# Independent Living Assessment & Services of Iowa

2717 West Virginia Ave Midville, Iowa 00446

#### INDEPENDENT LIVING ASSESSMENT

Referral Source:	VR&E Midville, Iowa
Veteran Name:	David King TRA-22-4444
Name of Evaluator:	William H. Crawson, Ph.D., CRC, CVE
Date of Assessment:	September 15, 2019
Potential IL Goal:	Increase independence in Activities of daily Living
Location of Assessment:	Home of individual

The Independent Living (IL) assessment is intended to obtain a general overview of an Individual's independent living situ ation. It is designed to review arrangements that may complement or cause potential barriers to living independently, and once these issues are addressed, make recommendations that will increase the individual's independence in Activities of Daily Living (ADL).

#### **Background Information**

David is 54 years old, married with no dependent children. He currently resides with his wife who works as a school teacher in the local elementary school system. He earned a BS degree in Social Studies in 1989.

David served in the US Army from 02/20/1990 to 02/28/2010 with an honorable discharge. He served as an Infantry Officer during most of his Army career before retiring. Since leaving the Army, he has held three sales jobs with each lasting less than a year and has been unemployed for over five years. David has been unable to secure employment within the local area due to his numerous medical problems.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has awarded David a combined service-connected disability (SCD) rating of 100% for multiple medical conditions as described below. VA provided some medical reports for review and these indicate that he is experiencing increasing problems with his SCDs, but is not receiving close medical supervision and follow up.

According to the VA, Mr. King is rated I 00% combined schedular rating as follows:

- -30% for partial paralysis of left side requiring long leg brace
- -50% Coronary Artery Disease associated with myocardial infarction

-30%PTSD

-20% for Hypertension

- -20% for Diabetes Mellitus
- -20% Venous insufficiency in lower extremities

The Independent Living (IL) Assessment was requested by VA Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment of Midville, Iowa. The referral required that the IL Assessment be completed by a VA contract counselor with independent living experience who would conduct an in-home evaluation to determine David's current level of independence. These conditions were complied with and the purpose of the IL Assessment was to determine what, if any , services and/or assistance could enable David to increase his level of independence in Activities of Daily Living.

#### Living Environment

David owns his own home. It is a one story brick home. David's property is on a sloping lot with uneven ground between the driveway, steps, and entry to the front door. The entrance to his home requires him to climb 3 steps.

The IL Assessment addressed the following activities of daily living areas:

#### Medical

David has multiple, severe disabilities and discussion of all aspects of medical treatment was initiated. Obtaining information from David was difficult and it was necessary to ask follow up questions as he tended to gloss over facts, particularly regarding his treatment. David expresses that he is registered and has been seen at the VAMC, but has not been attending appointments recently. Consequently, it was determined in the course of inquiry that his compliance and follow up is an area that needs attention and would produce positive results in increasing his in dependence . A key marker for services in this area was quickly identified, i.e., that he is not fully compliant in medical treatment. This was also noted by the VA Vocational Rehabilitation Courselor.

David has been prescribed multiple medications. There is reason to believe that he neither knows what medication he is supposed to take nor is compliant with medications as prescribed. Active involvement in medical follow up, keeping all appointments, taking medication as prescribed, and cooperating with treatment plan outlined by treating physician at VAMC was seen as a crucial part of any IL plan of services to be developed.

#### Sleeping

David reports difficulty sleeping, indicating he only gets 4 or 5 hours of sleep per night. He wakes up with nightmares, often about combat situations. In the past he was prescribed sleep medications but stopped taking them because he didn't think they worked.

#### Memory and Concentration

David reports he forgets things, such as prescriptions and appointments , and has difficulty concentrating for long periods of time .

#### Mobility

David has problems with balance and must use a cane for ambulation to reduce the risk of falling. In addition to the paralysis, he has circulatory problems in both legs and has some chronic pain in both extremities, especially if he is on his feet for more than a brief period of time. In the past, he has had issues with clotting in this leg and currently takes a blood thinner, Coumadin, for this condition. The paralysis restricts David in activities of standing, walking, climbing, squatting, reaching , carrying, climbing and other activities involving the lower extremities and/or both arms. He has a lift chair to assist him in getting out of his chair.

#### Transportation

David has means for transportation in order to meet the needs of his wife and himself. They own a 2020 Chevrolet SUV with 1 2,200 miles on the vehicle. David is capable of driving and does so at times; however, he normally leaves driving to his wife. David does have access to public transportation, but prefers his personal vehicle. He has family members in the local area should he need their services for back up transportation or other support activities.

#### Communication

David has access to a telephone, has appropriate phone numbers to use in case of an emergency, and is well versed in usage. Furthermore, he has a cell phone which he uses and also communicates via email on his household computer. His computer system is a current up to date model having been purchased in the last six months.

#### Housing

David owns his own home where he lives with his wife. He has no children in the household. His wife is very supportive and helps him in activities around the house such as cooking , driving , and house cleaning.

David has considerable difficulty in entering and leaving his home because of the number of steps involved. Due to uneven ground and a number of steps David cannot enter his house without great difficulty and assistance. His overall physical condition, particularly his left-sided paralysis and lower extremity issues, make climbing and descending these steps difficult and somewhat dangerous. He could benefit from housing modification, in the form of a ramp which would eliminate climbing and descending the many steps, at the entry point to the house.

The walk way area of the ramp is recommended to be at least 3'---6" wide with  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter handrails installed on both sides of the ramp mounted at a height of between 2'-10" and 3'-2". Because ramps may serve as an emergency exit, the ramp/walkway must be constructed of fire-retardant material and must be nonslip or be treated to prevent slipping when wet. Because this is a sloping property some grading and leveling is anticipated to accommodate the driveway joining the ramp.

Also due to the limitations of his disabilities, there are some safety issues in the bathroom that could be offset by grab bars and support railings to assist in entry and egress from the bath tub. This will involve three (3) horizontal grab bars of 18" length, 1 ½" diameter adequately secured to support the user's weight. The grab bars should be located with one on each side of the bath tub and a support railing 24" high that slides over the interior facing side of the bath tub side (see diagram, SAH Report). Also two non-slip mats will be obtained for the bath tub bottom and the floor adjoining the bath tub to ensure necessary non-slip surfaces.

These modifications to the home should result in increased independence in activities of daily living (ADL) and enable David to enter and leave his home independent of others and without risk of injury.

A special adaptive housing assessment is needed to determine if specific types of modifications are recommended and to determine eligibility for a VA SAH grant. As a possible resource for David, he is probably eligible for the *Specially Adapted Housing* (SAH) grant and the Home Improvement and Structural Alterations (HISA) benefit.

#### Self-Care

Individual is able to dress hims elf, feed hims elf, and take care of personal hygiene issues. His wife is very supportive and helps him in activities around the house such as cooking, driving, and housecleaning. He is able to ensure that food is available and prepare meals and snacks as needed. His bathroom has a raised toilet seat with arms which assists him in getting on and off the toilet.

He does have difficulty in bathing himself because of his instability due to left-sided paralysis and lower extremity venous insufficiency. Home modifications in the form of grab bars in the bath tub area and non-slip mats on the bathroom floor should enable David to bathe himself without danger of falls and injury. He also has issues with mobility issues addressed els ewhere.

#### **Finance issues**

David is able to keep a banking/checking account and pay his bills. His income is adequate for his standard of living and he owns his home. No significant debts or money management issues identified. Individual is competent to handle his money, develop a budget as needed, and provide financial support to his family. Individual does have a computer which he uses in to organize his finances and to keep up with relatives and acquaintances via email. He appears to be functioning independently regarding his management of finances.

#### Education

Individual has sufficient education to successfully meet his ne eds, make adjustments, and benefit from IL services. No education or training needs identified as a prerequisite for proceeding further or areas of deficiencies noted.

#### Self-Direction

David has the capacity to organize structure and manage activities in a manner that best serves his needs and objectives. He is able to wake up and conduct himself throughout the day in activities such as keeping appointments, taking medication, and staying alert. He has adequate self- direction to plan, initiate and monitor behavior with respect to an identified outcome.

David is able to manage his family's income and keep up with paying his bills and there are no legal issues pending due to financial circumstances. His current monthly income includes VA dis ability compensation and military retirement. He did not report any financial issues. His wife earns approximately \$3,000 per month as a school teacher.

#### **Interpersonal Skills**

David experiences problems with meeting and dealing with people due to current levels of stress and anxiety. He reports that he doesn't have any friends, does not like to be around a lot of people and prefers to stay home to avoid dealing with people. He is difficult to extract information from and reluctantly reports difficulty with getting along with people, problems with authority figures, quick to anger and lash out at others, frequent periods of depression, low frustration tolerance, sleep problems. It was felt that many of these issues are directly related to his PTSD.

He is not being seen in individual or group sessions at the VAMC or other facility on a scheduled basis. He has registered and has been seen at the VAMC, but there is a long record of no shows and failure to respond documented in the medical record. Likewise, there is a real question as to his being compliant with any of his medications for anxiety and depression.

Consistent and ongoing treatment for PTSD and related emotional issues was identified as a concern. It is believed that other IL services would not be effective if David does not take steps to deal therapeutically with his PTSD issue s. IILP will incorporate mandatory mental health treatment as a separate objective based on David's need s. This objective will hopefully diminish his level of anger focusing on his internal control and emotional self-management to reduce stress and depression. Secondary gain in this area should be in creased social skills and interaction with peers and community.

#### Alcohol and/or use illegal substances

David denies having any current or past problems with alcohol or drugs. All medications he is taking are for his heart condition, diabetes and for anxiety associated with PTSD. He noted he has never been charged or convicted of any criminal acts.

#### Cultural, religious or extended family considerations

David does not have any cultural, religious or extended family that might impose on the Individual's current living situation.

#### Activities

David is a sports enthusiast and follows Major League baseball on TV. He follows all the seasonal sports such as football, basketball, and golf. He reads the newspaper daily to keep up with developments and talks frequently with friends about sports developments. He time manages much of his day around sporting activities.

#### **Future Goals**

David aspires to be more independent in his activities of daily living, particularly as it involves accessibility to his home, his ability to control dis ability issues such as diabetes and hypertension, and to have better control over anger management issues.

VA benefits and facilities have been identified as resources for him to accomplish these goals .

- -The SAH grant will allow him to mod if y his home as needed.
- -Better maintenance of health issue s is available through Primary Care Provider and medical regime s per VAMC.
- -VAMC PTSD and anger management treatment is available to assist with problems with current level s of stress and anxiety

#### Independent Living Recommendations/IL Needs/Potential Resources:

After review of David's rehabilitation records and following the comprehensive IL Assessment, three Independent Living recommendations are proposed. These three recommendations were as follows:

1. Housing modification for the front entry to the home with possible ramp and handrails. Also bathroom modifications to include grab bars, hand rails, and non-slip mats or other modification for the floor as appropriate.

Resource: A special adaptive housing assessment is needed to determine specific types of modifications are recommended and to determine eligibility for a VA SAH grant. As a possible resource for David, he is probably eligible for the *Specially Adapted Housing* (SAH) grant and the Home Improvement and Structural Alterations (HISA) benefit.

2. Plan of service to include increased compliance with medical treatment including taking medications as prescribed and keeping medical appointments. This is considered critical as David has serious disability problems that have the likelihood of becoming proportionately more debilitating without adherence to prescribed medical regimen s per VAMC.

Resource: Primary Care Physicians at the VA Medical Center are available to provide medic al treatment. David has been prescribed multiple medication s. There is reason to believe that he neither knows what medication he is supposed to take nor is compliant with medications as prescribed. Active involvement in medical follow up, keeping all appointments, taking medication as prescribed, and cooperating with treatment plan outlined by treating physician at VAMC was seen as a crucial part of any IL plan of services to be developed.

3. PTSD and anger management treatment to assist with problems in meeting and dealing with people due to current levels of stress and anxiety. David is experiencing ongoing and increasing problems re la ted to internal and external stressors. He is reporting difficulty with getting along with people, problems with authority figures, is quick to anger and lash out at others. Treatment will address his level of anger and PTSD issues and focus on his internal control and emotional self-management to reduce stress and depression. Secondary gain in this area should be increased social skills and interaction with peers and community.

Resource: VA Medical Center offers treatment programs focused on PTSD and anger management with treatment regimens and support staff available in this area of the individual 's need.

William H. Crawson, Ph .D., CRC, CVE Independent Living Evaluation (448) 555-1218

Department of Veterans Affairs	REQUEST FOR MEDICAL SERVICES - CHAPTER 31				
PART I - (To be completed b	y Vocational Rehab	ilitation Spe			
TO Director (136) ATTN: Chief of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation		RETU TO	<b>RN</b> 349	ional Rehabilitation and	Counseling Division
INSTRUCTIONS – The veteran named below is a participant und- needed, provide under appropriate VA Regulations. If the veteran's include this information in Item 16. RETURN THIS FORM TO T	medical condition ei HE ADDRESS SH	ther require IOWN AB	s a leave of abs OVE.	ence or makes train	
1. NAME OF VETERAN (First-middle-last)	2. TELEPHON	IE NUMBER	(Include Area Code	e) 3. SOCIAL	SECURITY NUMBER
David L. King	A. HOME B. WORK	( )	222-4444		TRA-22-4444
4. ADDRESS OF VETERAN 1644 Potts Road		. SERVICE [		6. VA FILE	
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8. REHABILITATION OBJECTIVE OF VETERAN				9. ANTICIPATED D	ATE OF REHABILITATION
Possible Independent Living Services					05/2022
10A. DISABILITIES AND RATING INFORMATION:				I	
Code % SC		Ľ	escription		
Combined SCD Rating: 100%					
Requesting a consult by the Rehabilitation Medicine physic recommended treatment and follow up. Please call if you for your assistance in working with this Veteran.					
12. PREFERRED DAY AND TIME FOR APPOINTMENT					
13. SIGNATURE OF VOCATION REHABILITATION SPECIALIST OR COUNS		ст	14. TELEP		15. DATE
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	II - (To be complete	d by Medic	al Personnel)		·
16A. REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED AND DISPOSITION OF CASE					
16B. CHECK BOX IF APPLICABLE	SEPARATE MEDICA				
17. SIGNATURE OF EXAMINING PHYSICIAN	]	18 DA			
VA FORM <b>28-8861</b>					

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	PART I - (To be completed b	y Vocational Reha	abilitation S	pecialist or			
	Director (136)				Vocation	al Rehabilitation and	Counseling Division
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							03/2022
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C	ode % SC			Descript	tion		
SC	D: 30% for partial paralysis of left side requiring long leg	a brace					
		5					
Con	Combined SCD Rating: 100%						
	Iblied COD Rating. 10070						
11 DF	ESCRIBE REASONS FOR REFERRAL						
	questing a consult by the Neurologist to evaluate and p	rovide anv recor	mmendat	ions adap	tive eaui	ipment in next s	cheduled Neurological exam.
	ase call if you have any questions that should be addre						
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For Training Purposes Only

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# PRELIMINARY INDEPENDENT LIVING (IL) ASSESSMENT

IMPORTANT: A preliminary evaluation of Independent Living (IL) needs is to be conducted with the veteran by the VA case manager. If potential IL needs are identified through a preliminary assessment, then a comprehensive IL evaluation is to be completed. (M28, Part IV, Subpart iv, Ch 9)

**READ TO VETERAN**: ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING: This questionnaire focuses on Activities of Daily Living. Activities which should be examined during the initial assessment include: Alcohol/Substance Abuse; Housing; Personal/Emotional/Spiritual Needs; and Leisure/Vocational Activities. The veteran's responses to the questions will help determine how much difficulty the veteran may have had in performing these activities during the past month. Difficulty is defined as how hard it was or how much effort it took to complete an activity because of the veteran's disability(ies).

1. FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST NAME			A FILE NUMBER		3. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.		4. DATE	
David	L. King		TRA-22-4444 TRA-22		TRA-22-4444 05		/2019	
		PART I - AC	TIVITIES OF DA	ILY LIVING				
difficu	This questionnaire focuses on types of activities related to independent living. Your responses to the questions will help determine how much difficulty you may have had in performing these activities during the past month. By difficulty, we mean how hard was it or how much effort did it take to do the activity because of your disability(ies). Check the box in the column that most closely identifies your response.							
ITEM NO.	DURING THE PAST MONTH, HOW MUCH DIFFICULTY DID YOU HAVE DOING THE FOLLOWING TASKS?	USUALLY DID WITH NO DIFFICULTY	USUALLY DID WITH SOME DIFFICULTY	USUALLY DID WITH HELP OR ASSISTIVE DEVICE	USUALLY NOT D BECAUSI DISABILI	DO E OF	USUALLY DID NOT DO FOR OTHER REASONS	
5	TAKING CARE OF SELF, INCLUDING EATING, DRESSING, OR BATHING	4	⊠ 3	2	1		0	
6	MOVING IN AND OUT OF A BED OR CHAIR	4	3	⊠ 2	1		0	
7	WALKING SEVERAL BLOCKS	4	3	2	⊠ 1		0	
8	WALKING ONE BLOCK, OR CLIMBING ONE FLIGHT OF STAIRS	4	3	2	⊠ 1		0	
9	WALKING INDOORS, SUCH AS AROUND YOUR HOME	4	3	⊠ 2	1		0	
10	DOING WORK AROUND THE HOUSE SUCH AS CLEANING, LIGHT YARD WORK, OR LAUNDRY	4	3	2	区 1		0	
11	DOING ERRANDS, SUCH AS SHOPPING	4	3	2	⊠ 1		0	
12	DRIVING A CAR, OR USING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION	4	3	2	⊠ 1		0	
13	VISITING WITH RELATIVES OR FRIENDS	4	3	2	1		∑ 0	
14	PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS RELIGIOUS SERVICES, SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, OR VOLUNTEER WORK	4	3	2	<u> </u>		⊠ 0	
15	TAKING CARE OF OTHER PEOPLE SUCH AS FAMILY MEMBERS	4	□ 3	2	⊠ 1		0	

VA FORM 28-0791

SUPERSEDES VA FORM 28-0791, FEB 2010,

WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.

	PART I - ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING (Continued)					
ITEM NO.	DURING THE PAST MONTH, HOW MUCH DIFFICULTY DID YOU HAVE DOING THE FOLLOWING TASKS?	USUALLY DID WITH NO DIFFICULTY	USUALLY DID WITH SOME DIFFICULTY	USUALLY DID WITH HELP OR ASSISTIVE DEVICE	USUALLY DID NOT DO BECAUSE OF DISABILITIES	USUALLY DID NOT DO FOR OTHER REASONS
16	PARTICIPATING IN MODERATE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS PLAYING GOLF	4	3	2	∑ 1	0
17	WRITING USING PEN OR PENCIL	⊠ 4	3	2	<u> </u>	0
18	BENDING, STOOPING, LIFTING	4	3	2	∑ 1	0
19	SLEEPING	4	⊠ 3	2	<u> </u>	0
20	TAKING OWN MEDICATIONS	4	⊠ 3	2	<u> </u>	0
21	USING TELEPHONE	⊠ 4	3	2	<u> </u>	0
22	HANDLING OWN MONEY	⊠ 4	3	2	<u> </u>	0
23	PREPARING OWN MEALS	4	⊠ 3	2	<u> </u>	0
24	USING TOILET	4	3	∑ 2	<u> </u>	0
25	PARTICIPATING IN VIGOROUS ACTIVITIES	4	3	2	∑ 1	0
26	MEMORY AND CONCENTRATION	4	⊠ 3	2	<u> </u>	0
27	GETTING IN AND OUT OF RESIDENCE	4	3	∑ 2	<u> </u>	0
28	CONTROLLING ENVIRONMENT, SUCH AS OPERATING A FAN, THERMOSTAT, OR TV	⊠ 4	3	2	<u> </u>	0
29	COMMUNICATING WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS	4	3	2	<u> </u>	⊠ 0
	R ANY ACTIVITY WHICH YOU MARKE avid has difficulty bathing because of his i			afraid of falling and inju	uring himself while taki	ng a shower.
#6: Da	avid has a lift chair which assists him gett	ing out of his chair.				
#7: He cannot walk one or several blocks because of partial paralysis of left side effecting the left arm and left leg. He has problems with balance and stamina and must use a cane when ambulating.						
	31. IN GENERAL, HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR OVERALL LEVEL OF INDEPENDENCE?					
	32. DO YOU HAVE A PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT?					
			OHOL/SUBSTA			
🗌 YE	D YOU NOW, OR HAVE YOU EVER HA	D A PROBLEM WITH	H ALCOHOL OR DR	UG ABUSE?		
	34. ARE YOU NOW ABSTINENT?					

VA FORM 28-0791, AUG 2015

35. HOW MUCH, HOW OFTEN, AND W	'HAT SUBSTANCE (ALCOHOL AND/OR DRUGS) DO YOU USE?
	PART III - HOUSING
36. WHERE DO YOU CURRENTLY LIV	
⊠OWN □RENT	U VA DOMICILIARY
	OTHER (Please explain)
37. WHO LIVES WITH YOU?	
	FRIENDS
	OTHER (Please explain)
	S IN YOUR CURRENT HOUSING OR LIVING ARRANGEMENTS?
$\square$ YES $\times$ NO (If "Yes," please of	xplain)
39. DO YOU FEEL SAFE AT HOME AN	D ON THE STREET?
$\times$ YES $\square$ NO (If "No," please e	
PA	RT IV - PERSONAL, EMOTIONAL, AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS
	EEL THAT YOU HAVE IN YOUR LIFE AND THE CHOICES THAT MATTER TO YOU?
About like everybody else I guess.	
41. IN GENERAL, HOW DO YOU FEEL	ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR LIFE?
Okay, I guess.	
42. HOW MUCH SUPPORT DOES YOU	
Not very close to my family who all live f	ar away.
	ETTING ALONG WITH OTHER PEOPLE?
$\times$ YES $\square$ NO <i>(If "Yes," please ex</i>	
I stay to myself. I become frustrated and	easily angered by people.

44. DO Y0	OU HAVE	SPIRITUAL NEEDS THAT ARE NOT BEING MET?
YES	$\times$ NO	(If "Yes," please explain)

		RE/AVOCATIONAL ACTIVITIES
ITEM	A. CURRENT HOBBIES	45. HOBBIES B. AMOUNT OF TIME SPENT ON EACH HOBBY PER MONTH
NO.	A. CORRENT HOBBIES	B. AWOONT OF TIME SPENT ON EACHTIODET PER MONTH
1		
2		
3		
4		
		)?
	S X NO (If "Yes," please explain)	
	PART VI - A	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
38, Co inform identif Federa by itse require	de of Federal Regulations 1.576 for the purpose of educational an ation will not be released outside VA unless you authorize its rele- ied in VA system of records, 58VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pensic I Register. Your obligation to respond is required to obtain or retair if will not result in the denial of benefits. VA will not deny an in ad by a Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and	
estima inform control	te that you will need an average of 1 hour to review the instruction ation unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. You are not	endent living needs. Title 38, United States Code, allows us to ask for this information. We s, find the information, and complete this form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of required to respond to a collection of information if this number is not displayed. Valid OMB <b>nfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain</b> . If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on

## David L. King VA Form 28-0791 – Box 30 Continuation

#### 30. FOR ANY ACTIVITY WHICH YOU MARKED 3 OR LOWER, PLEASE EXPLAIN

#8: David has a lot of trouble going up and down steps due to his paralysis, leg brace and leg pain. He needs assistance with stairs. David has considerable difficulty in entering and leaving his home because of the number of steps involved. The property is on a sloping lot with uneven ground between the driveway, steps, and entry to the front door. Due to uneven ground and a number of steps David cannot enter house without great difficulty and assistance.

#9: David has difficulty walking indoors. He can ambulate indoors with his cane. He gets tired easily and has trouble with balance.

#10: David doesn't do any work around the house due to his paralysis, leg pain, shortness of breath and fatigue.

#11: His wife does most of the grocery shopping. David gets fatigued easily and must use a cane to ambulate so errands are difficult. He also gets anxious around crowds.

#12: He does not drive due to medical problems. His wife drives him.

#13: He indicates he doesn't get out much to see friends or relatives and would rather keep to himself. Being around a lot of people makes him nervous. He talks on the phone sometimes with relatives and sees them sometimes at Christmas.

#14: He doesn't attend church or social activites due to anxiety and stress being around crowds.

#15: He takes care of paying bills; otherwise reports his wife takes care of him.

#16: He cannot participate in recreational activities because of the severity of his disabilities (leg pain, fatigue, dizziness, paralysis).

#18: David cannot bend, stoop, or lift due to paralysis, pain, shortness of breath and dizziness.

#19: David has difficulty sleeping due to nightmares. He only sleeps 4-5 hours a night.

#20: David is prescribed multiple medications and admits he does not take any of his medications daily as prescribed. He says he only takes medications for hypertension sporadically. He seems to be noncompliant in monitoring and administering his insulin dosages. He does take his medication for anxiety (Xanax).

#23: David has some difficulty preparing meals due to his left side paralysis.

#24: David has a raised toilet with seat handles which assists him in getting on and off the toilet.

#25: David is unable to participate in vigorous activities due to his paralysis, hypertension, and leg pain. He fatigues easily, has chronic pain in his legs if he is on his feet for long periods of time, and uses a cane to ambulate.

#26: Sometimes he forgets things and has trouble concentrating, which he believes is due to medications.

#27: David has considerable difficulty in entering and leaving his home because of the number of steps involved. His overall physical condition, particularly his left-sided paralysis and lower extremity issues, make climbing and descending these steps difficult and somewhat dangerous. He also admits he doesn't like to go out much - he gets anxious and frustrated easily.

#29: David does not communicate with family or friends regularly. He relates that he does not enjoy being in public and stays at home, except for short trips to the VAMC or to the grocery. He reports a very low frustration tolerance whend ealing with others. He fears that his anger may result in his being out of control in public and cites this as the primary reason he isolates himself for much of the time.



For Training Purposes Only DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS VA Regional Office 1776 Constitution Parkway Midville, Iowa 00434

05-10-2019

Mr. David King 1644 Potts Road Clearview, IA 00662 (US) In Reply Refer to: RO 379/28

Dear Mr. King:

Congratulations, I am writing to inform you of the following decision that grants your Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits.

# What decision did I make and what authority did I use?

When making a decision on your VA benefits that are provided by the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) program, I must base my decision on specific laws and regulations. These laws are found in title 38 of the United States Code (U.S.C.); and the regulations are found in title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Based on a review of these laws and regulations, I have decided that you are entitled to VR&E benefits and services, which include counseling and healthcare services. I based this decision on 38 U.S.C. §§ 3102 and 3103; and 38 CFR §§ 21.40, 21.44, 21.51 and 21.52.

# Why did I make this decision?

I made this decision based on the following reason(s): You attended the scheduled Orientation and completed the qualification process regarding your claim for Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment services. We found that you are qualified and entitled to Chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment services. We determined that you have barriers to gainful employment and that you need assistance to become suitably employed.

# What evidence did I use to make this decision?

We reviewed the information you provided during your initial appointment, the Rehabilitation Needs Inventory and supporting documentation to evaluate the limitations brought about by your disability. We determined you do need assistance to overcome those limitations and impairments to employment. If you would like copies of this information, please contact me to arrange the most efficient way to get this information to you.

# For Training Purposes Only **What if you disagree with my decision?**

If you disagree with my decision, either you or your accredited representative, such as a Veterans Service Organization representative, independent claims agent, or private attorney, can request a review of the decision at the regional office level or file a request for a formal appeal at the Board of Veterans Appeals (Board). You have one year from the date of this letter to select and file a review option in order to protect your initial filing date for effective date purposes.

• Request a Higher-Level Review (HLR) at the Regional Office Level

If you disagree with my decision, you can request an HLR to be completed at the regional office where I work, or an alternate regional office (see note below) within one year of the date of this letter. You may also request an informal conference during the HLR process. An informal conference provides you, and your representative if you have one, the opportunity to tell the reviewer why you disagree with my decision and to discuss the decision before the reviewer completes his/her review. To request an HLR, please complete VA Form 20-0996, Decision Review Request: Higher-Level Review, and return it to the address at the top of the letter. If you have new evidence to provide, this option is not available to you. Please see below for your options if you have new evidence to provide. Also, you may not request an HLR of an HLR decision issued by VA.

Note: Due to the specialized processing needs of VR&E, by default your HLR will be completed at the regional office where I work, which contradicts the information listed in <u>box 13</u> on VA Form 20-0996. If you want your HLR to be completed at an alternate regional office, please indicate that in writing in box 13.

• File a Supplemental Claim (SC) at the Regional Office Level

If you disagree with my decision and you have new evidence to provide, you can request a SC to be completed at the regional office where I work. A SC is completed by either myself or another Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor that works at the same regional office in which I work. To request a SC, please complete VA Form 20-0995, Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim. There is no time limit to request this review; however, if you submit a SC later than one year after the date of this letter, the effective date for any resulting award of benefits generally will be tied to the date VA receives the request for a SC.

• File a Formal Appeal with the Board of Veterans Appeals

If you disagree with my decision, you may appeal the decision to the Board of Veterans Appeals. If you want to file a formal appeal, please complete VA Form 10182, Decision Review Request: Board Appeal (Notice of Disagreement), and follow the instructions on the form regarding how to submit the appeal. You have one year from the date of this letter to file an appeal.

It is important to note that you may elect either an HLR or a SC at the regional office level, or elect an appeal by the Board. You may not have the same issue under review at both the regional office and the Board at the same time. You must elect which option you wish to pursue.

The enclosed VA Form 20-0998, "Your Rights To Seek Further Review of Our Decision", explains your options in greater detail and provides instructions on how to request further review. You may download a copy of any of the required application forms noted above by visiting www.va.gov/vaforms/ or you may contact us by telephone at 1-800-827-1000 and we will mail you any form you need.

You can visit www.va.gov/decision-reviews to learn more about how the disagreement process works.

If you would like to obtain or access evidence used in making this decision, please contact us by telephone, email, or letter letting us know what you would like to obtain. Some evidence may be obtained online by visiting VA.gov.

# What if you have questions or concerns?

If you have any questions about this letter or need additional information on VA benefits, please contact me at 448-555- 0228, via email at casey.tisdale@va.gov or call 1-800-827-1000. If you use the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), the federal number is 711.

Sincerely yours,

Casey Tisdsale VRC

Enclosure: VA Form 20-0998, Your Rights to Seek Further Review of our Decision

CC:

How can eBenefits assist you?

eBenefits is a web portal that provides resources and self-service capabilities to Veterans, Servicemembers, and their families to research, access and manage their VA and military benefits and personal information. It is a joint effort between VA and the Department of Defense. eBenefits uses secure credentials to allow access to personal information and gives users the ability to perform numerous self-service functions. The eBenefits portal also provides access to the Veterans Employment Center, a one-stop

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career website for Veterans, transitioning Servicemembers and GI Bill beneficiaries, as well as military spouses and dependents. You will also find a list of links to other sites that provide information about military and Veteran benefits. It is an essential way for Veterans, Servicemembers, and their families to receive access to services. To access eBenefits, go to <u>www.ebenefits.va.gov</u>.

Depar	tment of Vetera	ans Affairs	NOTES FROM COUNSELING A	ND NEXT STEPS
1. NAME (First, Middle			2. FILE NUMBER	
	David I			-22-4444
3. LONG RANGE ( Independent L:	GOAL iving Services	PLANS AG	REED UPON	
4. PROPOSED PR	OGRAM			5. DESIRED PROGRAM BEGINNING DATE
		NEXT STEPS	TO BE TAKEN	
6A. PREFERRED SEQUENCE		6B. NECESSAR	ACTIONS	6C. DATE ACTION COMPLETED
1	Entitlement to vo date	cational rehabilitation	services was established on this	05/10/2019
2	Comprehensive Inde	ependent Living Evaluatio	on	
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
			NG APPOINTMENT	
7A. DATE TBD	7B. TIME 7C	. LOCATION		
VOCATIONAL SPECIALIST	PSYCHOLOGIST OR REHABILITATION	8B. TELEPHONE NUMBER TO CONTACT (448) 555-0228	9A. SIGNATURE OF COUNSELEE David King	9B. DATE OF SIGNATURE 05/10/2019

VA FORM 28-8606

Department of Veterans Affairs	FEASIBILITY DET	ERMINATION - NARRATI	/E REPORT
FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME OF CLAIMANT		VA FILE NUMBER	
David King		TRA-22-4444	
Is achievement of a vocational goal current	tly reasonably feasible?	(38 CFR 21.53)	
Achievement of a vocational goal is current Explain and justify decision:	ently reasonably feasible.		
Achievement of a vocational goal is not on Explain and justify decision:	currently reasonably feasi	ble.	
X Achievement of a vocational goal cannot Explain and justify decision:	t currently be determined.		
David is currently rated at 100% for his mul Medical records and discussions with David required to hold down even the most sedents anxiety in public, inability to deal with author capacity even more remote. Therefore, base vocational goal is not currently feasible. Dav paralysis, PTSD, and multiple other physica engage in prolonged lifting. Activities such aggravating to most all conditions. Therefore	I reveal that he is very limite ary employment. Further, hi ority figures and people in g d on the overwhelming evid vid has severe limitations du al disabilities. He cannot be c as climbing, bending, runni	ed physically and does not possess the s issues associated with PTSD, i.e., general, make the possibility of empletence, it is determined that achiever the to his coronary artery disease, left on his feet for prolonged periods, not and carrying heavy objects are po	ne stamina anger control, oyment in any nent of a t sided r can he
DATE OF DETERMINATION:05-10-20	019		
signature Casey Tisdale	TITLE VRC		DATE 05-10-2019
VA FORM DEC 2019 <b>28-1902f</b>			Page 1

Department of Veterans Affai	rs COUNSEL		- NARRATIVE REPO	ORT
1. FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME OF CL	AIMANT	2. VA FILE NUMBER	3. REGIONAL OFFICE	NUMBER
David L. King		TRA-22-4444	379	
	N OF MAXIMUM REHA	BILITATION GAIN (M	RG) CLOSURE	
(References: 38 U.S NOTE: The section below is used only	S.C. 3101, 3109, 3111 and for justifying the decision			lance
or previous determination of MRG.				anoc,
BASED ON REVIEW OF THE CITED LAWS A				
CLAIMANT <u>MEETS</u> THE CRITERIA FOR (References: 38 U.S.C. 3101, 3109 and 3117		NG A DETERMINATION OF	- REHABILITATION.	
CLAIMANT <u>DOES NOT MEET</u> THE CRI (References: 38 U.S.C. 3101, 3109 and 3117		FOLLOWING A DETERMII	NATION OF REHABILITATION.	
CLAIMANT <u>MEETS</u> THE CRITERIA FOR DISCONTINUANCE HAVE BEEN REMO				
CLAIMANT DOES NOT MEET THE CRIT DISCONTINUANCE HAVE BEEN REMO				
CLAIMANT MEETS THE CRITERIA TO	SET ASIDE THE PREVIOUS	DETERMINATION OF MR	G.	
CLAIMANT <u>DOES NOT MEET</u> THE CRI (Reference: 38 U.S.C. 3111; 38 CFR 21.198)		PREVIOUS DETERMINATIO	ON OF MRG.	
EXPLAIN AND JUSTIFY DECISION:				
NA				
<b>NOTE:</b> If the claimant does not meet the criteria Employment (VR&E) Counselor must determine				
to Section VI. SECTION II - AUTOMATIC EN				<u> </u>
SECTION II - AUTOMATIC EN	PUBLIC LAW 11		NDER THE FROMSIONS O	Υ <b>Γ</b>
5. CLAIMANT'S ENTITLEMENT IS ESTABLISH DETERMINATION OF AN EMPLOYMENT H				
X RECEIPT OF VA FORM 28-1900, DISAB	BLED VETERANS APPLICATI	ION FOR VOCATIONAL RE	EHABILITATION	
RECEIPT OF QUALIFYING DOCUMENT	TATION			
ATTENDANCE AT THE INITIAL APPOIN	ITMENT WITH THE IDES VR	С		
A FORM <b>28-1902b</b>	SUPERSEDES VA FORM 20 WHICH WILL NOT BE USEI			Page

SECTION III - EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP (EH) DETERMINATION				
(References: 38 U.S.C. 3102; 38 CFR 21.40 and 21.51)				
6. AN EH EXISTS ONLY IF A CLAIMANT HAS A VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT, THE CLAIMANT'S SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY (SCD) CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTE IN SUBSTANTIAL PART TO THE VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT, AND THE CLAIMANT <u>HAS NOT</u> OVERCOME THE VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT.				
6A. DOES THE CLAIMANT HAVE A VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT?				
EXPLAIN THE DECISION IF THE CLAIMANT HAS OR DOES NOT HAVE A VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT:				
Mr. King was a career military Veteran with 20 years where he served in multiple roles in the military including leadership and artillery. His experience in leadership and his long time military service should have provided him some of the skills necessary to obtain employment as a civilian. However, since leaving the military he has been through multiple jobs. His jobs consisted of driving trucks, and multiple jobs in the sales department. He has held four jobs since leaving the military. However, he has left all of these jobs due to medical issues and unable to maintain employment.				
6B. DOES THE CLAIMANT'S SCD CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTE IN SUBSTANTIAL PART TO THE VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT?				
EXPLAIN HOW THE CLAIMANT'S SCD CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTE OR DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT:				
Since being discharged, David suffered severe medical complications with a resulting significant increase in his SCD rating to 100%. His hypertension became				
much worse and did not respond to medication, and he underwent bypass heart surgery. His diabetes has gradually worsened as he has experienced significant				
weight gain due to his inability to engage in exercise or physical activity without experiencing shortness of breath and debilitating angina. Additionally,				
as a result of his combat experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan, he experiences multiple symptoms associated with PTSD. He has recurrent nightmares related to combat and is able to get very little sleep at night. He avoids crowds and only				
leaves home for short trips to the VA Medical Center (VAMC) or to the grocery. He relates that his anxiety is significantly increased when he is out in public. His overall medical status is such that he fatigues easily with very little energy or				
motivation to do anything productive due to his multiple disabilities and concomitant functional limitations. A review of medical records and discussion of the medical conditions with David reveal a number of issues with which he is				
coping. It is suspected that David's multiple health issues have resulted in some depression symptoms. He relates that he cannot motivate himself to be more disciplined in taking his prescribed medications for his various conditions, even though he is aware that not doing so will worsen his overall health. He is				
partially resistant to any type of mental health treatment for depression, anger management or PTSD. As a result of his medical conditions and appointments, he has not been able to maintain suitable and stable employment and ultimately these conditions have resulted in him having to leave each job.				

### SECTION III - EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP (EH) DETERMINATION (CONTINUED) (References: 38 U.S.C. 3102; 38 CFR 21.40 and 21.51)

6C. HAS THE CLAIMANT OVERCOME THE EFFECTS OF THE VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT?

David has a BS in History that is over 30 years old and has no direct employment linkage other than he meets some minimum criteria when a BS degree is required.

David has been in the military for 20 years and has little transferable skills to civilian employment essentially having no civilian employment history. David is lacking requisite occupational and academic skills to secure suitable employment within the local area.

David has been unemployed since 02/28/2012 and is unable to return to substantial gainful employment. Although he had actively sought employment in the past, he was not able to maintain substantial gainful employment. He does not possess a level of education or skill which would enable him to successfully seek employment in a job compatible with the limitations of his service connected disabilities. He, therefore, has not been able to overcome the vocational impairment.

6D. DOES THE CLAIMANT HAVE AN EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP?

X YES, THE CLAIMANT MEETS THE CRITERIA FOR A EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP

NO, THE CLAIMANT DOES NOT MEET THE CRITERIA FOR A EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP

	MPLOYMENT HANDICAP (SEH) DETERMINATION					
(References: 38 U.S.C. 3102, 3103 and 3106; 38 CFR 21.44 and 21.52)						
OVERALL SIGNIFICANT VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT, A IMPAIRMENT. THE CLAIMANT'S SCD CONDITIONS MI	MPAIRMENT IS ESTABLISHED, THE SCD CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTE TO THE AND THE CLAIMANT HAS NOT OVERCOME THE SIGNIFICANT VOCATIONAL JST CONTRIBUTE TO THE <b>SIGNIFICANT</b> VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT OR MAJOR TY TO PREPARE FOR, OBTAIN, AND MAINTAIN SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT.					
7A. DOES THE CLAIMANT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT VOC	ATIONAL IMPAIRMENT?					
	OT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT:					
Select the following factors that contribute to a significant imp	airment:					
NOTE: Skip items that do not apply.						
Number of disabling condition(s)	Extent and complexity of needed rehabilitation services					
<ul> <li>Record of or current neuropsychiatric condition(s)</li> <li>Withdrawal from society</li> </ul>	Limitations in education/training for suitable employment A pattern of reliance on government support programs (e.g. worker's					
Alcohol/Substance abuse	compensation, social security, etc.)					
Severity of disabling condition(s)	Difficulties with communicating					
<ul> <li>Negative attitudes towards the disabled</li> </ul>	Other evidence of significant restrictions to employability					
<ul> <li>Long or substantial periods of unemployment</li> </ul>	Criminal record					
Frequent hospitalizations	Other (List:					
Does the individual have a Serious Employment Handicap (Sl	EH)? ⊠ YES □ NO					
7B. DOES CLAIMANT'S SCD CONDITIONS CONTRIBUT	TE TO THE OVERALL <u>SIGNIFICANT</u> VOCATIONAL IMPAIRMENT?					
IMPAIRMENT:	NS CONTRIBUTE OR DO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE SIGNIFICANT VOCATIONAL					
	sical and emotional issues which severely limit his					
	ain or maintain employment of any kind. His lack of					
	loyer bias toward the disabled further impact the					
	handicap. Furthermore, he has some service-connected					
	ssive and may evolve to greater levels of problems and					
limitations.	ssive and may evolve to greater revers or problems and					
Considering that David's phy	vsical limitations are particularly severe and,					
	perience other factors which make finding employment					
	lack of transferable skills, no civilian work history,					
	umber of complicated, disabling conditions, etc., a					
serious employment handicap	is determined.					

SECTION IV - SERIOUS EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP (SEH) DETERMINATION (CONTINUED) (References: 38 U.S.C. 3102, 3103 and 3106; 38 CFR 21.44 and 21.52)							
7C. DOES THE CLAIMANT HAVE A SERIOUS EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP?							
X YES, THE CLAIMANT MEETS THE CRITE	RIA FOR A SERIOUS EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP						
NO, THE CLAIMANT DOES NOT MEET THE	E CRITERIA FOR A SERIOUS EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP						
SECTIO	N V - ENTITLEMENT DETERMINATION (Reference: 38 CFR 21.40)						
8. SELECT ONE OF THE ENTITLEMENT DECISIONS	BELOW THAT SUMMARIZES THE CONCLUSION BASED ON T	THE EXPLANATIONS ABOVE:					
ENTITLED: AUTOMATIC ENTITLEMENT TO CH	HAPTER 31 BENEFITS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC I	_AW 110-181 (NDAA)					
ENTITLED: EMPLOYMENT HANDICAP (WITH)	20% OR MORE SCD RATING)						
X ENTITLED: SERIOUS EMPLOYMENT HAND	ICAP (EXPIRED ETD)						
ENTITLED: SERIOUS EMPLOYMENT HANDICA	AP (WITH 10% OR MORE SCD RATING)						
<b>NOT ENTITLED:</b> NO EMPLOYMENT HANDICA	P (WITH 20% OR MORE SCD RATING) PROCEED TO SECTIO	N VI, IF APPLICABLE					
<b>NOT ENTITLED:</b> NO SERIOUS EMPLOYMENT	HANDICAP (WITH 10% SCD RATING) PROCEED TO SECTIO	N VI, IF APPLICABLE					
<b>NOT ENTITLED:</b> NO SERIOUS EMPLOYMENT	HANDICAP (WITH EXPIRED ETD) PROCEED TO SECTION VI,	IF APPLICABLE					
DATE THE CLAIMANT WAS NOTIFIED IN WRITING	G OF THE ENTITLEMENT DECISION: 05-10-2019						
IF CLAIMANT IS DETERMINED "NOT ENTITLED," D BELOW:	DOCUMENT RESOURCES PROVIDED AND RESULTS OF VOC	ATIONAL ASSESSMENT					
SECTION VI - DETERMINATION FOR LIMITED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES							
	(Reference: 38 U.S.C. 3117)						
	ENT AND MUST MEET THREE OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA IN ITEMS (A) AND (B), AND EITHER (C) OR (D) BELOW.						
A. HAS A SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY	Y RATING OF 10% OR MORE.						
B. IS DETERMINED EMPLOYABLE IN A SUIT SECTION III, ITEM 6C)	ABLE OCCUPATION (DETERMINATION FOR EMPLOYABILITY	IS EXPLAINED IN					
C. PREVIOUSLY PARTICIPATED IN A VOCA	TIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM ADMINISTERED UNDER	CHAPTER 31, <b>OR</b>					
D. PREVIOUSLY PARTICIPATED IN A VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM ADMINISTERED OUTSIDE VA - DESCRIBE PREVIOUS REHABILITATION PROGRAM, FACILITY, AND PROVIDED SERVICES BELOW.							
10. SIGNATURE	11. TITLE	12. DATE SIGNED					
Casey Tisdale	VRC	05-10-2019					



# VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT (VR&E) PROGRAM ORIENTATION

## **VR&E MISSION**

The VR&E program assists veterans with service-connected disabilities prepare for, obtain, and maintain suitable employment, and/or live as independently as possible.

## ENTITLEMENT TO THE VR&E PROGRAM

A Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) will work with you to determine if an employment handicap exists. An employment handicap exists if your service-connected disability impairs your ability to obtain and maintain employment. You are entitled to VR&E services if you have an employment handicap, are within your 12-year basic period of eligibility, and have at least a 20% service-connected disability rating. The 12-year period of eligibility will begin on:

- 1. The date of separation from active military duty, OR
- 2. The date you were first notified of your service-connected disability rating, whichever occurs later.

If the service-connected disability rating is less than 20%, or if you are beyond the 12-year basic period of eligibility, then a serious employment handicap must be found to establish entitlement to VR&E services. A serious employment handicap is based on the extent of services required for you to overcome the barriers presented by your service and nonservice-connected disabilities, permitting the return to suitable employment. If entitled to VR&E services, then you will work with a VRC to determine an appropriate track of service.

## **5 TRACKS TO EMPLOYMENT**

- Re-employment: The goal of the re-employment track is to provide assistance to veterans who have served on active duty military, or in the National Guard or Reserves, to return to work where they were employed prior to active duty.
- Rapid Access to Employment: The goal of the rapid access to employment track is to provide direct job
  readiness and placement services to veterans who have expressed a desire to seek immediate employment
  and who already have most of the necessary skills to be competitive in the job market.
- Self-employment: The goal of the self-employment track is to provide services and assistance that will enable qualified veterans to achieve rehabilitation through self-employment. For more information, visit the Veterans Entrepreneurship Portal website, http://www.va.gov/osdbu/veteran/vep.asp, and click on Operation Boots to Business found under "Starting a Business" or "Training and Employment."
- **Employment through Long Term Services:** The goal of the employment through long term services track is to provide veterans with extended training and education to become suitably employed.
- **Independent Living:** The goal of the independent living program is to make sure that each veteran is able, to the maximum extent possible, to live independently and participate in family and community life.

# TYPES OF SERVICES OFFERED BY THE VR&E PROGRAM

## Services may include, but are not limited to:

- Comprehensive vocational evaluation to determine abilities, skills, and interests for employment.
- Vocational counseling and rehabilitation planning for employment services.
- Employment services such as job-training, job-seeking skills, resume development, and other work readiness assistance.

SUPERSEDES VA FORM 28-0800, NOV 2012, WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.

- Assistance obtaining and maintaining a job, including the use of special employer incentives, special hiring authorities, on-the-job training, apprenticeships, and non-paid work experiences.
- Post-secondary training at a college, university, vocational, technical or business school, including the payment of tuition, fees, books, supplies, and subsistence allowance.
- Supportive rehabilitation services including case management, counseling, and medical referrals. Independent living services for veterans unable to work due to the severity of the disabilities.
- Independent living services for veterans unable to work due to the severity of their disabilities.

## YOUR ROLE

- Take an active, cooperative role in the process.
- Maintain regular contact with your VRC and/or other service providers.
- Seek assistance from your VRC for any specific barriers or issues that may prevent you from actively participating in the VR&E program, or obtaining and maintaining employment.
- Inform your VRC of any job acceptance, to include: employer's contact information, start date, job title/duties, salary, and benefits.
- Inform your VRC of your progress in your training program, including class schedules, grades, requested changes to your major, and changes in class schedule, for example if you add or drop a class.
- Discuss any special services you need with our VRC, including activities of daily living, classroom and/or on-the-job accommodations, tutoring, or other special needs.

# **VRC's ROLE**

- Inform you on how VR&E decisions will be made.
- Provide case management and support to facilitate successful completion of your goals.
- Explore your unique circumstances to identify your specific vocational assets, limitations, and services needed to develop an effective plan to achieve suitable employment.
- Coordinate any other vocational rehabilitation services that may be needed to achieve successful rehabilitation.
- Develop an individualized rehabilitation plan to assist you in reaching your goals.
- Follow-up with you after you complete your plan to ensure your successful transition and to assist you with any on-the-job or independent living needs.

David L. King

Veteran's Signature

05/10/2019

Date

Casey Tisdale

VRC Signature

05/10/2019

Date



# **PROTECTION OF PRIVACY INFORMATION STATEMENT**

(For Use by Counselees and Rehabilitation Program Participants)

I have been informed and understand that the information requested in this and any later interviews is requested under the authorization of Title 38, United States Code of Federal Regulations 1.576, Veterans Benefits. This information is needed to assist in vocational and educational planning, to authorize my receipt of rehabilitation services, to develop a record of my vocational progress, and to assure I obtain the best results from my rehabilitation program. I understand that the information I provide will not be used for any other purpose and that my responses may be disclosed outside VA only if the disclosure is authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974, including the routine uses identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22, Compensation, Pension, Education and Rehabilitation Records - VA, and published in the Federal Register. Generally, disclosures under the authority of a routine use will be made to develop my claim for vocational rehabilitation benefits under Title 38, United States Code.

My giving the requested information is voluntary. I understand that the following results might occur if I do not give this information:

- (1) I may not receive the maximum benefit either from counseling or from my education or rehabilitation program.
- (2) If certain information is required before I may enter a VA program, my failure to give the information may result in my not receiving the education or rehabilitation benefit for which I have applied.
- (3) If I am in a program in which information on my progress is required, my failure to give this information may result in my not receiving further benefits or services.

My failure to give this information will not have a negative effect on any other benefit to which I may be entitled.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the information I have given is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

David L. King

(Veteran's Signature)

05/10/2019

(Date Signed)

EXISTING STOCK OF VA FORM 28 - 8739a, AUG 1989, WILL BE USED.

Department of Veterans Affairs	R
<b>Privacy Act Notice</b> : VA will not disclose informatic Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations 1.576 for routin services) as identified in the VA system of records, 58 published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to r will not result in the denial of benefits. VA will not de Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 197 other agencies.	ne uses (i.e., to detern VA21/22/28, Compo- espond is voluntary. eny an individual ber
<b>Respondent Burden:</b> We need this information for Title 38, United States Code chapter 31, allows us to a the information, and complete this form. VA cannot required to respond to a collection of information i	sk for this informati conduct or sponsor

# REHABILITATION NEEDS INVENTORY (RNI)

Ti se pu w: Fe of R	<ul> <li>Privacy Act Notice: VA will not disclose information collected on this form to any source other than what has been authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974 or Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations 1.576 for routine uses (i.e., to determine entitlement to vocational rehabilitation benefits and to plan a program of rehabilitation services) as identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pension, Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is voluntary. Giving us your SSN account information is voluntary. Refusal to provide your SSN by itself will not result in the denial of benefits. VA will not deny an individual benefits for refusing to provide his or her SSN unless the disclosure of the SSN is required by a Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and still in effect. Information submitted is subject to verification through computer matching programs with other agencies.</li> <li>Respondent Burden: We need this information for educational and vocational planning to help you make the best use of your vocational rehabilitation benefits.</li> </ul>								
th re ht	Title 38, United States Code chapter 31, allows us to ask for this information. We estimate that you will need an average of 45 minutes to review the instructions, find the information, and complete this form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. You are not required to respond to a collection of information if this number is not displayed. Valid OMB control numbers can be located on the OMB Internet Page at http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.								
1.	NAME (First, middle, last)	2	. TELEPHONE	E NUMBER(S	S)				
	avid L. King	HOME PHONE NUMBER	CELL PHON	E NUMBER	WORK PHONE NUMBER				
	CURRENT ADDRESS	(515) 222-4444	L,						
	644 Potts Road :learview, IA 00662 (US)	4a. E-MAIL ADDRESS 1		4b. E-MAIL	ADDRESS 2				
		david.king@gmail.com		0.000101					
_	GENDER 6. MARITAL STATUS	7. CLAIM NUMBER		8. SOCIAL	SECURITY NUMBER				
Ľ	K MALE FEMALE Married	TRA-22-4444		TRA-22-44	44				
9.	CLAIMING DEPENDENTS? 10. NICKNAME/AKA	11. EMEF	RGENCY CON	ITACT INFOR	RMATION				
	YES NO # 1		CONTAC	T NAME					
		Margaret King		0.01/7					
		CONTACT PHONE N	UMBER		ACT RELATIONSHIP				
11	L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L	(515) 234-4444		Wife					
	lot sure. My disabilities keep me from working or doing many thing	as							
		90.							
	3. WHAT ARE THE JOBS OR CAREER FIELDS YOU ARE MOS	T INTERESTED IN?							
Ľ	on't know what I can do.								
14	A. HAVE YOU EVER PARTICIPATED IN OR ARE CURRENTLY	PARTICIPATING IN A VA EDUC	ATION BENEF	IT PROGRA	M?				
	YES X NO								
14				TED					
	REHABILITATION BEFORE?		PRIVATE	<b>1</b> :)					
	I YES IXI NO I 🖵	IONAL REHABILITATION	OTHER (Ple	ease explain)					
	f "Yes," complete Items 14B and 14C)								
14	4C. LIST ANY TYPE OF SERVICES YOU WERE PROVIDED (i.e	e., training, medical, vocational t	esting, functio	onal capacitie	es, job search activities):				
		EMPLOYMENT							
	Please fill out each area as complete		esume, plea	se attach it.					
1	5. CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT HISTORY: Please start with	· ·							
	JOB TITLE	DATES			VERAGE GROSS				
		FROM TO		M	IONTHLY SALARY				
	Sales Representative	01/20/2013 05/1	5/2013		1,500.00				
	COMPANY NAME		STATUS						
Α			IT OR CONTE						
	Owen Furniture Co DESCRIBE JOB DUTIES IN DETAIL	× PERMANENT POSITION							
	Sold furniture to customers. Assisted customers in determining	their furniture needs							
	REASON FOR LEAVING	their furniture fleeds.							
	Medical								
JOB TITLE DATES AVERAGE GROSS									
	····-	FROM TO			IONTHLY SALARY				
_	Sales Representative		6/2012		.,100.00				
В	COMPANY NAME	10/0	STATUS		,				
		TEMPORARY ASSIGNMEN			PART TIME				
	Peak Business Machines	X PERMANENT POSITION							

VA FORM **28-1902w** 

SUPERSEDES VA FORM 28-1902w, FEB 2012, WHICH WILL NOT BE USED

1	5. CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (CONTINUED)									
	DESCRIBE JOB DUTIES IN DETAIL									
В	Called on business accounts to determine business machine needs and sold copiers, faxes.     REASON FOR LEAVING									
	Missed too much time due to medical issues.									
$\vdash$	JOB TITLE	r		DAT	ES.					
		FROM			TO			.GE GROSS ILY SALARY		
	Colos Domesontetivo		10			7/2011				
	Sales Representative	11/01/20	10		08/2	STATUS		2,600.00		
		TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT OR CONTRACT						RT TIME		
C						OR CONTRACT				
	DESCRIBE JOB DUTIES IN DETAIL									
	Called on prospective business customers to contract with th	nem to utiliz	e our logistic	s.						
	REASON FOR LEAVING									
	Had complications with my heart condition. Could not travel	extensively	as required.							
	JOB TITLE	FROM		DAT				.GE GROSS ILY SALARY		
		FROM			то			ILT SALART		
	COMPANY NAME					STATUS				
	COMPANY NAME					OR CONTRACT				
D						UR CUNTRACT				
	DESCRIBE JOB DUTIES IN DETAIL		MANENT PC	SIIIC	JIN			LL TIME		
	DESCRIBE JOB DUTIES IN DETAIL									
	REASON FOR LEAVING									
					<u> </u>					
1	6. MILITARY WORK HISTORY: What did you do in the Please start with your last assignment.	military?	Please fill o	ut the	e tollo	wing area as com	pletely as p	DOSSIDIE.		
	· ·									
	HIGHEST RANK ACHIEVED: 0-5 ARMED SE	RVICES.		NA DAT			MARINES			
	JOB IIILE	FROM		DAI	ES TO			GE GROSS ILY SALARY		
			00			0/0040				
A	Company Executive Officer LIST ANY HONORS AND COMMENDATIONS	06/15/20	08		02/2	8/2010	RANK	6,600.00		
<b> </b> ^	LIST ANT HONONS AND COMMENDATIONS									
	DESCRIBE JOB DUTIES IN DETAIL						O-5 (Lt			
	Served as company executive officer in charge of logistics of	f deployme	nt of soldiers	and e	auinm	ent in the Iraq theat	er			
		racpicyme		und c	quipir		01.			
$\vdash$	HIGHEST RANK ACHIEVED: 0-4 ARMED SE	RVICES.	× ARMY					COAST GUARD		
	JOB TITLE									
		FROM			TO			.GE GROSS ILY SALARY		
	Artillery Officer	06/30/19	00			5/2008		5,500.00		
в	LIST ANY HONORS AND COMMENDATIONS	00/30/13	33		00/1	5/2000	RANK	3,300.00		
Ľ							O-3 to	0-4		
	DESCRIBE JOB DUTIES IN DETAIL						0-010			
	Served as artillery officer in Iraq during Persian Gulf War and	d at Ft. Ben	ning.							
			0							
	HIGHEST RANK ACHIEVED: 0-3 ARMED SE	RVICES	× ARMY	NA	VY [		MARINES	COAST GUARD		
	JOB TITLE			DAT	-			GE GROSS		
FROM TO MONTHLY SA										
	Artillery Officer	02/20/19	97			0/1999		3,100.00		
lc	LIST ANY HONORS AND COMMENDATIONS	02/20/10	•••		00,0		RANK	0,100100		
ľ										
	DESCRIBE JOB DUTIES IN DETAIL									
	Assigned to the Pentagon and worked on a task force to dev	elop effecti	ve strategies	for us	se of n	ew artillery weapon	s.			
	-	-	Ŭ			- ,				
1	I 7. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO RETURN TO WOF	RK IN A FO	RMER OCC	UPAT	ION O	R FOR A FORMER	EMPLOYE	R?		
<sup>L</sup>	YES X NO									

For 1	Fraining	Purposes	Only
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MILITARY WORK HISTORY (CONTINUED)						
				1		
					J THINK YOU MAY BE ABLE TO US	
,	20 years. There	e is no civilian c	ounterpar	t to this occup	ation. Was somewhat successful in s	ales, but health prevented
me from continuing.						
19. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT YOU	J DID DURING	PERIODS OF	UNEMPL	OYMENT 3 M	ONTHS OR LONGER:	
I have been battling deteriorating I	nealth and have	e had to apply f	or SSDI b	enefits which b	began last August. Tried employmen	t on three occasions, but
lost all three jobs due to health iss	ues.					
		5011				
Plaasa fill out	the area hole			AND TRAIN	g background as completely as p	ossiblo
					Please include civilian and milita	
	· · ·	the-job, and t				ry schools/training.
20. MARK HIGHEST LEVEL COM	PLETED:					
SOME HS - HIGHEST GRAD	DE COMPLETE	D:	HS - YEA	R 1985 🗌	GED - YEAR ASSOC	
MASTER DOCTOR	RAL					
	1					
	21B. DATE	S (MM/YYYY)	21C.	21D. CREDITS/	21E. MAJOR COURSE	21F. DEGREE (if any),
21A. NAME OF SCHOOL			GPA	CLOCK	OF STUDY	YEAR RECEIVED
Ocentral Otata Units	FROM	ТО		HOURS		
Central State Univ						
	08/1985	08/1989	2.73	128.00	Social Studies	1989
22A. WHAT SUB	ECTS DID YO	U LIKE?			22B. WHAT SUBJECTS DID YO	DU DISLIKE?
1 History		-		1 Scienc		
2 Math				2		
3 Sociology				3		
				-	RTIFICATES/LICENSES	23C. DATE
23A. DO YOU HAVE ANY CURRE CERTIFICATES AND/OR LIC			(Annrent		<i>yman card, truck driver/CDL, etc.)</i>	EXPIRES
			( <i>ippienu</i>	iees or journey	when curu, muck univer/CDL, etc.)	
L YES L NO		1				
(If "Yes," complete Items 23B and	23C)	2				
		3				
24. HAVE YOU BEEN DIAGNOSE	D WITH A LEA	RNING DISAB	ILI I Y? ( <i>If</i>	"Yes," please d	escribe below):	
			DISA	BILITIES		
List and descri	be your servi	ce-connected	disability	/(ies). Please	e list the disability(ies) in order of	severity.
		25B. RATING		25C. WHAT D	DIFFICULTIES ARE YOU EXPERIEN	ICING DUE TO YOUR
25A. SERVICE-CONNECTED DI	SABILITY	(%)			DISABILITIES?	
Coronary Artery Disease,			Car	n't do anvthing	physical. On many medications whi	ch make me feel out of it at
Left side paralysis, TPSD,					ncentrate or find anything I can do, e	
High Blood Pressure, Diabetes					lave management ability.	
					<u> </u>	
		100.00				
26A. NON SERVICE-CONNE	CTED	26B. RATING		26C. WHAT D		ICING DUE TO YOUR
DISABILITY		(%)			DISABILITIES?	
27. HAS YOUR SERVICE-CONNE	CTED DISABI	LITY(IES) AFF	ECTED Y	OU IN THE FO	DLLOWING AREAS OF WORK? (Ch	eck all that apply)
JOB PERFORMANCE		. ,		O-WORKER I	× ×	
		ORK TIME		ANAGER RE		

		DISABILITI	ES (CONTINUED)				
28. ARE ANY OF YOUR DISABILIT	IES IMF		DISABILITIES STABLE?	30. ARE A	ANY OF YOUR DISABILITIES WORSENING?		
31. DO YOU RECEIVE ANY OF TH	IE FOLL	OWING? (Check all that app	oly)				
RETIREMENT (Military/civilian	1)		PENSATION BENEFITS		WELFARE ASSISTANCE		
X DISABILITY PENSION (Militar	ry/civiliar		Y DISABILITY INCOME (	SSDI/SSI)	MEDICARE/MEDICAID		
			SUPPORT				
32. DO YOU HAVE A CLAIM PENE			G? (Check all that apply) PENSATION BENEFITS		WELFARE ASSISTANCE		
DISABILITY PENSION (Militar	ry/civiliar		Y DISABILITY INCOME (	SSDI/SSI)	MEDICARE/MEDICAID		
			SUPPORT				
			LTREATMENT				
	Please	e describe medical treatme	ent you have received o	or are rece	eiving.		
33A. CONDITION		IAME OF VA OR PRIVATE MEDICAL FACILITY	33C. HOW OFTEN FOR TREATME		33D. MEDICATION(S) PRESCRIBED		
Heart and HBP	VA an	d Walter Reed	every 3 months		multiple		
Paralysis, left	VA		as needed				
Diabetes	VA		every 2 months		insulin		
Vein problem	VA		every 3 months		blood thinner		
PTSD	VA		not seen any longer		not sure		
34A. DO YOU HAVE MEDICAL NE THAT ARE NOT BEING MET ☐ YES 🔀 NO (If "Yes," complete Item 34B)		34B. WHAT DO YOU NEE	D?		<u> </u>		
35A. DO YOU USE ANY ADAPTIVI EQUIPMENT SUCH AS BRAG ARTIFICIAL LIMBS, HEARING ETC? X YES □ NO (If "Yes," complete Item 35B)	CES,	35B. PLEASE DESCRIBE Use leg brace left leg due		MENT			
36A. ARE THERE OTHER PROBLI OR ISSUES WITH WHICH YC WOULD LIKE HELP? ☐ YES ⊠ NO (If "Yes," complete Item 36B)		36B. PLEASE LIST OTHEF	R PROBLEMS OR ISSUE	S WITH WI	HICH YOU WOULD LIKE HELP		
37. DO YOU HAVE ANY PENDING	VA CLA	MMS? 38. DO 1	YOU NEED INFORMATIC	N ABOUT	OTHER VA BENEFITS OR PROGRAMS?		
□ YES							
MISCELLANEOUS							
The following information will be used for employment planning purposes.							
39A. DO YOU:       39B. DO YOU HAVE STABLE       39C. DESCRIBE YOUR CURRENT LIVING SITUATION:         RENT       HOUSING AT PRESENT?       Own a house with my wife.							
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$		39C)					
40A. WHAT MODE OF TRANSPOR	RTATION	NDO YOU USE? 🛛 🗙 PEI	RSONAL DUBLI	C TRANSP	ORTATION OTHER		
40B. HOW FAR ARE YOU WILLING SCHOOL?	G TO CO	DMMUTE FOR WORK AND/C	DR 40C. DO YOU HAN		DRIVER'S LICENSE?		
10 miles							

MISCELLANEOUS (CONTINUED)				
41. ARE YOU WILLING TO RELOCATE FOR A JOB?				
YES X NO				
42. IF YOU HAVE HAD A HISTORY OF OR ARE CURRENTLY DEALING WITH LEGAL ISSUES, PLEASE SELECT AND	D DESCRIBE BELOW:			
43. IF YOU HAVE HAD AND/OR PRESENTLY HAVE SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES, PLEASE SELECT AND DESCRIBE	E BELOW:			
44. IF YOU HAVE A HISTORY OF OR ARE CURRENTLY IN ON-GOING TREATMENT(S) FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE(S),				
	DATE COMPLETED			
	05/10/2019			
<b>PROTECTION OF PRIVACY INFORMATION STATEMENT</b> (For use by counselees and rehabilitation program participants)				
I have been informed and understand that the information requested in this and any later interviews is requested under the authorization of Title 38, United States Code, 1.576, Veterans Benefits. This information is needed to assist in vocational and educational planning, to authorize my receipt of rehabilitation services, to develop a record of my vocational progress, and to assure I obtain the best results from my rehabilitation program. I understand that the information I provide will not be used for any other purpose and that my responses may be disclosed outside the VA only if the disclosure is authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974, including the routine uses identified in VA system of records, 58VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pension, Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records-VA, published in the Federal Register. Generally, disclosures under the authority of a routine use will be made to develop my claim for vocational rehabilitation benefits under title 38, United States Code.				
My giving the requested information is voluntary. I understand that the following results might occur if I do not give this	is information:			
(1) I may not receive the maximum benefit either from counseling or from my education or rehabilitation program.				
(2) If certain information is required before I may enter a VA program, my failure to give the information may result in my not receiving the education or rehabilitation benefit for which I have applied.				
(3) If I am in a program in which information on my progress is required, my failure to give this information may result in my not receiving further benefits or services.				
My failure to give this information will not have a negative effect on any other benefit to which I may be entitled.				
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the information I have given above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
SIGNATURE OF VETERAN	DATE SIGNED			
Davíd L. Kíng	05/10/2019			
SIGNATURE OF CASE MANAGER OR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELOR (VRC)	DATE SIGNED			
Casey Tisdale	05/10/2019			



DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS VA Regional Office 1776 Constitution Parkway Midville, Iowa 00434

April 27, 2019

Mr. David King 1644 Potts Road Clearview, IA 00662 (US) In Reply Refer to: RO 379/28

Dear Mr. King:

We have received your application for Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) benefits. We have scheduled an appointment for you to meet with a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC). During this meeting, we will gather information to determine if you qualify for these benefits. This letter tells you the following:

-What you need to do

-What you should do to prepare for the meeting

-What will happen during this meeting

-What other criteria you might need to meet

-What you will need if you previously participated in VR&E

-Who will pay for your travel expenses

-What to do if you have questions or concerns

#### What do you need to do?

You need to report on time for the meeting. We have scheduled your meeting for the following date, time, and place:

Date:	05/10/2019
Time:	9:00 AM
Place:	VARO Midville, Iowa

#### What should you to do to prepare for the meeting?

You should plan for the meeting to last two hours or more. This meeting may also involve some vocational testing. Please do not bring your unaccompanied, minor children with you.

You need to bring the following items with you to the meeting:

-A completed Rehabilitation Needs Inventory (VA Form 28-1902w), which we have enclosed with this

letter. This form is also available online at <u>http://www.va.gov/vaforms</u>/and can be filled out electronically,

printed, and brought to the meeting.

-Training records, to include military training, college or university transcripts, vocational training records and and resume(s)

-Job certifications or licenses, such as an apprentice or journeyman rating card

-Recent medical records that VA may not have

Even if you don't qualify for vocational rehabilitation, you will still receive career and educational counseling at no expense to you. This counseling is a considerable benefit even by itself.

#### What will happen during the meeting?

We will discuss the following:

- -Your work history, job interests, past training and education
- -Your disabilities and how they affect your everyday life
- -Any other questions you may want answered
- -Whether you are entitled to vocational rehabilitation benefits
- -Next Steps If you are entitled, we will begin your vocational planning immediately. If you are not
- entitled, we will refer you to other agencies for assistance.

#### What other criteria might you need to meet to qualify for VR&E?

If your combined service-connected disability rating awarded by VA is 10 percent, or it has been more than 12 years since you received your initial rating from VA, we must be able to determine the following:

-You have serious difficulties obatining or maintaining employment that matches your talents, skills, and

interests

-Your service-connected disability condition(s) is/are a substantial part of the reason you have difficulties obtaining and maintaining employment

#### What if you previously received VR&E services?

To reenter the VR&E program, you must meet the basic eligibility and entitlement criteria, and a VRC must determine that you need additional vocational rehabilitation services. To reenter after you have been rehabilitated, we must determine that one of the following conditions is met:

-Your service-connected disability has worsened to the point that you can no longer perform the duties of

the occupation for which you were found rehabilitated; or

- -The occupation for which you were found rehabilitated is no longer suitable due to your specific level of functioning; or
- -If you received a plan of Independent Living services (IL), either your conditions have worsened and you
- need additional services, or your conditions have improved and you now need assistance to pursue employment; or
- -If your prior case was considered rehabilitated while you pursued additional training, and you wish to receive assistance finding a job, VR&E may be able to assist you with this.

You should bring any evidence you have to show why you need further vocational rehabilitation services. For example, you might bring medical information, a doctor's statement, or a recent notice of an increase in your VA disability rating.

#### Who will pay for your travel expenses?

We will pay the cost of your travel under the following general guidelines:

Public transportation costs, or if public transportation is not available, the current mileage rate for the total mileage (round trip) plus cost of parking, ferry fares, and bridge, road and tunnel tolls (with receipts). Requests for reimbursement of travel expenses must be received within 30 days after completion of travel.

#### What if you have questions or concerns?

If you have any questions about this letter or need additional verification of VA benefits, please contact us at 1-800-827-7000. If you use the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), the federal number is 711.

Sincerely yours,

Jordan Wainwright Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Officer

Enclosure: VA Form 28-1902w

#### How can eBenefits assist you?

eBenefits is a web portal that provides resources and self-service capabilities to Veterans, Servicemembers, and their families to research, access and manage their VA and military benefits and personal information. It is a joint effort between VA and the Department of Defense. eBenefits uses secure credentials to allow access to personal information and gives users the ability to perform numerous self-service functions. The eBenefits portal also provides access to the Veterans Employment Center, a one-stop career website for Veterans, transitioning Servicemembers and GI Bill beneficiaries, as well as military spouses and dependents. You will also find a list of links to other sites that provide information about military and Veteran benefits. It is an essential way for Veterans, Servicemembers, and their families to receive access to services. To access eBenefits go to www.ebenefits.va.gov.

VR-03



# **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

VA Regional Office Regional Office 1776 Constitution Parkway Midville, Iowa 00434

April 27, 2019

Mr. David King 1644 Potts Road Clearview, IA 00662 (US) In Reply Refer to:

379/28 Last 4 digits: 2222/ 00

Dear Mr. King:

Congratulations, I am writing to inform you of the following decision that grants your Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits.

# What decision did I make and what authority did I use?

When making a decision on your VA benefits that are provided by the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) program, I must base my decision on specific laws and regulations. These laws are found in title 38 of the United States Code (U.S.C.); and the regulations are found in title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Based on a review of these laws and regulations, I have decided that you are eligible to apply for VR&E benefits and services. The next step is for you to meet with a counselor to determine if you are entitled to receive these services. I based this decision on 38 U.S.C. § 3103 and 38 CFR § 21.40.

# Why did I make this decision?

I made this decision based on the following reason(s):

- You have a service-connected disability rating of 10 % or more and you are within your 12 year period of eligibility.
- You were discharged from military service under conditions other than dishonorable

# What evidence did I use to make this decision?

Review of eligibility termination date 3/1/2024 and VA disability award decision.

If you would like copies of this information, please contact me to arrange the most efficient way to get this information to you.

# What if you disagree with my decision?

If you disagree with my decision, either you or your accredited representative, such as a Veterans Service Organization representative, independent claims agent, or private attorney, can request a review of the decision at the regional office level or file a request for a formal appeal at the Board of Veterans Appeals (Board). You have one year from the date of this letter to select and file a review option in order to protect your initial filing date for effective date purposes.

• Request a Higher-Level Review (HLR) at the Regional Office Level

If you disagree with my decision, you can request a HLR to be completed at the regional office where I work, or an alternate regional office (see note below) within one year of the date of this letter. You may also request an informal conference during the HLR process. An informal conference provides you, and your representative if you have one, the opportunity to tell the reviewer why you disagree with my decision and to discuss the decision before the reviewer completes his/her review. To request a HLR, please complete VA Form 20-0996, Decision Review Request: Higher-Level Review, and return it to the address at the top of the letter. If you have new evidence to provide, this option is not available to you. Please see below for your options if you have new evidence to provide. Also, you may not request a HLR of a HLR decision issued by VA.

Note: Due to the specialized processing needs of VR&E, by default your HLR will be completed at the regional office where I work, which contradicts the information listed in <u>box 13</u> on VA Form 20-0996. If you want your HLR to be completed at an alternate regional office, please indicate that in writing in box 13.

• File a Supplemental Claim (SC) at the Regional Office Level

If you disagree with my decision and you have new evidence to provide, you can request a SC to be completed at the regional office where I work. A SC is completed by either myself or another Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor that works at the same regional office in which I work. To request a SC, please complete VA Form 20-0995, Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim. There is no time limit to request this review; however, if you submit a SC later than one year after the date of this letter, the effective date for any resulting award of benefits generally will be tied to the date VA receives the request for a SC.

• File a Formal Appeal with the Board of Veterans Appeals

If you disagree with my decision, you may appeal the decision to the Board of Veterans Appeals. If you want to file a formal appeal, please complete VA Form 10182, Decision Review Request: Board Appeal (Notice of Disagreement), and follow the instructions on the form regarding how to submit the appeal. You have one year from the date of this letter to file an appeal.

It is important to note that you may elect either a HLR or a SC at the regional office level, or elect an appeal by the Board. You may not have the same issue under review

at both the regional office and the Board at the same time. You must elect which option you wish to pursue.

The enclosed VA Form 20-0998, "Your Rights To Seek Further Review of Our Decision", explains your options in greater detail and provides instructions on how to request further review. You may download a copy of any of the required application forms noted above by visiting www.va.gov/vaforms/ or you may contact us by telephone at 1-800-827-1000 and we will mail you any form you need.

You can visit www.va.gov/decision-reviews to learn more about how the disagreement process works.

If you would like to obtain or access evidence used in making this decision, please contact us by telephone, email, or letter letting us know what you would like to obtain. Some evidence may be obtained online by visiting VA.gov.

# What if you have questions or concerns?

If you have any questions about this letter or need additional information on VA benefits, please contact me at «CaseMgrPhone», via email at «CaseMgrEmailAddress», or call 1-800-827-1000. If you use the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), the federal number is 711.

Sincerely yours,

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

Enclosure: VA Form 20-0998, Your Rights to Seek Further Review of our Decision Cc:

How can eBenefits assist you?

eBenefits is a web portal that provides resources and self-service capabilities to Veterans, Servicemembers, and their families to research, access and manage their VA and military benefits and personal information. It is a joint effort between VA and the Department of Defense. eBenefits uses secure credentials to allow access to personal information and gives users the ability to perform numerous self-service functions. The eBenefits portal also provides access to the Veterans Employment Center, a one-stop career website for Veterans, transitioning Servicemembers and GI Bill beneficiaries, as well as military spouses and dependents. You will also find a list of links to other sites that provide information about military and Veteran benefits. It is an essential way for Veterans, Servicemembers, and their families to receive access to services. To access eBenefits, go to www.ebenefits.va.gov.

OMB Approved No. 2900-0009 Respondent Burden: 15 minutes Expiration Date: 11/30/2022

			Expirat	1011 Date: 11/30/2022	
Department of Veterans Affairs				RITE IN THIS SPACE DATE STAMP)	
APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL F WITH SERVICE-CONN (Chapter 31, T		AIMANTS			
PURPOSE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATIO	N: Vocational Rehabilitation and	Employment			
provides services that will assist certain claimants with					
employment. If employment is not an option because	of the severity of the claimants' dis	sability conditio	ons,		
services to assist them to achieve maximum independe	ence in their daily living activities	may also be			
provided.					
IMPORTANT: To decide if you should fill out this for					
1. FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST NAME OF CLAIMANT	2. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	3. VA FILE NO.	(If different from Item 2)	4. DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Dav, Year)	
David L. King	TRA-22-4444	TRA-22-4		04/20/1960	
<ol> <li>MAILING ADDRESS (No. and street or rural route, City, St address.)</li> </ol>	tate and ZIP Code, <b>OR</b> write "None," i	f no mailing	6. MAIN TELEPHONE NU (Include Area Code, or	MBER r write "None" if no	
1644 Potts Road Clearview, IA 006	562 (US)		(Include Area Code, or available telephone m	imber.)	
			(515) 000 4		
			(515) 222-4		
7. E-MAIL ADDRESS OF CLAIMANT			8. CELL PHONE NUMBER	R (Include Area Code or uilable cell phone number.)	
david.king@gmail.com					
				(515) 222-4444 0. NUMBER OF YEARS OF EDUCATION	
9. IF YOU ARE MOVING WITHIN THE NEXT 30 DAYS, PROV	TIDE US YOUR NEW ADDRESS		10. NUMBER OF YEARS	OF EDUCATION	
			1	6	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the information	I have entered on this form is t	rue and comp	lete to the best of my	knowledge and	
belief. I realize that making willful false stateme	ents concerning a material fact	in a claim of $\mathbf{v}$	ocational rehabilitation	on benefits is a	
punishable offense that may result in a fine or in	nprisonment, or both. (Referen	ce: 38 U.S.C	3802(a))		
11A. SIGNATURE OF CLAIMANT (Do not print) (Sign in ink)	)		11B. DATE SIGNED		
David King			02/15/2010		
			02/15/2019		
VA FORM NOV 2019 <b>28-1900</b>	SUPERSEDES VA FORM 28- WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.	1900, SEP 2014,		Page 1	



#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Midville Regional Office (379)

**1776 Constitution Parkway** 

Midville, Iowa 00434

**David King** 

VA File Number TRA-22-4444

**Represented by:** 

N/A

**Rating Decision** 

March 01, 2012

### INTRODUCTION

The records reflect that you are a Veteran of the Gulf War Era. You served in the Army from 02/20/1990 to 02/28/2010. You filed an original claim for service connected disability on February 10, 2012. Based on the evidence of record, the VA has made the following determination on your claim.

#### DECISION

- 1. Service connection for partial paralysis of left side requiring long leg brace is granted with an evaluation of 30 percent effective March 01, 2010.
- 2. Service connection for coronary artery disease is granted with an evaluation of 50 percent effective March 01, 2010.
- 3. Service connection for post traumatic stress disorder is granted with an evaluation of 30 percent effective March 01, 2010.
- 4. Service connection for hypertension is granted with an evaluation of 20 percent effective March 01, 2010.
- 5. Service connection for diabetes mellitus is granted with an evaluation of 20 percent effective March 01, 2010.
- 6. Service connection for venous insufficiency in lower extremities is granted with an evaluation of 20 percent effective March 01, 2010.

## EVIDENCE

-Service treatment records from February 20, 1990 to February 28, 2010.

-VCAA letter of February 15, 2012

-VA Medical Examination conducted at the VA medical center on February 21, 2012

### REFERENCES:

Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Pensions, Bonuses and Veterans' Relief contains the regulations of the Department of Veterans Affairs which govern entitlement to all Veteran benefits. For additional information regarding applicable laws and regulations, please consult your local library, or visit us at our web site, <u>www.va.gov</u>.

<b>Rating Decision</b>	Department of Veterans Affairs					Page 1
0	Veterans Benefits Administration			03/01/2012		
NAME OF VETERAN	VA FILE NUMBER	SOCIAL SECURITY NR		POA		COPY TO
David L. King	TRA-22-4444	TRA-22-4444				

		ACTIVE DUTY	
EOD	RAD	BRANCH	CHARACTER OF DISCHARGE
02/20/1990	02/28/2010	Army	Honorable

LEGACY CODES				
ADD'L SVC CODE	COMBAT CODE	SPECIAL PROV CDE	FUTURE EXAM DATE	
	1		None	

JURISDICTION: Original Claim Received 02/10/2012

ASSOCIATED CLAIM(s): 110; Initial Compensation 7 or less issues; 02/10/2012

# SUBJECT TO COMPENSATION (1.SC)

55211	ARTIAL PARALYSIS OF LEFT SIDE REQUIRING LONG LEG BRACE Service Connected, Gulf War Era, Incurred 30% from March 01, 2010
	DRONARY ARTERY DISEASE ASSOCIATED WITH MYOCARDIAL Service Connected, Gulf War Era, Incurred 50% from March 01, 2010
	TSD Service Connected, Gulf War Era, Incurred 30% from March 01, 2010
	YPERTENSION Service Connected, Gulf War Era, Incurred 20% from March 01, 2010
	ABETES MELLITUS Service Connected, Gulf War Era, Incurred 20% from March 01, 2010
	ENOUS INSUFFICIENCY IN LOWER EXTREMITIES Service Connected, Gulf War Era, Incurred 20% from March 01, 2010
COMBI	NED EVALUATION FOR COMPENSATION: 100% from March 01, 2010
The effe 2010.	ective date of the 100% rating is March 01, 2010 and the rating is considered permanent and total effective March 01,

Roland W. Stedman

Roland W. Stedman, RVSR

For Training Purposes Only

*03/01/2012*