



COVID-19 Resources for Veterans

Q: Can I still access Veterans Administration Healthcare?

A: Yes. The VA Long Beach Healthcare facility and Laguna Hills VA clinic are operating during their normal hours but have shifted appointments and visits to telehealth platforms. If you have an existing appointment or need one scheduled, please contact VA Long Beach Healthcare facility at 877-252-4866 or the Laguna Hills VA clinic at 949-587-3700. You can also modify or schedule an appointment at www.myheath.va.gov. If you are symptomatic or believe you have COVID-19, please call before visiting any medical facility.

Q: Are Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) regional offices open?

A: Yes, but they are not offering any in-person services at this time. Veterans can access information about benefits or file a claim for benefits by visiting www.va.gov. Veterans with claims specific or other questions may request information via Inquiry Routing & Information System (IRIS) or telephone at 1-800-827-1000.

Q: Can I still claim my GI Bill/Vocational Rehab benefits if my courses are all online?

A: Yes. COVID-19 relief legislation ensures that payments will automatically continue for a GI Bill/Vocational Rehab recipient should their institution transition to an all-online platform. Current recipients will continue to receive the same monthly housing allowance payments until December 21, 2020 or until their institution resumes normal operations.

Q: Will my COVID-19 Economic Impact Payment (EIP) lower my VA payments?

A: No. The VA will not count any money received from COVID-19 EIP as income for VA disability compensation, individual unemployability, or VA pension purposes. For information on the EIP program visit www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments or call 800-919-9835.

Q: Is the VA offering additional debt forbearance during COVID-19?

A: Yes. As of April 3, 2020, the VA has paused collection on newly established Veteran debt and will make it easier to request extended payment plans for existing debt.

- If your debt has been transferred to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, no more action will be taken on that debt at this time, including no additional interest or fees.
- If you have debt related to VA benefits, contact the VA Debt Management Center at 800-827-0648 to discuss adjusted repayment options.
- If you have debt related to VA healthcare, contact the Health Resource Center at 888-827-4817 to discuss adjusted repayment options.
- If you have a VA-backed home loan, contact 877-827-3702 to request a forbearance plan or discuss other available options.

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