PMC VSR Core Course

Common VA Terms

Job Aid

February 2024

This job aid serves as a quick reference for common VA terms. Please note that this job aid is not all-inclusive and is only meant to serve as a guide.

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| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| A&A or A/A  | Aid and Attendance  |
| A/R  | Accounts Receivable  |
| ACDUTRA  | Active Duty for Training  |
| ADM  | Administrative Decision Made (BIRLS Screen)  |
| AIDS  | Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome  |
| AL  | American Legion (POA)  |
| AMA  | Appeals Modernization Act  |
| AMIE  | Automated Medical Information Exchange  |
| ANG  | Air Force National Guard  |
| AO  | Agent Orange  |
| AO73  | AO73 Law Change (effective 10-18-2018)  |
| APMCM  | Assistant Pension Management Center Manager  |
| ARNG  | Army National Guard  |
| ASB  | Asbestosis  |
| ASPEN  | Automated Standardized Performance Elements Nationwide  |
| AWOL  | Absent Without Official Leave  |
| BDD  | Benefits Delivery at Discharge  |
| BINQ  | BIRLS Inquiry (SHARE Command)  |
| BIRLS  | Beneficiary Identification Records Locator Subsystem  |
| BUPD  | BIRLS Update (SHARE Command)  |

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| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| BVA  | Board of Veterans Appeals, or Blind Veterans Association (POA)  |
| BWN  | Blue Water Navy  |
| C&C  | Confirmed and Continued (Rating) |
| C&P | Compensation and Pension |
| CA  | Claims Assistant  |
| CADD  | Change of Address (SHARE Command)  |
| CAPRI  | Compensation and Pension Records Interchange  |
| CAVC  | Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims  |
| CBCM  | Centralized Benefits Communications Management  |
| CEST  | Claims Establishment  |
| C-FILE  |  Physical Claims File  |
| CFID  | Change of Fiduciary  |
| CFR  | Code of Federal Regulations  |
| CH31  | Chapter 31 (Vocational Rehabilitation Education Program)  |
| CH32  | Chapter 32 (Veterans Educational Assistance Program)  |
| CH34  | Chapter 34 (Vietnam Era GI Bill no longer paid)  |
| CH35  | Chapter 35 (Dependents Educational Assistance)  |
| CHAMPUS   | Civilian Health & Medical Program of Uniformed Services (Active Duty & Retired)  |
| CHAMPVA  | Civilian Health & Medical Program of (Department of) Veterans Affairs  |
| CME  | Continuing Medical Expense  |
| COD  | Character of Discharge, or Cause of Death  |
| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| COLA  | Cost-of-Living Adjustment  |
| COVERS  | Consolidated Veterans Records System  |
| COWC  | Committee on Waivers and Compromises  |
| CP&E  | Compensation, Pension & Education  |
| CPKM | Compensation and Pension Knowledge Management |
| CPL  | Compensation & Pension Disability Benefits For (Live) Veterans  |
| CSA/CSR  | Civil Service Annuity or Retirement  |
| CUE  | Clear and Unmistakable Error  |
| DAV  | Disabled American Veterans (POA)  |
| DC  | Diagnostic Code  |
| DD 214 | Certificate of Release  |  |
| DEA | Dependents’ Educational Assistance (Chapter 35) |  |
| DEV  | Development  |  |
| DIC  | Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (SC Death)  |  |
| DIS  | Dishonorable (BIRLS Code)  |  |
| DISP  | Disposition of PIF  |  |
| DLP  | Date Last Paid  |  |
| DOB  | Date of Birth  |  |
| DOC  | Date of Claim  |  |
| DOD  | Department of Defense, or Date of Death, or Date of Divorce  |  |
| DRO  | Decision Review Officer  |  |
| DROC | Decision Review Operations Center |  |
| DTA  | Duty to Assist  |  |
| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |  |
| DTRA  | Defense Threat Reduction Agency  |  |
| DUPC  | Duplicate Record Consolidation (BIRLS Command)  |  |
| DVA  | Dishonorable for VA Purposes (BIRLS Code)  |  |
| EFolder | Electronic Folder  |
| EMS | Exam Management System  |
| ENT | Entitlement Code |
| EOD | Enter On Duty |
| EOM | End of Month |
| EOY | End of Year |
| EP  | End Product (Code)  |
| EPSS  | Electronic Performance Support System  |
| FARC  | Federal Archives Records Center  |
| FDC  | Fully Developed Claim  |
| FECA  | Federal Employees Compensation Act  |
| FERS  | Federal Employees Retirement System  |
| FL  | Fast Letter  |
| FOIA  | Freedom of Information Act  |
| FRC  | Federal Records Center (See FARC)  |
| FTI  | Federal Tax Information  |
| GAF  | Global Assessment of Functioning (Scale)  |
| GC  | General Counsel  |
| GDN  | Guardian  |
| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| GS  | General Schedule  |
| GSW  | Gunshot Wound  |
| HB or HBD  | Housebound  |
| HC  | Helpless Child  |
| HLRs | Higher-Level Reviews |
| HON  | Honorable Military Service |
| HVA | Honorable for VA Purposes (BIRLS Code) ICP |
| ICP | Inactive Comp and Pen Data (BIRLS screen) |
| ILER | Individual Longitudinal Exposure Record |
| INS | Insurance Data (BIRLS Screen) |
| IRIS | Inquiry Routing and Information System |
| IT  | Information Technology  |
| IU  | Individual Unemployability  |
| IVAP  | Income for VA Purposes  |
| IVM  | Income Verification Match  |
| KIA  | Killed In Action  |
| KC  | Korean Conflict  |
| KSA  | Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities  |
| LGY  | Loan Guaranty  |
| LOD  | Line of Duty  |
| MA  | Management Analyst  |
| MAP-D  | Modern Award Processing Development  |
| MAPR  | Maximum Annual Pension Rate  |
| MBP  | Mexican Border Period  |
| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| MOD  | Month of Death  |
| MOPH  | Military Order of the Purple Heart (POA)  |
| MRS  | Military Record Specialist  |
| NAN  | No Action Necessary  |
| NARA  | National Archives and Records Administration  |
| NOAA  | National Oceanic & Atmosphere Administration  |
| NOD  | Notice of Death, or Notice of Disagreement  |
| NOE  | Notice of Exception  |
| NOK | Next of Kin |

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| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| NPRC | National Personnel Records Center |
| NSC  | Non-Service-Connected  |
| NW  | Net Worth  |
| OBRA  | Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of (Year) (AKA Omnibus)  |
| OGC  | Opinions of the General Counsel  |
| OIF/OEF  | Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom  |
| OPM  | Office of Personnel Management  |
| OTH  | Discharge Under Other Than Honorable Conditions  |
| P&T or PT  | Permanent and Total  |
| PCAN  | Pending Issue File Cancel (BDN Command)  |
| PCHG  | Pending Issue File Change (BDN Command  |
| PCGL  | Personal Computer Generated Letters  |
| PCT  | Percentage  |
| PEB  | Physical Evaluation Board (Military)  |
| PFOP  | Personal Funds of Patient  |
| PGW  | Persian Gulf War  |
| PHS  | Public Health Service  |
| PIES  | Personnel Information Exchange System  |
| PIF  | Pending Issue File  |

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| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| PL  | Public Law  |
| PMC  | Pension Management Center  |
| PMCM | Pension Management Center Manager |
| PMR | Private Medical Records  |
| POA | Power of Attorney (Usually Service Organizations) |
| POW  | Prisoner of War  |
| PTE  | Peacetime Enlistment  |
| PTI  | Permanently Transferred In  |
| PTO  | Permanently Transferred Out  |
| PTSD  | Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder  |
| PVA  | Paralyzed Veterans Of America (POA)  |
| RAD  | Release from Active Duty  |
| RADL  | Redesigned Automated Decision Letter  |
| REPS  | Restored Entitlement Program for Survivors  |
| RMC  | Records Management Center  |
| RO  | Regional Office  |
| RR  | Railroad Retirement  |
| RTR  | Ready to Rate  |
| RVN  | Republic of Vietnam  |
| RVSR  | Rating Veterans Service Representative  |
| SAT  | Satisfactory Service (BIRLS Code)  |
| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| SAW  | Spanish American War  |
| SBP  | Survivors Benefit Plan (Retired Military)  |
| SC or S/C  | Service Connected  |
| SLC or SL  | Special Law Code  |
| SMC | Special Monthly Compensation |
| SME | Subject Matter Expert  |
| SMIB | Supplemental Medical Insurance Benefit |
| SOA  | Statement of Account (of Funeral Goods and Services)  |
| SOC  | Statement of the Case  |
| SPR  | Service Personnel Records  |
| SSDI  | Social Security Disability Insurance  |
| SSI  | Supplemental Security Income  |
| SSN  | Social Security Number  |
| SSOC  | Supplemental Statement of the Case  |
| STR  | Service Treatment Records  |
| SVSR  | Senior Veterans Service Representative  |
| TDRL  | Temporary Disability Retired List  |
| TERA | Toxic Exposure Risk Activity |
| TPSS  | Training Performance and Support Systems  |

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| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| TTI  | Temporarily Transfer In  |
| TTO  | Temporarily Transfer Out  |
| UHC  | Discharge Under Honorable Conditions  |
| UME  | Unreimbursed Medical Expenses  |
| USC  | United States Code (U.S.C.)  |
| VA  | Department of Veterans Affairs  |
| VACO  | VA Central Office  |
| VACOLS | Veterans Appeals Control and Locator System |
| VADS  | Veterans Assistance Discharge System  following the VADS Field on the VID Screen in BIRLS indicates VADS Data Input.)  |
| VAF  | Veterans Administration Form  |
| VAMC  | Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center  |
| VARO  | Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office  |
| VARO&IC  | Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office & Insurance Center  |
| VBA  | Veterans Benefits Administration  |
| VBMS  | Veteran Benefits Management System (replaced VETSNET)  |
| VCE  | Veterans Claims Examiner  |
| VE  | Vietnam Era  |
| VFW  | Veterans of Foreign Wars (POA)  |
| VHA  | Veterans Health Administration  |
| VID  | Veteran Identification Data (BIRLS Screen)  |
| **Acronym**  | **Term/Definition**  |
| VISN  | Veterans Integrated Service Network  |
| VR&C  | Vocational Rehabilitation & Counseling  |
| VR&E  | Vocational Rehabilitation and Education  |
| VRMOD  | Veterans Rate Month of Death  |
| VSC  | Veterans Service Center  |
| VSCM  | Veterans Service Center Manager  |
| VSO  | Veterans Service Organization, or Veterans Service Officer  |
| VSR  | Veterans Service Representative  |
| VVA  | Vietnam Veterans of America (POA), or Virtual VA  |
| WAC  | Women’s Army Corp  |
| WARMS  | Web Automated Reference Materials System  |
| WIA  | Wounded in Action  |
| WWI  | World War I  |
| WWII  | World War II  |
| XC  | Deceased Veteran's claims folder  |