

Tips & Tricks for Obtaining VA Eligibility Determinations

Background:

In order for a Veteran to be eligible for HUD-VASH, they must also be eligible for VA healthcare services. Both GPD and SSVF can serve a broader range of Veterans than just those who are eligible for VA healthcare services. In addition, SSVF programs may enroll a Veteran under presumptive eligibility and provide non-financial services while awaiting their DD-214. It is important to note that HUD-VASH, GPD and SSVF all have additional eligibility criteria beyond Veteran status and Veterans will require additional assessments for entry into each of these programs.

CES Liaisons for Expedited VA Eligibility Determinations:

Each SPA has CES-VA eligibility liaisons who have direct access to expedited VHA eligibility determinations through points of contact (POCs) at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (GLA). Due to the high workload of GLA's Eligibility POCs, only those individuals designated as a CES liaison may contact them for eligibility determinations. All other persons will be redirected back to CES to follow proper procedures.

SPA	CES Liaisons to VA Eligibility POCs
1	Jared Dyson, jdyson@mhala.org Nick Matthews, nmatthews@avdvc.org
2	Nathaniel VerGow, nvergow@lafh.org Eric Montoya, emontoya@lafh.org
3	Sieglinde von Deffner, svondeffner@unionstationhs.org Damone Marshall, dmarshall@ndvets.org Emily Seagraves, eseagraves@ndvets.org
4	Patty McHugh, pattym@lampcommunity.org Alex Davis, alex@thecenterinhollywood.org
5	Zack Coil, zcoil@stjoesphctr.org
6	Takita Salisberry, tsalisberry@hopics.org Veronica Lewis, vlewis@hopics.org
7	Aiko Enoki, aikoe@epath.org Tomasz Babiszewicz, tomaszb@epath.org Jorge Guzman, jorgeg@epath.org
8	Alex Devin, adevin@harborinterfaith.org Kevin Ramos, kevinr@shareselfhelp.org Shari Weaver, sweaver@harborinterfaith.org

Process to Receive Expedited Eligibility Determinations:

- 1) Contact one of the designated liaisons in your SPA who can help to obtain eligibility determinations and provide them with 1) a signed VA Release of Information, 2) the Veteran's full name, 3) date of birth, 4) full social security number.
- 2) If the VA Eligibility POC is unable to provide a conclusive eligibility determination, you will need to assist the Veteran in obtaining a DD-214.
 - a. The DD-214 may be available for download at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits>
 - b. The Veteran can go in-person to the Federal Building at 11000 Wilshire Blvd, 5th Floor, Los Angeles, 90073 and state that they want to apply for a DD-214 and get a letter of service. (The letter of service can also be used for SSVF, serve as a form of ID at the DMV, etc.)

- c. Request DD-214 from the National Archives. A DD-214 may be requested by mail, fax or online at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>
 - i. **If the DD-214 request is urgent** and the Veteran needs housing or medical care immediately, **the SF-180 should be faxed directly to the Customer Emergency Response Team at (314) 801-0764** for processing in 2-3 days. Make sure you include a notation that the Veteran is homeless and urgently needs the DD-214 in order to access services.
 - ii. Less urgent requests should be faxed to (314)-801-9195 and will be processed within 10 days.
 - iii. Please note: checking more than just the “DD Form 214 or equivalent” on what you are requesting on the SF-180 will delay the DD-214.
- 3) Once the Veteran obtains their DD-214, provide it to your CES liaison for a VA eligibility determination and information on how to enroll in VA healthcare services, if available.
- 4) Once the person’s Veteran status is determined, please make sure to note in in the client’s record in HMIS and/or by notifying the CES SPA coordinator.