

News Release

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VA continues aggressive hiring push to deliver PACT ACT care and benefits

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs is hiring qualified individuals to join the benefits team as VA begins processing PACT Act claims starting in January 2023. These new VA employees will help ensure Veterans and survivors get the PACT Act-related benefits they've earned in a timely manner.

They will serve in the roles of <u>Veterans service representative</u>, <u>rating Veterans service representative</u> and <u>legal administrative specialist</u>, and they will work across 56 regional offices and 39 other special processing and call centers within the United States and Puerto Rico.

Veterans have filed more than 175,000 PACT Act-related claims since Aug. 10, when President Biden signed the act into law.

"There are millions of Veterans and survivors who are eligible for new benefits and health care as a result of the PACT Act, and we won't rest until every one of them gets what they deserve," said **VA Secretary Denis McDonough**. "That means aggressively hiring new VA team members to make sure we're able to process claims and deliver care to Veterans as quickly and effectively as possible. There's no better mission than serving Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors — and we encourage folks to apply to join our team today."

The Veterans Health Administration is also aggressively hiring to prepare for a surge in PACT Act-related care. In FY 2022 VHA hired a record 48,500 new clinical and administrative staff, an increase of 5,000 more hires than in FY 2021. Since the start of the current fiscal year in October, VHA achieved a net increase of 1,815 more employees onboarded compared to zero last year. As VA aims for another record year, rapid and competitive hiring is a top priority for FY 2023.

The department is also actively recruiting, hiring and retaining Veterans, military spouses, survivors, caregivers and family members to support the VA mission.

Click the following links to apply for a position with VA as a <u>Veterans service representative</u> or <u>rating Veterans service representative</u>.

Learn more about PACT Act and how to file a claim at VA.gov/PACT. If Veterans, their families, caregivers, or survivors have questions about PACT Act and wish to speak with someone to help, they may call 800-MyVA411.