

Rehabilitation services and vocational assistance

Veterans Affairs Canada offers rehabilitation services and vocational assistance, which can help improve Veterans' employability after they leave the military. In certain cases, spouses, common-law partners and survivors may also access vocational assistance services. The purpose of rehabilitation services is to ensure that Veterans improve their health to the fullest extent possible and adjust to life at home, in their community or at work.



Do I qualify?

You may qualify for **rehabilitation** services if you are a **Veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces** who:

- has medically-released within the last 120 days; or
- has any health problem resulting from your military service that is making it difficult for you to adjust to life at home, in your community or at work.

You may qualify for **vocational assistance** services if you are:

- the spouse or common-law partner of an eligible Veteran who is not taking part in vocational rehabilitation due to his or her health problem; or
- the survivor of a Canadian Armed Forces Veteran whose death was related to his or her service.

If you are planning to release, you can apply now. If you qualify, your start date in VAC's Rehabilitation program will be the first day after your release.

How do I apply?

- Contact VAC at **1-866-522-2122**
- Visit the nearest Integrated Personnel Support Centre
- Visit your local VAC office
- Visit a Service Canada office
- Ask about the services during the transition interview process
- My VAC Account

How soon will I hear back from VAC?

You can expect to receive a decision in writing within two weeks of VAC receiving your signed and completed application form.

What are the types of services I could be reimbursed for?

Depending on your individual needs and goals, your rehabilitation plan may fund one or more of the following types of services:

- **Medical Rehabilitation.** Health care experts work with you to stabilize and restore your health to the fullest extent possible.

- **Psycho-social Rehabilitation.** Health or rehabilitation professionals help you develop skills to support independence and adjust to living with your health problem or disability. This can include life skills training, pain management strategies, and more.

- **Vocational Rehabilitation/Assistance.**

Vocational professionals will work with you to help transfer your skills and education to build a rewarding civilian career. Vocational rehabilitation or vocational assistance may include:

- help to identify suitable employment options;
- job search skill development services (such as résumé writing and interview skills); and
- financial support for training and related costs (such as tuition and books).

Will VAC pay for my travel to participate in rehabilitation/vocational assistance services?

VAC may reimburse for eligible travel expenses incurred while participating in the Rehabilitation services and vocational assistance program, if needed.

Who is the service provider?

In most cases, rehabilitation services are provided through a network of local experts. A VAC case manager works with you and your family to help determine what is needed and how to access the services. On behalf of VAC, Canadian Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation Services (CVVRS) provides the vocational rehabilitation and assistance to help you achieve your vocational goals and you will build your vocational rehabilitation plan directly with CVVRS. **www.cvvrs.com**

If you are receiving benefits from the Service Income Security Insurance Plan (SISIP), you and your case manager may also work with a SISIP vocational rehabilitation counsellor.

For more information, please contact us at **1-866-522-2122** or visit our website: **veterans.gc.ca**

