

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Melody Braswell,

Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

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BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

**ACTION:** Notice of a modified matching program.

**SUMMARY:** This is an 18-month re-establishment computer matching agreement (CMA) with the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC), Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), regarding Veterans that have returned to active duty and that are also in receipt of compensation or pension benefits. The purpose of this agreement is to verify eligibility for DoD and United States Coast Guard members of the Reserve forces who receive VA disability compensation or pension to receive, in lieu and upon election, military pay and allowances when performing active duty.

**DATES:** Comments on this matching program must be received no later than December 30, 2024. If no public comment is received during the period allowed for comment or unless otherwise published in the **Federal Register** by VA, the new agreement will become effective a minimum of 30 days after date of publication in the **Federal Register**. If VA receives public comments, VA shall review the comments to determine whether any changes to the notice are necessary. This matching program will be valid for 18 months from the effective date of this notice.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted through [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or mailed to VA Privacy Service, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, (005X6F), Washington, DC 20420. Comments should indicate that they are submitted in response to CMA 87 Return to Active Duty. Comments received will be available at [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov) for public viewing, inspection or copies.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Delonda Garmon (VBA), Program Analyst, Department of Veterans Affairs, 1800 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, [Delonda.Garmon2@va.gov](mailto:Delonda.Garmon2@va.gov), 202-461-9700.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This agreement continues an arrangement for a periodic computer-matching program between VA, VBA as the matching recipient agency and the DoD, DMDC as the matching source agency. This agreement sets forth the responsibilities of VBA and DoD with respect to information disclosed pursuant to this agreement and takes into account both agencies' responsibilities under the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a, as amended by the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, including computer matching portions of a revision of OMB Circular No. A-108, 81 FR 94424, dated December 23, 2016.

#### PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:

VA, VBA, as the matching recipient agency, and DoD, DMDC, as the matching source agency.

#### AUTHORITY FOR CONDUCTING THE MATCHING PROGRAM:

The legal authority for conducting the matching program for use in the administration of VA's Compensation and Pension Benefits Programs is contained in 38 U.S.C. 5304(c), Prohibition Against Duplication of Benefits, which precludes pension, compensation, or retirement pay on account of any person's own service, for any period for which he receives active duty pay. The law (10 U.S.C. 12316) prohibits the receipt of reserve pay and VA compensation for the same time period, however, it does permit waiver of VA compensation to draw reserve pay."

#### PURPOSE(S):

The purpose of this matching program between VBA and DoD is to verify the continuing eligibility for Uniformed Services Members, including National Guard and Reserve personnel, for VA benefits by identifying VA disability benefit recipients who return to active duty, including active-duty training status, and to ensure that VA benefits are terminated or adjusted when appropriate.

#### CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS:

1. Veterans who have applied for compensation for service-connected disability under 38 U.S.C. ch. 11.
2. Veterans who have applied for nonservice-connected disability under 38 U.S.C. ch. 15.
3. Veterans entitled to burial benefits under 38 U.S.C. ch. 23.
4. Surviving spouses and children who have claimed pensions based on

nonservice-connected death of a Veteran under 38 U.S.C. ch. 15.

5. Surviving spouses and children who have claimed death compensation based on service-connected death of a Veteran under 38 U.S.C. ch. 11.

6. Surviving spouses and children who have claimed dependency and indemnity compensation for service-connected death of a Veteran under 38 U.S.C. ch. 13.

7. Parents who have applied for death compensation based on service-connected death of a Veteran under 38 U.S.C. ch. 11.

8. Parents who have applied for dependency and indemnity compensation for service-connected death of a Veteran under 38 U.S.C. ch. 13.

9. Individuals who applied for educational assistance benefits administered by VA under title 38 of the U.S. Code.

10. Individuals who applied for educational assistance benefits maintained by the Department of Defense under title 10 of the U.S. Code that are administered by VA.

11. Veterans who apply for training and employers who apply for approval of their programs under the provisions of the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act of 1983, Pub. L. 98-77.

12. Any VA employee who generates or finalizes adjudicative actions using the Benefits Delivery Network or the Veterans Service Network computer processing systems.

13. Veterans who apply for training and employers who apply for approval of their programs under the provisions of the Service Members Occupational Conversion and Training Act of 1992, Pub. L. 102-484.

14. Representatives of individuals covered by the system.

#### CATEGORIES OF RECORDS:

Records may include: 1. Name 2. Social Security Number 3. Date of birth 4. Paid Inactive-duty training days 5. Paid Active-duty days.

#### SYSTEM(S) OF RECORDS:

Compensation, Pension, Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records—VA (58 VA 21/22/28), last published at 86 FR 61858 (November 8, 2021); DMDC 01, entitled "Defense Manpower Data Center Data Base," last published at 87 FR 32145 (May 27, 2022); and "Veterans Affairs/ Department of Defense Identity Repository (VADIR)-VA (138VA005Q)", last published at 87 FR 79066 (December 23, 2022).

**Signing Authority**

The Senior Agency Official for Privacy, or designee, approved this document and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs. John Oswalt, Chief Privacy Officer and Chair of the Data Integrity Board, Department of Veterans Affairs approved this document on November 8, 2024 for publication.

Dated: November 25, 2024.

**Amy L. Rose,**

*Government Information Specialist, VA Privacy Service, Office of Compliance, Risk and Remediation, Office of Information and Technology, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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**BILLING CODE P**

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS****Solicitation of Nomination for Appointment to the Veterans' Rural Health Advisory Committee**

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration (VHA), is seeking nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment as members of the Veterans' Rural Health Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the VRHAC").

**DATES:** Nominations for membership on the Committee must be received by January 21, 2025, no later than 4 p.m., eastern standard time. Packages received after this time will not be considered for the current membership cycle.

**ADDRESSES:** All nomination packages should be emailed to Mr. Paul Boucher, Committee Manager at [paul.boucher@va.gov](mailto:paul.boucher@va.gov) and cc: Dr. Peter Kaboli, Designated Federal Officer at [peter.kaboli@va.gov](mailto:peter.kaboli@va.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shannon Middleton, Assistant Designated Federal Officer, Center for Women Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW (00W), Washington, DC 20420, telephone 202–461–6194.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In carrying out the duties set forth, the

Committee responsibilities include, but are not limited to,

(1) Providing a letter to the Secretary and congress outlining recommendations to improve and enhance VA's delivery of services to rural Veterans.

(2) Meeting with VA officials, Veteran Service Organizations, and other stakeholders to assess the Department's efforts in providing access to healthcare, outreach and education services offered to rural Veterans.

(3) Making annual site visits and holding town hall meetings with Veterans to address their concerns.

Management and support services for the Committee are provided by the Office of Rural Health (ORH).

**Authority:** The Committee was established pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 3121 and operates under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) to advise the Secretary through the Under Secretary for Health on ways to improve and enhance access to VA health care services for Veterans residing in rural areas by reviewing current program activities and identifying barriers to accessing care and services.

**Membership Criteria:** The VRHAC is requesting nominations for upcoming vacancies on the Committee. The committee is composed of 12 members, in addition to ex-officio members. As required by statute, the members of the Committee are appointed by the Secretary from the general public, including, but not limited to:

(1) Representatives of Veterans Service Organizations.

(2) Persons who have distinguished themselves in the public, academic affiliation, community healthcare organizations, and private sector.

(3) Ex-officio members of the Committee may include one representative from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, Department of Defense, and the Department of Agriculture.

To the extent possible, the Secretary seeks members who have diverse professional and personal qualifications. We ask that nominations include information of this type so that VA can ensure a balanced Committee membership. Individuals appointed to the Committee by the Secretary shall be invited to serve a three-year term. The Secretary may reappoint a member for an additional term of service. In

accordance with Federal Travel Regulation, Committee members will receive travel expenses and a per diem allowance for any travel made in association with duties as members of the Committee and within Federal travel guidelines. Self-nominations are acceptable. Any letters of nomination from organizations or other individuals should accompany the package when it is submitted. Non-Veterans are also eligible for nomination.

**Requirements for Nomination**

**Submission:** Nominations should be typed (one nomination per nominator). Nomination package should include: [https://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/docs/VRHAC-Application-Form\\_7-31-18.pdf](https://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/docs/VRHAC-Application-Form_7-31-18.pdf).

(1) A letter of nomination that clearly states the name and affiliation of the nominee, the basis for the nomination (*i.e.*, specific attributes which qualify the nominee for service in this capacity), and a statement from the nominee indicating that he/she is a U.S. citizen and is willing to serve as a member of the Committee.

(2) The nominee's contact information, including name, mailing address, telephone numbers, and email address.

(3) The nominee's resume or curriculum vitae. the nominee's curriculum vitae.

(4) A summary of the nominee's experience and qualifications relative to the membership considerations described above.

(5) A statement confirming that he/she is not a federally-registered lobbyist.

The Department makes every effort to ensure that the membership of VA Federal advisory committees is balanced in terms of points of view represented and the committee's function. Appointments to this Committee shall be made without discrimination based on a person's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, or genetic information. Nominations must state that the nominee appears to have no conflict of interest that would preclude membership. An ethics review is conducted for each selected nominee.

Dated: November 25, 2024.

**Jelessa M. Burney,**

*Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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