



# Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES)

The **Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES)** helps the Department of Defense (DoD) determine whether wounded, ill or injured Service members are able to continue to serve. IDES quickly returns to duty those who are. For those who are not, the IDES process determines the disability ratings they will receive from DoD and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). DoD and VA joined together to create IDES to integrate processes DoD and VA formerly executed separately. This new, streamlined system improves America's delivery of disability services and benefits to Service members, Veterans and their families.

## IDES Highlights:

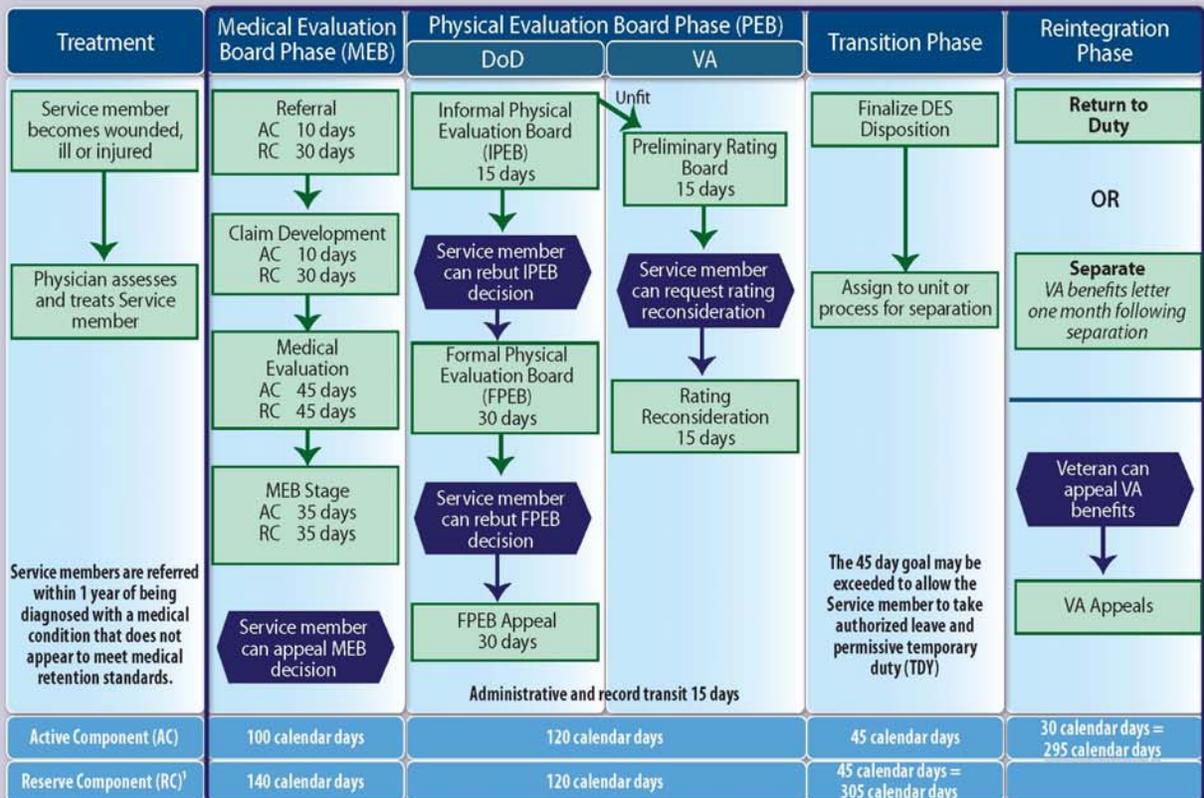
IDES provides a faster, smoother transition experience for wounded, ill, and injured Service members by involving the VA as soon as Service members are referred for disability evaluation. The collaboration between DoD and VA helps Service members by delivering:

- **Enhanced Case Management:** Collocated DoD and VA staff work together throughout the IDES process, providing seamless and consistent case management.
- **A Single Comprehensive Disability Examination:** Service members need only one medical evaluation, conducted by a VA-certified physician, to determine fitness for duty and eligibility for DoD and VA disability compensation and benefits.
- **A Single-Sourced Disability Rating:** VA rating officers provide Service members with disability ratings that are accepted by both DoD and VA.
- **Increased Transparency:** Service members know their VA disability rating before separating from military service.
- **Faster Disability Processing:** VA Military Service Coordinators help Service members establish their VA benefits claim before separating, so a VA benefits decision can be available to Veterans a month after separation, the shortest period permissible under the law.

### Contact Us

For more information please email the IDES Support Team at [IDES@osd.mil](mailto:IDES@osd.mil)

## IDES TIMELINE



<sup>1</sup> Reserve component member entitlement to VA disability begins upon release from active duty or separation

■ Service Member Decision Points    □ IDES Stages