is an army veteran and an employee of the VA for over 25 years. During his career Mr. Wright has worked as a vocational rehabilitation and employment specialist at the Washington VA medical center where he assists veterans who were diagnosed with severe mental illness and operation Iraqi freedom, operation enduring freedom veterans who were diagnosed with PTSD and traumatic brain injuries find and maintain private sector and government employment. He has also mentored new veteran's services, representatives, employees, Mr. Wright I thank you for your service to this country and taking time to

present today to our vision centers and HUD staff. Mr. Wright, please take it away.

**Julian Wright:**

Thank you so much, Christopher and I also wanted to thank Romeo and Jill for reaching out to me to do a presentation to HUD because one of the things that we do at the VA is we always try to find veterans and their family members to ensure that they are aware of the benefits that they're entitled to receive. I definitely want to take a moment to thank you all for inviting me today to present. I will be providing you with a brief and general overview of VBA and the benefits and services that are available to service members and veterans for their military service. Now, if you want to learn more about VA, please visit the department of veterans' affairs website at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or [www.benefits.va.gov](http://www.benefits.va.gov) to learn about the benefits that I'll cover today. Next slide.

VA is the second largest agency behind the department of defense. There are three administrators within the department of veterans' affairs. We have the Veterans Benefit Administrations, which I'm a part of. We have the Veterans Health Administration VHA and then we have the National Cemetery Administration NCA, and each of our administration has its own mission and caring for service members, veterans' independence. For example, VHA is primarily responsible for providing healthcare to veterans at it's over 1,250 medical facilities to include 170 hospitals and 1074 outpatient sites. One of the things I just wanted to note with the veterans' health administration, you can see just a number of areas that they cover. We have the community-based outpatient clinics what we call C box, and these clinics are actually in the community closer to veterans where they have to travel long distances to VA medical centers.

Then we have vet centers who are primarily for veterans who have been deployed and have seen combat they can actually go to VA centers and receive counseling. Also, family members can receive counseling as well. We have a women's clinic, and then we also have a homeless veteran program at the veterans' health administration. Now, one of the things to note about the homeless veterans' program we do partner with HUD, with our HUD VASH program. Basically, what the HUD VASH program is. We provide vouchers to homeless veterans where they can find a home and basically take them away from the living situation or more of a stable living, living situation.

Then for the NCA, they are primarily responsible for providing the final resting place of veterans and their eligible family members. Now, NCA has over 145 cemeteries in the States and in also US territories. They also provide **[00:07:04 inaudible]** and markers as well as presidential Memorial certificates which are provided to family members with express heartfelt thanks for the veteran service, next slide. Then there's the VBA and so our VBA mission is simply to serve as an advocate for

service members, veterans survivors independence, and deliver benefits and services that honor their service and assist in their readjustment, enhance their lives, and engender their full trust. As noted on this slide, VBA has over 23,000 employees with most of which are veterans that are employed. VBA has a claim processing centers across the country. As you can see, we have 56 regional offices and these regional offices are primarily again, responsible for processing disability and compensation claims, which I'll talk more about a little in our presentation, also our veterans readiness and employment claims. They have some very important missions in caring for veterans. Some of the other things that we have, we have special processing centers, and then we also have call centers where veterans claims can be processed. Next slide.

This map depicts the location of VBA offices to include the regional office, which we do have one that's located in Manila, Philippines. First the VBA has four district offices located in the Pacific region, the continental region, the Southeast region, and the Northeast region. And so, these districts are actually managed by a district director who has oversight of the VBA offices within the district as noted on the previous slide, there are 56 regional offices and 35 special processing centers. Now, one of the things I wanted to note, and it may be a little difficult to see on this particular slide, but we have specialized offices that process claims, for example, claims for education. We have two process and education process and centers that are located in New York and Muskogee, Oklahoma. We have an insurance center that processes, primarily our insurance claims. They are located in Philadelphia, and then we have our loan guarantee processing centers, and we have eight of those locations. Then we also have eight call centers, which are spread out across the country. Next slide.

This office is the office that I'm a part of, which is the outreach and stakeholder engagement. Our primary function is to make sure service members, veterans, family members receive accurate and up to date information on benefits and services offered by VBA. Now, typically we do outreach face to face but of course with the current situation we are in most cases doing outreach via virtual or telephonically as we do it today. In addition, our office manages the special emphasis outreach programs at the national level. However, outreach coordinators at our regional office are the ones that actually conducted the outreach in their local communities.

Then we captured this outreach data, which is string extremely important because it helped us to determine where we need to concentrate our efforts. Data is important as I mentioned, because we actually report the outreach data to our senior level leadership the secretary's office and then we also report our outreach to Congress. We definitely have to make sure when coordinators are reporting or when we're out doing outreach, that the information is accurate. Next slide. As

I mentioned, the special emphasis program are managed by an analyst in my office. It's the program managers that provide oversight and guidance, through the regional office coordinators. We have 14 special emphasis program that I highlighted on this slide. I just wanted to go over a few of them just to give you an idea of what's involved with the program management aspect of it.

We have the casualty and survivor coordinator and again, the program manager is in my office. Basically, the coordinators work with the branches of service. That's the army, Navy, Air force, Marines, and the Coast Guard. Basically, they work with these branches to provide information about benefits and services to family members a service member who has died on active duty. Next, we have our elderly program and the elderly program outreach coordinator provides outreach and VA benefit information along with claims assistance to elderly veterans who are age 65 or older, and then also to their survivors. Then we also have the homeless program, which is a really important program within our office. Basically, our mission is and has been to end veteran homelessness and that is a VA top priority.

It has been that way for several years now. VBA has made great strides with claims processing and then outreach to homeless veterans. Coordinators, who are at the regional office, work both with our internal and external stakeholders to assist veterans who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless. Then we have our justice involved and we often partner with our state County, local government, and nonprofit organizations to develop best practices, to allow regional offices to increase access and outreach to incarcerated veterans. Now, one of the things that I also wanted to note is the program that I manage one of the programs that I manage, which is the minority program, and actually this program was created or initiated by a public law. Basically, what the public law we provide assistance to African American veterans, Asian, Pacific Islanders, Native American, Alaska Native and Hispanic veterans with accessing VA benefits. We also work with tribal and Native American veterans. Just recently we had some campaigns where we have been doing virtual webinars for tribal communities, just to make sure that they are aware of just the different benefits that we offer. That's what we've been doing and continue to do until we are able to actually go out and do face to face outreach. Now for the next slide, we're going to- next slide.

**Operator:** This is the slide or do you want me to advance more?

**Julian Wright:** No, this is fine.

**Operator:** Sure.

**Julian Wright:**

I'm sorry. Disability compensation is a tax free, monthly benefit paid to veterans who are disabled by injury or disease that was incurred or aggravated by the active duty military service. Now, the key to this benefit is that the injury or disease must have resulted from their active duty military service. In VA terms, it must be service connected. It is also important to know that VBA can award disability compensation for both physical injuries and psychological issues such as post traumatic stress disorder. In addition to having a disability that service connected the veteran must receive a discharge other than dis-honorable from service to be eligible for this particular benefit. There are multiple factors that determine them the disability amount or the amount that a veteran will receive. These factors include the degree of the disability. These are usually rated at 10% or more. How many dependants that the veteran has and usually the veteran can add their spouse their dependent children, children that are under age 18 or younger, or if there are attending school beyond 18 years old, they're going to college, for example it that's up to age 23, and then finally the severity of the disability.

Next slide. The next benefit that I would discuss is insurance. Now VA life insurance benefits were developed in consideration of the extra risk involved in putting military service. VA insurance begins in service and can continue if transitioned into veterans life insurance program for the veterans, VA offers several different types of life insurance. One, they offer the service member an automatic coverage under the service members, group life insurance, or which we call Fegley when they entered the active duty. This coverage remains in place 120 days after their separation date from the military, it all also can be extended up to two years after separation. Service members, group life insurance also includes an automatic coverage for spouses and children of service members for a premium and this is called the family service members group life insurance. Next slide.

Now, service members group life insurance also includes an automatic coverage. Service members who suffered severe loss, such as amputation, blindness, or a traumatic service-related injury, and this is called traumatic injury protection. Depending on the type of loss will actually determine the amount of payment the service member will receive. It actually starts off at 25,000 and it maxes out at 100,000. A service member got life insurance can be converted to a civilian program called the veterans group life insurance. This can be renewed for life under the certain conditions, including separation from the military or acquiring a disability. If a veteran wants to convert SGLI to VGLI, he or she must do it within one year and 120 days separation from the military, no health review within the first 240 days from separation. Anything after that, they will require a health review.

VA also offers other insurance related programs such as the service-disabled veterans insurance, and this program office service-connected veterans a supplemental insurance policy. This is actually implemented and up to \$10,000. Then we have the veterans mortgage life insurance which is a mortgage protection insurance that helps families with severely disabled veterans pay off their home loan in the event that the veteran passes away. Now, the veterans mortgage life insurance is only available to service members and veterans with the service connected or severe service-connected disability and who have been awarded a special adaptive housing grant. I'll speak a little bit more about the special adaptive housing grant a little bit later in the presentation.

One final thing about the veterans mortgage life insurance. The veterans must apply for the veterans mortgage life insurance before they reach the age of their 70th birthday. Next slide. Our next benefit is our education program. VBA has an education programs for eligible service members and veterans primarily for the assistance for tuition book fees housing and on the job training. These programs are the post 9-11 GI bill, which some of you may have heard about the Montgomery GI bill for the active duty, the Montgomery GI bill for the selective reserve reservist national guardsmen. Then there's the program for the reserves educational assistance program, which is also for reservists and guards, guardsmen. Eligibility for the post 9-11 GI bill is it's based on the medical service and from after September 10th, 2001 is actually when the post 9-11 GI bill was veterans were able to take advantage of it.

The post 9-11 GI bill offers a host of benefits for service members and veterans. For example, if a veteran is going to school the post 9-11 GI bill pays the institution directly. The veteran doesn't necessarily have to get involved with the payments of the tuition also for books and fees. Again, post 9-11 GI bill takes care of those incidentals. Then we have the Montgomery GI bill, which is for active duty and a two-year commitment is required for at the minimum it's required for this particular education benefit. Now, in order for a veteran to take full advantage while they were serving, they must have a dedicated \$100 a month for 12 months in order to be eligible for this particular education benefit. Then as I mentioned, the Montgomery GI bill is for selective reserve. They must meet a six-year obligation in order to be eligible for this particular benefits. Now, one thing to note is some cases veterans can be eligible for multiple education benefits, but it's based basically up to the veteran to determine which education benefits that would benefit them the most. We've encouraged them to go on to our webpage and there's education comparable education program that they can use to basically help them with comparing education programs that and would show them which program best suits them.

The next slide we have the Henry W Colmery Veterans education assistance pack, which was passed into law six, August 17, 2017 and

basically what this law did was it opened up a lot of provisions that would benefit veterans. For example, with the post 9-11 GI bill before this law veterans that were utilizing the post 9-11 had 15 years from the time that they got out of the military to use the post 9-11 GI bill but with the enactment of this law it basically eliminated that 15 year the eliminating date of 15 years. Veterans who served January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001, and after they will be eligible for this 15-year limitation or delimitating date so basically with that, the 15 year is basically eliminated. There are other many provisions that came from this. As I mentioned it was very beneficial to veterans who were actually using their education benefits. Next slide.

With the home loan benefit so, this is a benefit that are offered to veterans. One of the things that we, talk to veterans, you know, upfront is, you know, the VA doesn't actually loan the money, but we guarantee the portion of the mortgage which enable the veteran to find a lender and have more favorable terms to their loan. Eligibility for the VA home loan benefit is contingent on service requirements and for housing grants or having a service-connected disability. Generally, veterans must have served 90 days of total or 180 days, continuous days, depending on when they qualify. Then National Guard and reserve members generally have to serve 90 days on active duty or six years in selective reserve or National Guard to be eligible for the home loan benefit. Basically, once they qualify based on their service, they will be able to qualify for a certificate of eligibility. Generally, when they are trying to find a lender, they will provide this certificate of eligibility to their lender. Basically, with that, the lender would know that their loan will be backed by VA. Next slide.

One of the other programs that we have that falls under the home loan guarantee program is the Native American veteran direct loan. This program actually provides eligible Native American veterans and their spouses, the opportunity to use their department of veterans affairs home loan guarantee to use their benefit on federal trust lands. Usually what has to happen the Native American tribe has to be have a MOU a memorandum of understanding with the secretary of the VA and what this MOU spells out is the conditions under which the program will operate on that federal trust land.

Next, we have in this, into the veterans guarantee, home loans; veterans with service-connected disabilities can apply for a housing grant to purchase build and adapt a primary residence for a personal occupancy or to accommodate the disability. Basically, if a veteran needs to make alterations to their home because of the disability, whether they need to put a ramp in or widen the doorways for they're in a wheelchair making use this special adaptive housing grant to, do those alterations. Then VA provides these grants and service members particularly if they have a permanent and total service-connected disability, next slide.

The next benefit I'll talk about is our veteran's pension benefit. Now there are several eligibility factors to receive a pension and they include the age, the disability income, and whether the veteran's military service was doing a wartime period. Now service requirements vary depending on which wartime period the veteran served during. If the veteran served before September seven, 1980, he or she must've served 90 days on active duty; otherwise the veteran must have served 24 months on active duty or the full period for which he or she was called to active duty. Now, if the veteran meets the service requirement he or she has and he or she has a limited income, then they can be eligible for the veterans pension. Now, in the case that they are over 65 or older they don't necessarily have to provide anything regarding a disability. However, if they are under age 65 or older, they must show that they have a permanent and total disability. Now, one of the things that we do look at, as I mentioned, is the veterans income. The term limited income refers to the amount of the income, which has been set by Congress on an annual basis.

For example, a single veteran to be eligible for a veteran pension cannot make more than \$12,356 annually. Basically, with that, we will take a look at any income that the veteran has, whether it be social security income, whether they have other pension income coming in, we will count that as their income. Then we also assess the veterans' network. Next slide. For our next program, I will discuss the veterans' readiness and employment program. Now, traditionally the VNE program assist veterans that have a service-connected disability with maintaining obtaining suitable employment. Now, there are two important notes that I need to make about the VNE program. It also provides career counseling service for recently separated service member. It provides assistance with finding employment with resume writing, with interview prep. This is one of the features that VNE program also offers veterans. To take a look at the eligibility requirement. Veterans must use their VNE benefits within 12 years from the discharge or from the first date that they were notified of their service-connected disability.

Now, so service members are eligible for the VNE program. If they were getting ready to be medically discharged, they are pretty much participating in what's called the integrated disability evaluation system. If they are participating in this particular program, they will automatically be entitled to receive VNE benefits. Then for our service members, again, they will qualify based on whether or not they are in the ideas program. VNE offers up to five tracks that a veteran or service member can go into. Basically, those are the re-employment, the staff employment, employment through long-term services and independent living services. Basically, what the re-employment, if the veteran, was deployed and they basically, once their deployment had finished and they want to come back and work at the same job that they were doing



before they can work with a VNE counselor to work with the employer, to rehire the veteran.

If the veteran is merely just wanting to get back to work in another position or another type of job, they can work with the VNE counselor like I said to do resume writing, interview prep just to make sure that they're ready and help with assistance with finding employment. Self employment we work with the small business administration. We are creating different plans that the veteran would need to start his or her own business. The VA doesn't lend any money as far as assisting the veteran with opening up their own business, but we provide assistance and references of who they can use to open their own business, and then with their employment through long-term services. If the veteran is able to attend school or if they have some type of need to get certifications, they can actually use this track to get those. Then finally, for the independent living, if the veteran has a severe disability and they are in need or want to live more independently, they can work with their rehab counselor, rehabilitation counselor to help with becoming more or live more independent.

Next slide. Now this is a very important program that we have because it provides assistance to service members with assisting them with transitioning from the military service to civilian life. Now, one of the things that if you talk to any service member or veteran one of the things that they will tell you is that in some cases they didn't know that they were entitled to certain benefits. One of the things about the transition and economic development office is that they have transition counselors at over 300 installations worldwide and basically what these transition counselors do is they provide briefings on VA benefits. They cover benefits from the veteran's health administration, the national cemetery administration and of course, the veterans benefit administration, because the thing that we want to eliminate is veterans not knowing what type of benefits that they're entitled to receive once they transition out of the military. We work with our external partners. We work with Department of Defense, Department of Labor, Department of Health Small Business Administration, Department of Homeland Security. Basically, when we work with these organizations, we are working to ensure that all information about benefits are provided to just their stakeholders as well.

One of the things, with partnering with HUD, I know you will definitely have veterans that, will come into an envision center. Hopefully with the information that I'm providing you today, you will be able to point them in the right direction or in situations where, you have an envision center that's co located in the same city as the regional office. We can have a regional office staff, come to envision centers just to provide those assistance to veterans that come into envision centers for assistance.

Our next benefit that I'll cover is benefits for dependents and survivors. Now, in some cases, people may not know that survivors and dependents may be entitled to receive benefits. Next slide. The first benefit that I'll talk about that survivors are entitled to receive. It's called the dependency and indemnity compensation program or benefit. This particular benefit is a monthly tax repayment to family members of a deceased service member or a veteran. In the case of DIC, if a veteran service member or a veteran is passed away in the case of a service member, if they pass away in service or in the case of a veteran, if they passed away looted at service connected disability, their dependents are entitled to receive this monthly entitlement and the widow or the children in the case of the widow, she, or he would receive the benefit for the rest of their life. Now, in the case that the spouse gets married then we would terminate that benefit. Until then they will continue to receive this particular benefit.

There's also a survivor's pension that survivors can be entitled to receive. This particular benefit is for survivors. It's basically an income-based benefit. Again, we would look at the same information or criteria used explain criteria that we would use if a veteran was applying for this particular benefit. We would also look at of course income. We will look at the service of the veteran. We look at their net worth. Then based on that, we will make a determination of whether or not he or she is entitled to the survivor's pension. In the case of the dependence education assistance program, this particular benefit is for survivor's independence is education program. They can utilize this education and benefit the same as the veteran, the only difference is in this case is the veteran service member has passed away.

In some cases, a survivor may be entitled to also receive the home loan benefit. Again, we would definitely look at once they applied, we would have to look at, certain criteria or circumstances surrounding the service member or veteran's death, or in order to determine entitlement to this particular benefit. Next slide. Now looking at this slide, it actually discusses the changes that we went through with our appeals process. Now, in August of 2017 we had to go through overhaul actually of our appeals process because a lot of our appeals were taking a long time to be processed. In 2017, the veteran's appeals Improvement and Modernization act was signed into law. Basically, what that did was it allowed veterans to actually streamline their appeals process. The veteran had the ability to determine which lane, if you will, will be used or they can use to have their appeal reviewed.

You have the high level of review the supplemental, and then you have the board of veterans appeal. With this new appeals process that we've enacted, we basically have cut down the appeals process from years. Actually, we are processing them down to a little over 127 days. I think it was the last time I looked appeals are being processed that fast. Now, in

the case of the Board of Veterans' appeals if a veteran elects to use that particular lane, those claims take a little bit longer because the case has to be placed on a docket and it goes in front of a law judge to review. Those cases take up to a year of the process, but compared to what we were doing it's been a real improvement from when we were processing claims before.

Then with this next slide, I just wanted to point out some of the things that we've been doing in response to COVID-19. Just to look at some of the things that we've been doing we've actually suspended the collection of debt that veterans may have accumulated. Basically, when a veteran accumulates a debt, we send them out a proposal that they receive in benefits. We send them out a proposal to reduce their benefits, and then we will take the necessary actions to recoup the money. Since March of this year, we have basically suspended that operation. We won't be renewing that until basically everything is back to normal whenever that is. As far as claim filing veterans can actually still file their claim as they've done before.

That process is still continuing and we will definitely continue to process those disability claims or claims as normal. In the event that a veteran need to request an extension for submitting evidence or anything like that the only thing that they need to do is just notify the VA and I can provide you that information a little bit later. They can just notify us that they are requesting that extension. That information is actually submitted as a part of their file. Then the veteran is notified that the extension, has been granted and then also for veterans who have to be scheduled for an exam because in some cases, when a veteran is applying for disability compensation, we may request that they take part in a compensation and pension exam.

That basically just exams give gives us an idea of the severity of the disability. Basically we have if tabled, we have been able to conduct these exams via tele-health, which they basically on a device, the veteran's device, whether it be their phone or their tablet, they can connect with a physician at the VA medical center the person that's doing the exam, and this is actually been helpful for a lot of veterans because the process for processing their claim hasn't stopped. This has been a very useful process for us, for continuing processing the claims.

Then for this next slide, I just wanted to provide you with some of the resources that we have, that you can access. As I mentioned, you can go to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov), which has our Department of Veterans Affairs home site and any type of information that you want to find about benefits and services that we offer. You will definitely be able to find out that information on this web page. We also have social media accounts. If you want to get more information for example, about disability compensation, we have YouTube videos. We have YouTube videos on

the different benefits that I spoke about today. In the event that a veteran has questions about their claim they can call our 1800-827-1000. As I mentioned, when they call that number, it will be connected to one of our eight call centers.

We also have our 1800 number for education processing center. Then we also have our insurance phone number as well. One thing I also wanted to note is our crisis hotline. If you have a situation where you run into a veteran and they are in crisis this is a very important number that you can provide them because we have counselors on staff 24/7 365 days out of the year. Most of the individuals that answer these calls are veterans themselves. Again, if you have a situation where you have a veteran that is in crisis please provide them this number so they can access that. Then finally, I want to offer my contact information. If you have a question about any of the benefits that I spoke about today please feel free to reach out to me. There is my phone number, my email address. Then finally, next slide, we can open up for questions.

**Operator:** To ask a question over the phone, please press pound two on your telephone keypad to enter the question queue. You'll hear a notification when your line is unmuted. At that time, please state your name and question. Once again, pressing pound two will indicate that you wish to ask a question to submit a written question, select all panelists from the drop-down menu in the chat panel, enter your question in the message box provided and send.

**Julian Wright:** I see a message from Steven Brown. We can definitely get those slides to you. I think Romeo has a copy. We can definitely get those fast to you.

**Operator:** As a reminder to ask a question or the phone, please press pound two on your telephone keypad to enter the question queue, you will hear a notification when your line is unmuted. At that time, please state your name and question. Once again, pressing pound two will indicate that you wish to ask a question. To submit a written question, select all panelists from the drop-down menu in the chat panel, enter your question in the message box provided and send. I don't see any questions on the phone line, and I don't see anything on the chat as well. Just now a question has come on the phone line.

**Julian Wright:** Did you go over the vouchers for housing? The HUD VASH program that I spoke about earlier that program is actually operated by our veterans health administration. The homeless veterans program within the VHA. They are the ones that actually provide oversight over the HUD VASH program. If you wanted to get more information about a particular area, I can find out who that point of contact is and make the connection for you.

**Operator:** We have a couple of questions on the phone.

**Julian Wright:** Okay.

**Operator:** Moving on to the first caller, caller your line is unmuted. Please go ahead.

**Female Speaker:** Yes. For the benefit of service-related benefits, is there a statute of limitation that once the person has exited the military, that they can file a claim?

**Julian Wright:** That's an excellent question. Disability compensation veterans can apply for disability compensation at any time. One thing to note, when you do apply, is that you provide any current medical documentation that you have, and submit that as a part of your claim again, I would encourage you to go to the [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). There is a section on the website that basically you can file your claim online.

**Female Speaker:** Thank you.

**Julian Wright:** You're welcome.

**Operator:** Moving onto the next caller. Caller your line is unmuted please go ahead.

**Female Speaker:** Hi. I just wanted to know if there was a way in which we could receive your contact information via email.

**Julian Wright:** You want my email contact information?

**Female Speaker:** Yes, please.

**Julian Wright:** It's [julian.wright2@va.gov](mailto:julian.wright2@va.gov). My contact information is also a part of the slides and I think Romeo is going to make sure everyone gets a copy of the slides. You will also be able to find my contact information there as well.

**Female Speaker:** Thank you.

**Julian Wright:** You're welcome.

**Operator:** There are no further questions on the phone.

**Julian Wright:** Just closing out. I definitely want to thank Christopher, Romeo, Jill with inviting me today. I hope you all got some use or useful information from my briefing today. Again, if you have any questions feel free to reach out to me. Again, my contact information is a part of the slide deck and I just thank you all for what you do for your clients and anything that you can do or need from me on my end just let me know.

**Christopher:**

Julian, thank you so much for presenting today. I really do appreciate your time. Again, we also appreciate your service to our country. I do want to also echo, something you mentioned during your presentation that ending veteran homelessness is still a major priority for HUD. Anything we can do as an agency to assist with that, please let us know. We are happy to work with you on that. To all our envision center, HUD staff for cost the field. Thanks again for your time. We will get the slides out to you and feel free to reach out if you have any questions? Thank you so much.

**Julian Wright:**

Thank you.

**Operator:**

That concludes our conference. Thank you for using AT&T Event Services. You may now disconnect.