

June 12, 2024

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Effective December 22, 2022, P.L. 117-328 Division U, section 201 authorizes VA to make recurring payments for a clothing allowance to qualifying Veterans *until* the Veteran elects to no longer receive such payments *or until* VA determines the Veteran is no longer eligible for such payments. **AUTHORITY:** 38 U.S.C. § 1162 and 38 C.F.R. § 3.810.

1. REQUIREMENTS

a. The clothing allowance program provides monetary payments to Veterans who meet the eligibility and entitlement criteria as set forth in 38 U.S.C. § 1162 and 38 C.F.R. § 3.810. This benefit is jointly administered between the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

b. Prosthetic Representatives who administer the clothing allowance program must follow the standard operating procedures (SOP) outlined in the 2024 Clothing Allowance-SOP step and action sections located at: <https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VHAProthetics/StandardOperatingProcedures/Forms/AllItems.aspx>. **NOTE:** *This is an internal VA website that is not available to the public. This SOP will be updated as new guidance becomes available. All changes will be announced on monthly calls to the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service (PSAS) field staff.*

c. The necessary steps outlined in the SOP provides interim guidance until future guidance is developed and implemented by VBA and VHA. This SOP also provides additional resources on how to process initial, new, additional request, or processing steps when a Veteran elects to no longer receive the benefit.

d. For all other roles and responsibilities for the VISN Prosthetic Representative, VA medical facility PSAS Chief, and other PSAS field staff related to the administration of the clothing allowance benefit, VHA Directive 1173, Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service, dated March 27, 2023, establishes policy and oversight responsibilities.

2. RESCISSION: By direction of the Office of the Under Secretary for Health, VHA Handbook 1173.15, Clothing Allowance, dated May 14, 2015, is rescinded.

3. All inquiries concerning this action should be addressed to the Office of Rehabilitation and Prosthetics Services (12RPS7) at VHAPSASBenefits@va.gov.

4. This VHA notice will expire and be archived on June 30, 2025.

**BY DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE
UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH:**

/s/ M. Christopher Saslo
DNS, ARNP-BC, FAANP
Assistant Under Secretary for Health
for Patient Care Services/CNO

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