






## YOUR RIGHT TO SEEK REVIEW OF OUR DECISION

This document outlines your right to seek review of our decision on any issue with which you disagree. You may generally select one of three different review options for each issue decided by VA. However, you may not request review of the same issue using more than one option at the same time. Below is information on the three different review options.

	Supplemental Claim	Higher-Level Review	Board Appeal
<b>What Is This?</b>	A reviewer will determine whether new and relevant evidence changes the prior decision.	An experienced claims adjudicator will review your decision using the same evidence VA considered in the prior decision.	A Veterans Law Judge at the Board of Veterans' Appeals (Board) will review your decision.
<b>By Selecting This Option</b>	<p>You are adding or identifying new and relevant evidence to support your claim that we did not previously consider.</p> <p>VA will assist you in gathering new and relevant evidence that you identify to support your claim.</p> <p>You are entitled to a hearing at any time in the supplemental claim process.</p>	<p>You have no additional evidence to submit to support your claim, but you believe there was an error in the prior decision.</p> <p>You can request an optional, one-time, informal conference with a Higher-Level Reviewer to identify specific errors in the case, although requesting this conference may delay the review.</p>	<p>You must choose a docket:</p> <p><b>Direct Review</b> - You do not want to submit evidence or have a hearing.</p> <p><b>Evidence Submission</b> - You choose to submit additional evidence without a hearing.</p> <p><b>Hearing</b> - You choose to have a hearing with a Veterans Law Judge.</p>
<b>Goal To Complete</b>	125 days on average	125 days on average	365 days on average for Direct Review (longer for the other options)
<b>Form To File*</b>	<a href="#">VA Form 20-0995</a> <i>Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim</i>	<a href="#">VA Form 20-0996</a> <i>Decision Review Request: Higher-Level Review</i>	<a href="#">VA Form 10182</a> <i>Decision Review Request: Board Appeal (Notice of Disagreement)</i>
<b>Scan QR Code to Access Form</b>			
<b>Further Options After This Decision Review</b>	You may request another Supplemental Claim, a Higher-Level Review, or a Board Appeal.	You may request a Supplemental Claim or a Board Appeal.	You may request a Supplemental Claim or appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.



For most VA benefits, you have **1 year from the date on your decision notice to request a decision review to ensure the earliest possible effective date.** Consult your decision notice for specific limitations.

\* All forms listed are available at [www.va.gov/find-forms/](http://www.va.gov/find-forms/) or use your mobile device camera to scan the QR code to take you directly to the form you select.

If you do not submit a decision review request within the required time, you may only seek review through the following:

- A request to revise the decision based on a clear and unmistakable error, or
- A Supplemental Claim. If you file a Supplemental Claim after the **1-year** time limit, the effective date for any resulting award of benefits generally will be tied to the date VA receives the Supplemental Claim.
  - If you wish to have a hearing during the supplemental claim process, you can contact us online through Ask VA: <https://ask.va.gov/> or call us toll-free at 1-800-827-1000 (TTY:711).

While most decision review options are available to you, there are limitations based on the type of decision you received.

- If you are a party to a **contested claim** - such as claims for apportionment, attorney fee disagreement, or multiple parties filing for survivor's benefits or claims for life insurance - your *only* option for disagreeing with your decision is to file a Board Appeal within **60 days** of the date on your decision notice.
- If you are seeking review of an **insurance decision** you have an *additional* option to challenge VA's decision by filing a complaint with a United States district court in the jurisdiction in which you reside within 6 years from when the right of action first accrues. Consult your decision notice for details on what options are available and where to send the request.

## Get Help with Your Review Request:

For more information on all the available review options, contact us at 1-800-827-1000 or visit [www.va.gov/decision-reviews/](http://www.va.gov/decision-reviews/). If you need help filing a decision review, you may want to work with an accredited attorney, claims agent, or a Veterans Service Organization (VSO) representative. Additional information about working with an accredited attorney, claims agent, or VSO representative is available at [www.va.gov/decision-reviews/get-help-with-review-request/](http://www.va.gov/decision-reviews/get-help-with-review-request/). You can find a searchable database of VA-recognized representatives at [www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation](http://www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation).

## Scan the QR Code to Open the Appropriate Decision Review Website Page



**Supplemental  
Claim**



**Higher-Level  
Review**



**Board  
Appeal**