



IDES Fact Sheet

The Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) is a joint Department of War (DoW) and Veterans Affairs (VA) program that streamlines how service members with serious medical conditions are evaluated for continued service and compensated for any service-connected disabilities.

IDES streamlines care and decision-making by combining military fitness and VA disability evaluations, reducing redundant exams and wait times.

Appeal Rights:

You can appeal decisions. Reach out to a DES Counsel Program attorney at the QR code below.

Transition Resources:

If separated, attend the Transition Readiness Seminar (TRS) and check out Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) programs.

BE SUCCESSFUL:

- ✓ Attend and participate in care.
- ✓ Do not take leave.
- ✓ Do not miss appointments.
- ✓ Do not have elective surgery.

KEY STEPS

1

Referral to DES via a Medical Evaluation Board (MEB):

- Your provider will refer you to the DES if they determine you have a VA ratable condition that will not allow you to return to full duty.
- Your Physical Evaluation Board Liaison Officer (PEBLO) will initiate your VA exams with a VA Military Service Coordinator (MSC).
- Once you complete all VA exams, the MEB will review your case, determine if you meet retention criteria, and either return you to full duty or submit your case to the PEB.

2

Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) Review:

- The PEB reviews your medical records along with input from your command to assess how your condition impacts your ability to perform your duties.
- If you are found **FIT**, you continue service.
- If you are found **UNFIT**, you are recommended for separation or medical retirement.

3

Transition & Out-Processing if Found UNFIT

- Receive your DD214, VA rating, and VA benefit information.
- VA MSC enrolls you in the VA Healthcare System before you leave the Service.

Need Help? Contact Your...

• **PEBLO:** Your PEBLO will guide you through each step of IDES.

• **Case Manager:** Case managers support service members with complex medical conditions and/or diverse support needs.

• **Recovery Care Coordinator (RCC):** A non-medical professional who provides support as you go through the DES process, ensuring a smooth transition.

• **VA MSC:** The VA MSC is your VA liaison throughout the VA disability evaluation and claims process.

Legal Support: DES Counsel Program attorneys are available to help answer your questions and protect your rights.

