

Do you believe you have a disability caused or aggravated by your military service?

VA Disability Claim Checklist

3 Items Needed for a Strong VA Claim:

- **Link** back to active duty service. Do you have copies of your Military Service treatment records “of said Disability” showing treatment “of said disability” you are wanting to claim?
- **Current** medical diagnosis from: Doctor, MD, Surgeon, PCP, Psychologist, etc.
 - **1 Find out if you have a current diagnosis.** Meaning, if you believe you have a condition that you believe is related to your military service make sure that you have a current diagnosis from: Doctor, MD, Surgeon, PCP, Psychologist, etc. of condition in your CURRENT Medical records.
- **Chronic** condition: defined as persisting, long time, or recurring.
 - **GIVE YOUR DOCTOR THE REAL PICTURE** unfortunately when you are sick or in distress it is hard to think straight, let alone fully open up and give the doctors all the information they need in order to accurately assess your situation. Take a list of all your symptoms with you to every medical appointment. This way you have a written reminder of what you experience on a day-to-day basis and you won't forget when you get in front of your doctor.
 - **Develop a relationship with your doctor** without question, a treating doctor who is willing to support a VA claim in writing is one of the best pieces of evidence you can have in support of a claim
- **Call or Email** the Ector County Veteran Service Officer for an appointment to file claim
 - 432-498-4046
 - sunshine.thompson@ectorcountytexas.gov

Filing Initial Claim: Bring the following items/information with you at your scheduled appointment:

- All DD214(s) "Member 4" (original or certified copy), for all periods of active service
- Service Treatment Records, paper copy or CD. Do not surrender last/only copy.
[VSO office cannot make copies]
- Civilian Treatment Records, paper copy or CD. Do not surrender last/only copy.
[VSO office cannot make copies]
- Direct deposit account number, routing number and full name of bank institution.
[Have account numbers ready/on hand before appointment]