



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
VBA  
Regional Office**

[REDACTED]  
**VA File Number**  
[REDACTED]

**Rating Decision  
11/05/2025**

**INTRODUCTION**

The records reflect that you are a Veteran of the Vietnam Era. You served in the Army from November 19, 1965 to September 17, 1967. You filed an original disability claim that was received on August 7, 2025. Based on a review of the evidence listed below, we have made the following decision(s) on your claim.

**DECISION**

1. Basic eligibility to Dependents' Educational Assistance based on permanent and total disability status is established from July 9, 2025.
2. Service connection for Unspecified Dementia with Behavioral Disturbance with Major depressive disorder, recurrent severe without psychotic features and Generalized Anxiety Disorder associated with TERA participation is granted with an evaluation of 100 percent effective July 9, 2025.

**EVIDENCE**

- C&P Exam, received on November 3, 2025
- C&P Exam, received on October 6, 2025

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- TERA Memorandum, received on September 22, 2025
- Military Personnel Record, received on August 21, 2025
- STR - Medical, received on August 21, 2025
- Military Personnel Record, received on August 21, 2025
- ILER IES Record Unavailable Response, received on August 14, 2025
- Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty (e.g. DD 214, NOAA 56-16, PHS 1867), received on August 7, 2025
- Medical Treatment Record - Non-Government Facility, received on August 7, 2025
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- VA 21-526EZ, Fully Developed Claim (Compensation), received on August 7, 2025
- VA Form 21-4138, Statement In Support of Claim, received on August 7, 2025
- Intent to File Letter, received on July 21, 2025
- VA 21-0966 Intent to File, received on July 9, 2025

### **REASONS FOR DECISION**

#### **1. Eligibility to Dependents' Educational Assistance under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 35 based on permanent and total disability status.**

Eligibility for Dependents' Educational Assistance is derived from a Veteran who was discharged under other than dishonorable conditions; and has permanent and total service-connected disability(ies); or permanent and total disability(ies) existed at the time of death; or the Veteran died as a result of service-connected disability(ies). Also, eligibility exists for a service member who died in service. Finally, eligibility can be derived from a service member who, as a member of the armed forces on active duty, has been listed for more than 90 days as missing in action; captured in line of duty by a hostile force; or forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power. Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) with additional compensation payments based on the student's school attendance is considered a duplication of benefits and is prohibited. (38 USC Chapter 35, 38 CFR 3.807, 38 CFR 21.3021)

Basic eligibility to Dependents' Educational Assistance is granted as the evidence shows you currently have a total service-connected disability, permanent in nature. (38 USC Chapter 35, 38 CFR 3.807, 38 CFR 21.3021)

Basic eligibility to Dependents' Educational Assistance based on permanent and total disability status is established from July 9, 2025. The date we received your intent to file.

#### **2. Service connection for Unspecified Dementia with Behavioral Disturbance with Major depressive disorder, recurrent severe without psychotic features and Generalized Anxiety Disorder as a result of a toxic exposure risk activity (TERA).**

Service connection may be granted for a condition diagnosed after military discharge provided evidence establishes that the condition was caused by service. Service connection may be granted on this basis for a disability related to toxic exposure risk activity (TERA) during



military service if evidence demonstrates that the Veteran was actually exposed in service and that a disease associated with such exposure resulted. (38 CFR 3.303, 38 CFR 3.304)

We considered whether your condition resulted from a toxic exposure risk activity (TERA) in service. (38 U.S.C. 1168, 38 U.S.C. 1710(e)(4)) The evidence of record shows participation in a TERA. Service connection for Unspecified Dementia with Behavioral Disturbance with Major depressive disorder, recurrent severe without psychotic features and Generalized Anxiety Disorder has been established as directly related to military service. (38 CFR 3.303, 38 CFR 3.304)

An evaluation of 100 percent is assigned from July 9, 2025.

We have assigned a 100 percent evaluation for your mental health to include anxiety/depression/dementia based on:

- Anxiety
- Depressed mood
- Difficulty in adapting to a worklike setting
- Difficulty in adapting to stressful circumstances
- Difficulty in adapting to work
- Difficulty in understanding complex commands
- Disorientation to place
- Disorientation to time
- Disturbances of motivation and mood
- Flattened affect
- Forgetting directions
- Forgetting names
- Forgetting recent events
- Forgetting to complete tasks
- Gross impairment in communication
- Gross impairment in thought processes
- Impaired abstract thinking
- Impaired judgment
- Impairment of short- and long-term memory
- Inability to establish and maintain effective relationships
- Intermittent inability to perform activities of daily living
- Intermittent inability to perform maintenance of minimal personal hygiene
- Memory loss for names of close relatives
- Memory loss for own name
- Memory loss for own occupation
- Mild memory loss
- Retention of only highly learned material
- Total occupational and social impairment

The overall evidentiary record shows that the severity of your disability most closely approximates the criteria for a 100 percent disability evaluation. (38 CFR 4.7, 38 CFR 4.126)



This is the highest schedular evaluation allowed under the law for major depressive disorder. (38 CFR 4.125, 38 CFR 4.126, 38 CFR 4.130)

There is no evidence of record that shows that you are unable to manage your financial affairs. (38 CFR 3.353)

**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 website, [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).