

2022 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of Veterans Affairs	2022
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation	41849

4. Is this New Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	10/29/2008		

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
No	n/a	

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
Public Law 110-389	10/10/2008	Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee National Policy Issue Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open 4 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 4

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
The agenda included review and discussion of the 2020 Biennial Report and report recommendation training.	11/09/2021	11/09/2021

The agenda included review and discussion of prior-year, Biennial Reports and beginning 03/15/2022 - 03/15/2022 discussion on the 2022 Biennial Report

The agenda included deliberations and voting on recommendations that will be included in the 2022 Biennial Report from 05/31/2022 - 06/01/2022 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The agenda will include updates on the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities and briefings from various staff on new and ongoing VA initiatives and priorities. 09/20/2022 - 09/21/2022

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 4

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$21,300.00	\$82,944.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$1,200.00	\$2,822.05
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$60,000.00	\$129,400.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$110,880.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$10,080.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$30,240.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$4,747.30	\$50,000.00
18d. Total	\$87,247.30	\$416,366.05
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.60	0.90

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Committee provides advice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on establishing and supervising a schedule for the periodic review and update of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities (VASRD). The Committee shall assemble and review relevant information relating to the needs of Veterans with disabilities; provide information relating to the nature and character of the disabilities arising from service in the armed forces; provide an ongoing assessment of the effectiveness of the VASRD; and provide ongoing advice on the most appropriate means of responding to the needs of Veterans relating to disability compensation in the future. In carrying out its duties, the Committee shall take into special account the needs of Veterans who have served in a theater of combat operations. Not later than October 31, 2010, and not less frequently than every two years thereafter, the Committee shall submit to the Secretary a report on the programs and activities of the Department that relate to the payment of disability compensation. Each such report shall include an assessment of the needs of Veterans with respect to disability compensation; and such recommendations (including recommendations for administrative, regulatory or legislative action), as the Committee considers appropriate. The Committee may submit to the Secretary such other reports and recommendations as the Committee considers appropriate. The Committee delivered its Biennial Report on October 31, 2020 and is expected to deliver its next Biennial Report no later than October 31, 2022.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Committee consists of no more than 18 members appointed by the Secretary from among individuals who have experience with the provision of disability compensation by the Department, or are leading medical or scientific experts in relevant fields. The Secretary determines the terms of pay and allowances of the members of the Committee. The terms of service for Committee members may not exceed four years and are staggered to ensure that the dates for the termination of the members' terms are not all the same. The Secretary may reappoint any member for one or more additional terms of service. The Secretary selects a Chair from among the members of the Committee. Several members may be Regular Government Employees, but the majority of the Committee's membership will be Special Government Employees. Committee members were selected, as noted above, from among recognized subject matter experts, Veterans (stakeholders), and others with special competence in areas such as disability claims adjudication, vocational rehabilitation, disability program management, workers' compensation, rehabilitative medicine, mental health research, military medical services management, Veterans' benefits advocacy, and survivor benefits advocacy.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

By charter, the Committee will meet as often as necessary to perform its functions and provide timely advice to the Secretary. In FY 2022, the Committee held five (5) virtual meetings: November 9, 2021; March 15, 2022; April 26 and 27, 2022 (administrative committee members only meeting); May 31 and June 1, 2022; September 20 and 21, 2022. All meetings (as noted) were

virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic protocol.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Committee was established under section 214 of Public Law 110-389 to specifically advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the maintenance and periodic readjustment of the Department of Veterans Affairs' Schedule for Rating Disabilities. Advice from the committee members, individuals with varied expertise to do so (as described above), is essential for an objective review of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation (ACDC) meetings are, generally, open to the public. However, if a site visit, conducted virtually or in person, to a VA facility (either VHA, VBA or NCA) were to be scheduled, the portion of the meeting when the visit would occur would make the meeting partially closed. This is in accordance with FACA: FAC (Federal Advisory Committee) meetings may be closed in whole or in part under limited circumstances, such as when discussing trade secrets, personal information, and/or criminal matters. Per FACA, there are three common exemptions to "close" a meeting: 1.) Discussion of classified information (i.e., Veterans' PII) 2.) Reviews of proprietary data submitted in support of Federal grant applications (i.e., research committee) 3.) Deliberations involving considerations of personal privacy (i.e., Veterans' PII, VA Medical Center tours, etc.) Only numbers (1.) and (3.) above would apply to the ACDC should a site visit occur during a scheduled meeting.

21. Remarks

The Committee received valuable input from various VA business lines to aide the Committee's deliberation in constructing recommendations for the Secretary. Although VA has already been actively engaged in the processes and procedures set forth in a number of the recommendations, such recommendations reiterated the importance of those processes and procedures and broadened the scope for the Secretary's consideration. The members below were erroneously omitted from the FY21 ACR and were appointed on 3/24/2021: Kimberly Adams Frank LoGalbo Thomas Maney John Shaver Eloisa Taméz Steven Wolf

Designated Federal Officer

Sian M. Roussel Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Adams, Kimberly	03/24/2021	12/31/2022	Law Graduate/Veterans Legal Advocate-Community Legal Aid Services (Akron, OH)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Bruner, Al	04/24/2020	12/31/2021	Director, Disability Evaluation Policy	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Hazell, Bradley	11/06/2018	12/31/2022	Assistant Director for Compensation and Pension Policy with Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Johnson, Joyce	11/06/2018	12/31/2022	Professor at Georgetown University for health systems trans and financing, as well as patient care	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Lewis, Evelyn	11/06/2018	12/31/2022	Co-developed the Warrior centric healthcare training system, US Army Medical Research and Material Command and AMEDD Advanced Technology	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
LoGalbo, Frank	03/24/2021	12/31/2022	Wounded Warrior Project, Benefits Training Manager	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lorraine, James	11/06/2018	12/31/2022	CEO for America's Warrior Partnership, Former President of Augusta-AIKEN Warrior Project	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Maciosek, Michael	11/06/2018	12/31/2022	Health economist and Senior Research Investigator at the Health Partners Institute	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Maney, Thomas	03/24/2021	12/31/2022	Chairman of the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame Council and on the Okaloosa County Vet Center Stakeholders Board; Prior to the end of his distinguished 37 year career with the Veterans Benefits Administration, Mr. Pamperin served as the Deputy Under Secretary for Disability Assistance (DUSDA). Currently, he is an independent consultant for fed disability benefits.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pamperin, Thomas	06/01/2015	12/31/2021	Director of Veteran Services Mountain Comprehensive Care Center	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Shaver, John	03/24/2021	12/31/2022	Professor and Associate Dean of Student Affairs, School of Nursing, Univ. of Texas (Rio Grande Valley)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Taméz, Eloisa	03/24/2021	12/31/2022		

Wolf,
Steven

03/24/2021 12/31/2022

Currently employed
with DAV

Special
Government
Employee
(SGE)
Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 13

Narrative Description

The Committee will provide advice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on establishing and supervising a schedule to conduct periodic reviews of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities (VASRD) and provide the most appropriate means for responding to the needs of Veterans.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

110

Number of Recommendations Comments

The 110 number is the number of formal recommendations from FY 2010 through FY 2022 that have been noted as fully implemented.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

63%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The Committee submitted its 2020 Biennial Report on October 31, 2020. Two recommendations are now recorded as fully implemented to date (9/22/2022). Action: Added these two (2) to prior year's (2021) number (67) to equal 69 for 2022.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

48%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The Committee submitted its Biennial Report on October 31, 2020. Three (3) recommendations are now recorded as partially implemented to date (9/22/2022). Action: Added these three (3) to prior fiscal year's (2021) number (50) to equal 53 for FY2022.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

The Department submits a formal response to each Committee recommendation, and Department officials brief the Committee on actions taken to implement recommendations.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reorganized Priorities | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reallocated resources | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Issued new regulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Proposed legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Contact DFO | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Agency Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Committee Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Access Comments

NA