



Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Washington, DC 20420

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UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH'S INFORMATION LETTER

ARMY RESERVE COMPONENT INTEGRATED DISABILITY EVALUATION SYSTEM (IDES) EXAMS

1. In order to accomplish a quick and efficient Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) program for Army National Guard (ARNG) and Reserve Component (RC) soldiers, all facilities must accommodate requests for disability examinations at a location that has been determined to be closest to where a transitioning soldier resides.

2. All Military Service Coordinators (MSC) are Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) IDES representatives responsible for requesting and coordinating disability examinations. While the MSC may reside in either Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 8 (Pinellas Park, FL) or in VISN 7 (Eisenhower Army Hospital, Fort Gordon, GA), they may contact any facility in any VISN to conduct IDES compensation and pension exams for ARNG and RC soldiers. Facility Directors are encouraged to accommodate these requests as soon as possible.

a. It is yet unknown how large the impact will be on Veterans Health Administration (VHA) facilities; however, spreading the workload across the country is expected to minimize the local impact on facilities in the southeast region. This allows greater distribution of future enrolled Veterans across the system.

b. As the IDES process unfolds, facility Directors are encouraged to continue close coordination with VBA and the Department of Defense counterparts.

3. Inquiries can be made to the Office of Disability and Medical Assessment at 202-461-5981.

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Under Secretary for Health

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