Physical Disability Board of Review

Service members who have been medically separated since Sept. 11, 2001 will have the opportunity to have their disability ratings reviewed to ensure fairness and accuracy. The Physical Disability Board of Review will examine each applicant's medical separation, compare DoD and VA ratings, and make a recommendation to the respective Service Secretary (or designee). The military records will be corrected effective the original date of execution of the Physical Evaluation Board's separation action. This is the same rule for BCMR/BCNR corrections.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a PDBR review, a service member must have been medically separated between Sept. 11, 2001 and Dec. 31, 2009 with a combined disability rating of 20 percent or less, and not found eligible for retirement. There are significant differences between this new PDBR review and a Board for Correction of Military (or Naval) Record (BCMR/BCNR) review. These differences are outlined in this DoD Military Health System comparison document and will also be on the application. While the Air Force is the lead for the PDBR process including case tracking and reporting, a joint service board will conduct the evaluation and review of each case. Applicants will not be able to appear in person, but may include any statements, briefs, medical records or other supporting documents with their application. After the document review is completed and a final decision is made, each applicant will be notified of the decision and any further information regarding a change of their disability rating.

APPLICATION

The application form, DD Form 294, Application for a Review by the Physical Disability Board of Review of the Rating Awarded Accompanying a Medical Separation from the Armed Forces of the United States, is now available for download. The VA Form 3288, Request for and Consent to Release of Information from Individual's Records, must be completed and submitted along with the DD Form 294. You can download this form at the bottom of this web page. If this form is not signed and submitted, it may delay the processing of your case. You may contact the PDBR intake unit at the following address:

SAF/MRBR
Attn: PDBR Central Intake & Tracking Unit
550 C Street West
Joint Base San Antonio - Randolph, TX 78150

Please keep in mind that this office cannot discuss the merits of your application. You may wish to contact your local veterans' Service organization for advice or guidance.

FORMS AND PUBLICATION

DD Form 294, Application for a review by the Physical Disability Board of Review of the rating awarded accompanying a medical separation from the Armed Forces of the United States
VA Form 3288, Request for and Consent to Release of Information from Individual's Records
Department of Defense Instruction 6040.44, Lead DOD Component for the Physical Disability Board of Review.