

**RAMP
RAPID APPEALS
MODERNIZATION PROGRAM**

As mentioned in our November 2017 newsletter, a new law has gone into effect that will streamline the Appeal process. Here are few things you need to know.

Benefits:

- Early participation in the new, more efficient review process
- Potentially faster decisions and early resolution of disagreements
- Multiple review options
- The same potential effective date for your benefits regardless of the review option that you choose
- A new requirement that VA must have clear and convincing evidence to change any findings favorable to you in a VA decision.

Which Appeals Are Eligible:

- Notice of Disagreement has been filed
- Form 9, Appeal to the Board of Veterans Appeals has been filed
- Certified to the Board but not activated
- On Remand from the Board



FEBRUARY 2018

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Other Facts to Know:

- Compensation related appeals certified to the Board and activated through formal placement on the docket are excluded
- By invitation only. The VA will be sending out letters if you are eligible and you will have to complete a form to show how you want to continue
- There are two lanes: Supplemental claim lane and the Higher Level Review lane
- Supplemental claim lane is if you have additional evidence that is new and relevant
- Higher level review lanes are if you have no additional evidence to submit
- If you choose to opt in to one of these lanes, then the VA will no longer process your appeal in the current process.





Foothills Veterans Stand Down

The annual Foothills Veterans Stand Down will be held April 13, 2018 at Catawba Valley Community College, Tarlton Complex. The time is from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Services that will be provided include medical services, dental care, food, clothing, education, tax assistance, employment counseling, eye care, haircuts, shoes, community resources, outdoor supplies, pastoral counseling and fellowship.

Military ID or Verification is required. If you are in need of transportation, please contact Teena Willis at 828-323-8084.

For more information on participating or volunteering please visit their website at www.foothillsstanddown.com.

Donations can be sent to PO Box 1012, Lenoir, NC 28658. Make checks payable to VTAB with Stand Down in the Memo section.

Reminders Upcoming Events

March 13: CVCC
Job Fair

April 13: Foothills
Stand Down