

Purpose and Outline

Office of The Surgeon General

Purpose: To provide Soldiers, their Family Members, and unit chain-of-command an overview of the Disability Evaluation System.

Outline:

- 1. Our Mission
- 2. Purpose of DES
- 3. DES Acknowledgement
- 4. Timeline
- 5. DES processes and Election Options
- 6. DES Team Member Roles and Descriptions
- 7. The MEB
- 8. The Physical Evaluation Board (PEB)
- 9. VA Support Functions



- To provide you with information that will allow you to make informed decisions throughout the DES process
- To process your case in a timely and accurate manner



- Maintain an effective and fit military organization with maximum use of manpower
- Provide benefits for eligible Soldiers whose military Service is terminated because of disability incurred in the line of duty (LOD)
- Provide prompt disability processing while ensuring that the rights and interests of the Government and the Soldier are protected

The Disability Evaluation System (DES)

- Initiated when one or more medical conditions (referred conditions) are identified by a military healthcare provider as having reached the level requiring referral into DES
- Is a set of processes designed to evaluate a Soldier's medical condition(s) to determine whether they meet retention standards, or if one or more of the conditions (alone or in combination) do not meet retention standards;
 - Document a Soldier's medical condition(s) and duty limitations
 - Deliver a finding regarding fitness for continued military service
 - If found fit the Soldier is returned to duty (2% of Soldiers are RTD)
 - If determined to be unfit, determine if the Soldier should be medically separated (with or without benefits), temporarily or permanently retired, or (subject to approval of a Soldier's request) continued on duty
- During the process DES staff members provide Soldiers counseling and advice on how to contribute to the development of their case as well as rights and responsibilities applicable when presented with the results of various stages of the process

DES – One Program – Two Processes

Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES)

- Integrates components of both the DoD and VA disability systems
- One comprehensive physical examination and single rating source
- Expedites determination and receipt of benefits for conditions which do not meet retention standards and any others that are service-related

Legacy Disability Evaluation System (LDES)

- May be requested as an <u>exception to policy</u> by a Soldier or directed based on a Unit Commander (CDR) or Healthcare Provider recommendation
 - Requires evidence of detrimental impact to the Soldier and/or the Army
 - Requires approval by the MTF CDR or his designee
- MTF conducts exams; PEB conducts ratings and assigns disposition for conditions which do not meet retention standards and which they determine to be unfitting
- Must go through a separate VA process to claim other service-related conditions
- Both processes include a Medical Evaluation Board and a Physical Evaluation Board

DES Process Options

- There is an option to request use of LDES if there is detrimental impact that would likely be reduced/eliminated by using LDES instead of IDES. You have the choice to seek legal counsel by contacting the Office of Soldiers' MEB Counsel (OSMEBC) after reviewing the OSMEBC trifold brochure.
- Once enrolled in IDES or approved for LDES, You are not allowed to switch
- Using Enclosure 1 of OTSG/MEDCOM Policy "Enrollment in the LDES":
- Elect A if you are not sure at this time
 - Up to 5 calendar days to seek counsel at OSMEBC and/or decide if you have a reason to request LDES. A written request with your justification must be submitted to your Unit CDR and returned to the PEBLO before day 6. (If CDR hasn't signed, bring a copy to the PEBLO)
- Elect B if you are sure that you want to go through the IDES process
 - You will be enrolled in IDES unless a request has been submitted by your Unit CDR or healthcare provider. Once enrolled in IDES – you cannot switch.
- Elect C if you wish to request LDES
 - May be selected any time prior to the 6th calendar day after you were notified
 - Requests may be withdrawn at any time prior to the final decision by the approval authority

^{*} RC Soldiers who are not on Active-Duty orders over 30 days will receive the initial notification from their Unit and will make their election prior to entering DES – including the potential of electing C and withdrawing the request prior to final approval. RC OSMEBC at FT Gordon services all non-active RC Soldiers.



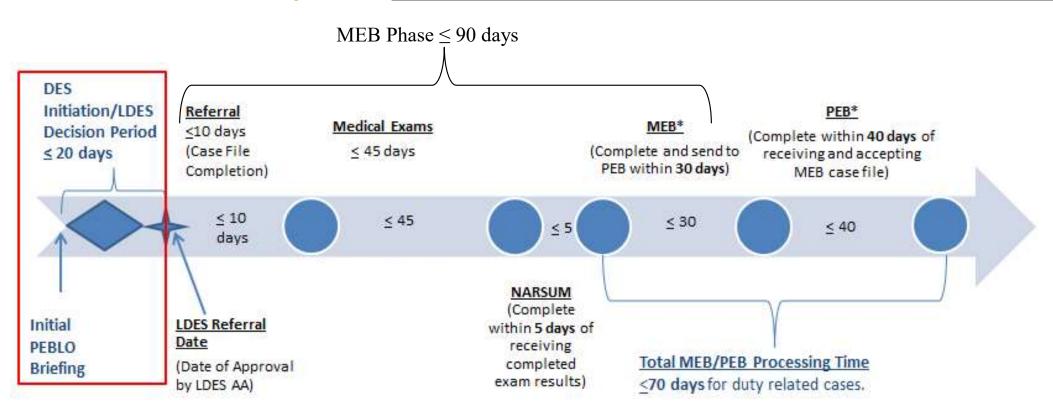
- Our goal is to complete the MEB Phase within 72 calender days
- MTF current average for the MEB Phase is XX calendar days.
- The goal is to complete the entire process within 180 calendar days for all Soldiers.
- MTF current average for the IDES is XX calendar days.
- However, each case is unique and your MEB could take more time

 or less. Differences may include the approved use of LDES vs.
 IDES, number and type of medical conditions evaluated, Soldier availability, etc.

*These goals are based on DoD and Army standards and are subject to change based on DoD and Army guidance.

DoD DES GRAPHIC – 180 Day Goal

Treatment	Medical Evaluation Board (MEB)	Physical Evaluation Board (PEB)		Transition	
Soldier becomes wounded, ill or injured	Referral 7 days	Informal PEB (IPEB) 11 days	FPEB Appeal 10 days (SMIA)	Transition 26 days	
Physician assesses and treats Soldier	Claim Development 7 days	Proposed Rating 19 days*	VA Rating Reconsideration 2 days (SMIA)	Transition Phase. a. Includes receiving separation orders, SFL-TAP, military installation clearing, VA MSC exit	LEGEND a. IMR: Impartial Medical Review
Medical Retention Decision Point (MRDP)	Medical Exam 31 days	Proposed Disposition 5 days	Final Disposition 5 days	interviews etc. b. Timeliness measured from SECARMY approval of PEB proceedings to date of separation	b. MRDP: Medical Retention Decision Point c. PTDY: Permissive Temporary Duty d. SMIA: Service Member Initiated Action; only
MRDP: Soldiers are referred to IDES within 1 year of diagnoses of a medical condition(s) that	MEB Stage 20 days*	Election 6 days (IPEB/FPEB)	Final Disposition: Occurs after all appeals are complete and Soldier accepts PEB	(minus leave and PTDY) Final Out-Processing and Separation	requested when a Solider appeals actions at the MEB or PEB
do not appear to meet medical retention standards, or if no further treatment will enable them to meet	MEB Appeal 7 days; includes IMR (SMIA)	Formal PEB (FPEB) 24 days (SMIA)	findings; case is approved by HQ, USAPDA on behalf of the SECARMY		PDA/PEB VA
retention standards. P3/P4 Profile is issued	* Note: Proposed Ratings Stage occurs in parallel with the MEB Stage; ratings are available upon conclusion of the IPEB Stage				ІМСОМ
DoD Goal:	72 Calendar days	82 Calendar days		26 Calendar days	



CUI

 LDES Soldiers have the same rights to request an IMR or appeal the MEB and PEB as IDES Soldiers. DoD is currently counting the time for appeals and IMRs in the MEB stage time.

- Medical Treatment Facility Command Authority
- Physical Evaluation Board Liaison Officer (PEBLO)
- Medical Evaluation Board (MEB) Provider
- VA Military Services Coordinator (MSC)
- Soldiers Medical Evaluation Board Counsel (SMEBC)
- Service Member's Unit Commander and First Sergeant
- Service Member



- Reviews your DA 3349 (Medical Profile) and medical documentation to ensure you have met the Medical Retention Determination Point (MRDP)
- Conducts MEB Separation Health Assessment (for LDES Soldiers only)
- Requests consults for specialty clinics, if required (for LDES Soldiers only)
- Reviews and summarizes your medical data and administrative data, incorporating appropriate information into your MEB Narrative Summary (NARSUM)
- Makes the determination if your condition(s) or combination of conditions cause you to fail retention standards
- Clarifies any questions for the PEB in regards too your diagnosis and the limitations that cause you to not meet retention standards
- When possible, the MEB provider will review the NARSUM with the Soldier to ensure all conditions and concerns are addressed.



PEBLO

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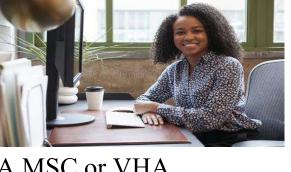
You have been assigned a PEBLO: _	
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Your PEBLO will:

- Serve as your primary point of contact for DES
- Explain the DES processes and provide you with your options
- Schedule you for briefings and counseling sessions (SMEBC, VA MSC or VHA Liaison)
- Refer you for legal consultation and/or briefing with SMEBC personnel
- Obtain your complete Service Treatment Record (with your assistance)
- Prepare a Unit Notification Memo notifying your CDR about your referral to DES and requesting a completed DA 7652 (Commander's Performance and Functional Statement)
- Refer you to other resources as required (Soldier's For Life, Army Wounded Warrior (AW2) Program, VA Liaison, etc.)
- Keep you informed of the status of any changes in your case

You need to:

- Contact your PEBLO anytime you have questions concerning your case
- Make sure your PEBLO is aware of any changes to your contact information.
- Make sure your PEBLO is aware of any periods of unavailability (leave, surgery, TDY, etc.)



- You will be assigned a MSC to guide you through the VA portion of the IDES process (LDES Soldiers will not be assigned an MSC)
- The MSC is a VA employee who is the link between you and the VA for the IDES Process.

CUI

- Responsible for assisting you in identifying your claimed conditions and for scheduling your Compensation and Pension (C&P) exams.
- Helps you complete your application for Disability Compensation and Related Compensation Benefits
- Explains your rights and the VA actions in the IDES
- Gather any additional information required in order to process your claim of VA Benefits prior to separation and payment (if entitled) after separation
- You are responsible for ensuring all of your medical records (civilian and military) are given to your PEBLO prior to meeting with your MSC
- You must attend all scheduled VA C&P appointments—these are your place of duty and have priority over anything else
- If an appointment must be rescheduled due to emergency circumstances, contact your MSC and PEBLO immediately
- Unit escort will be required before no-showed-appointments can be rescheduled



- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) is a program whose primary function is to help veterans & Service Members with serviceconnected disabilities become suitably employed, maintain employment, or achieve independence in daily living.
- Authorized by
 - Title 38, Chapters 31 and 36
 - National Defense Authorizations Act FY 2008
- All Soldiers in IDES should be referred to Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) for counselling on VR&E services and assistance
- Soldiers applying for VR&E will need to complete VA Form 28-1900 (Disabled Veteran's Application for Vocational Rehabilitation)

Soldier MEB Counsel (SMEBC)

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- The Soldiers' Medical Evaluation Board Counsel (SMEBC) is a very important advocate throughout the DES. They are specially trained in the DES process
- You will be referred to a SMEBC to provide legal assistance throughout the DES process
- You will also be scheduled to attend a legal briefing to learn more about what SMEBC can do for you
- You have the right to consult legal representation of your choice, keeping in mind that civilian representation is at your own expense
- The SMEBC for this installation is:

(Insert Local SMEBC contact information)





What about confidentiality?

- Your medical board is personal and private
- Limited information can be provided to your CDR:
 - THE FACT THAT YOU ARE UNDERGOING
 DISABILITY PROCESSING
 - WHERE YOU ARE IN THE BOARD PROCESS



- Family members do not have *automatic* access to your medical records/board status without your written permission
- KEEP ONLY THOSE WITH A RIGHT TO KNOW INFORMED



- The Medical Evaluation Board is an informal process comprised of at least two physicians, who compile, assess, and evaluate a Soldier's medical history and current condition to determine if your duty is affected by your medical condition.
- You will not have to appear before this board.

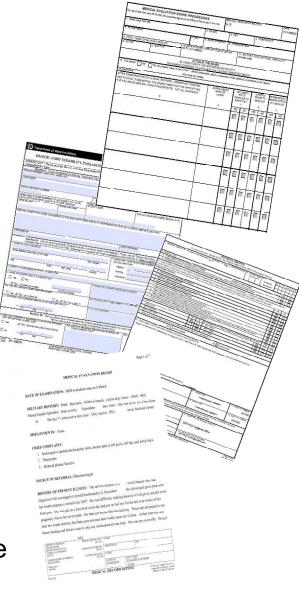


Medical Evaluation Board

- Designed to evaluate your medical condition(s) to determine if one or more conditions do not meet Army Medical Retention Standards IAW AR 40-501, Chapter 3
- The MEB Process begins when the second signature is placed on a DA Form 3349 (Physical Profile) with a P3/P4 designator - indicating that you have reached the Medical Retention Determination Point (MRDP) – (have a condition which requires referral to the DES)
- Documents your medical condition(s) and duty limitations
- Outcome
 - Referral to the Physical Evaluation Board (PEB), when the findings and recommendations stipulate you do not meet retention standards
 - Return to duty with or without duty limitations if your conditions meet medical retention standards
 - Trial of Duty if more time is needed to assess MRDP and ability to perform MOS
- Referral to the PEB does not mean you must be found unfit by the PEB or that you will definitely be discharged from military service or that you will receive disability benefits



- Medical data/documents created in support of your MEB.
 - DA Form 3947—Medical Evaluation Board Proceedings
 - Narrative Summary (NARSUM)
 - DA Form 3349—Physical Profile
- VA/DoD Form 21-0819 and VA Form 21-526EZ claim forms (IDES Only)
- Compensation & Pension Exam(s) conducted by VA (if IDES) or exams completed by the MTF (if LDES)
- Complete Service Treatment Records
 - All medical records for all periods of service to include entrance physical exam(s) and medication list (to include civilian records as applicable)
 - YOU are responsible for ensuring your PEBLO has your complete medical record



What is in a MEB Case?

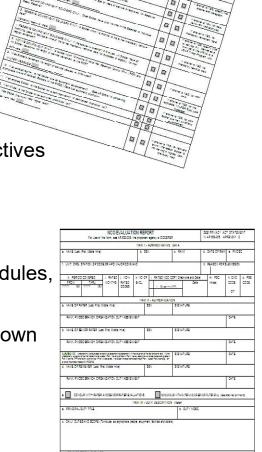
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Personnel/Performance Data Included:

- DA 7652 (Commander's Performance and Functional Statement)
- Developmental Counseling Statement for E4 and below is required
- Copy of Initial Entrance Physical Exam Results (all periods of active duty)
- NCOERs/OERs (E-5 and above) (Last 3)
- Awards/Decorations (if applicable)
- ERB/ORB/PQR
- LES (Current End of Month)
- DA Form 4187 (Name changes, promotions, demotions, etc.)
- Approved Line of Duty Determination IAW AR 600-8-4 and applicable Army Directives
- DD 214/215 (if previously issued one)

Additional Requirements for Soldiers with Reserve Component Time:

- Orders for all active duty periods when injury/illness incurred (e.g., Training Schedules, MOB Orders, etc.)
- Chronological Statement of Retirement Points (ARPC 249-2-E) (commonly known as RPAS)
- National Guard Retirement Points History Statement (NG Form 23) (commonly known as RPAM)
- 15/20 Year Letter (if applicable)





What is in a MEB Case?

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DES Exams:

 A MEB Provider will identify the referred medical condition(s) from your records when validating DES referral

For IDES cases:

- The MSC will assist you in identifying any additional medical conditions to be evaluated—Claimed Conditions
- ❖ Note: If you do not claim a condition, it cannot be considered for disability rating and/or fitness determinations
- You will be scheduled for physical exam(s) conducted by the VA – (Compensation & Pension Exams) which will evaluate both Referred and Claimed conditions.



For LDES cases:

- You will be scheduled for a physical exam with an MTF provider (and additional exams as required)
- Exams will only cover conditions that do not meet Army Retention Standards IAW AR 40-501, Chapter 3

You must attend these appointments.

If you need to reschedule - you must coordinate with your PEBLO in advance

Narrative Summary (NARSUM)

The NARSUM is the heart of the MEB

This comprehensive report written by a MEB Provider lists medical conditions,* historical information about them and their current status. It states whether each condition is medically unacceptable IAW the criteria listed in AR 40-501, chapter 3. If any of them are, the case is referred to the PEB for further adjudication



- * For IDES all medically significant conditions noted in the Soldier's medical record
- * For LDES, only conditions which (alone or in combination) do not meet Army retention standards IAW AR 40-501, Chapter 3

- Upon completion of the MEB, you will be provided a copy of the MEB case file for your records - including your DA Form 3947, NARSUM, C&P Exam and other documents
- Your PEBLO will explain these documents and advise you on your options.
- The MEB documentation will state whether each condition meets retention standards IAW AR 40-501, Chapter 3
 - Generally, if your conditions meet medical retention standards, you are returned to duty with or without a duty limiting profile
 - If one or more conditions do not meet medical retention standards, your case will be referred to the Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) for further disposition
- You have the right to consult with the SMEBC or other legal representation of your choice* to assist with your decision before signing the MEB
- * Non-DoD legal representation will be at your own expense



Important

Information

Election Considerations

- You will have 5 calendar days to review the MEB results and decide which of the following elections to choose:
 - Concur (accept the results as they are)
 - Request an Impartial Medical Review (IMR)* of the MEB findings
 - Non-concur with or without comments (see next slide for Appeal details)
- If you disagree with any portion of your MEB, you have the right to appeal
 - The SMEBC or legal representation of your choice can assist you with your appeal
 - Your written rebuttal must be submitted within 7 days** to the MTF designated
 Approving Authority for further consideration
 - Your appeal becomes part of the MEB
 - * An IMR can be requested if a Soldier believes their NARSUM does not provide an accurate/complete summary of their medical information. An additional provider (not involved in the original MEB) will be assigned to review the case file and recommend changes, if appropriate. The designated Approving Authority decides if any changes should be made. The IMR becomes part of the MEB.
- ** This period starts *after* completion of an IMR, if requested.



MEB Appeals

- The MTF designated Approving Authority will review your appeal and make one of the following decisions:
 - ➤ MEB stands as written (your appeal is included in the MEB when forwarded to the PEB)
 - Make some or all of the changes you requested
 - Return the MEB to the MEB provider for further information or evaluation
 - Forward it to the PEB with attachments or additional notes



Elective Surgery While in DES

- Army Regulations require Soldiers to be available for DES processing
- OTSG/MEDCOM Policy 21-029 prohibits Soldiers from undergoing nonemergent and non-medically necessary procedures while in DES.
- Soldiers who desire to undergo a medical procedure that is invasive and require convalescent leave must have prior approval.
- The MTF DES Chief, and/or DCCS/MTF Commander or designated authority, are the final approval authorities for all medically optional procedures.
- Your PEBLO will explain how to request an exception to policy as needed.
- Rarely, the MTF DES Chief, and/or DCCS/MTF commander will request OTSG/MEDCOM to review EPT Approval Requests.
- Failure to obtain approval prior to undergoing a procedure (either by the military or civilian sector) could result in a line of duty no—due to own misconduct finding. Such a finding would result in no disability rating for any conditions resulting from complications from the procedure and/or possible UCMJ actions.

Do You Have Any Questions About the MEB Process?



PEB MISSION:

To determine the functional fitness of Soldiers with medical impairments and to determine the appropriate compensation for eligible Soldiers whose career is terminated due to a service connected disability.





The PEB

- The PEB is the only board in the Military that can determine whether you are medically fit or unfit for continued Military Service
 - If found fit for duty, your DA Form 199 (PEB Findings) will be issued; no disability ratings will be applied to your conditions.
 - If found unfit, you will be notified of the preliminary findings,
 - and if you were processed through IDES: the PEB will forward your case to the VA Disability Rating Activity Site (DRAS) for a disability rating determination for all of your medical conditions
 - and if you were processed through LDES: disability rating determination is completed by the PEB using the same rating schedule (the Veterans Affairs Schedule for Rating Disabilities), but only rating those conditions that are considered unfitting
 - If found unfit, Army disability benefits will be determined based only on the combined rating for conditions found to be unfitting by the PEB for continued Military Service
 - If found unfit, VA disability benefits will be determined based on the combined disability rating for all Service-connected medical conditions for IDES cases (includes conditions found to be fitting by the PEB)

Two Types of PEB:

Informal PEB (IPEB)

- Your MEB is initially reviewed by the PEB informally
- This stage consists of a review of the medical and administrative documentation to render a fit/unfit determination for each condition
- You do not appear in person at the IPEB

Formal PEB (FPEB)

- Used when a Soldier does not agree with the findings of the IPEB
- An FPEB is a hearing before 3 members of the PEB
- IPEB findings are not binding on the FPEB
- You have the option to present at the FPEB (VTC preferred, in-person permissible)
- Soldiers' PEB Counsel (SPEBC) will help you prepare and represent you, or you can obtain legal representation of your choice (at your own expense)



- The case may be returned to the PEBLO during the PEB process for additional information or clarification of data in order to make a determination of the appropriate disability rating or disposition decisions
- Only those medical conditions that render you unfit for further Military Service and are service-connected will be considered for determining your final DES disposition by the PEB
 - (IDES Cases)—Make sure to claim all known conditions during the Claim Development Stage. Only Referred and Claimed conditions can be considered by the PEB. It is difficult to add existing (chronic) conditions after conclusion of the IPEB for purposes of increasing your rating
- Once the PEB receives your Proposed VA rating and completes their fitness determination, you will be notified by your PEBLO and counseled on your election options



PEB Election

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- Your PEBLO will be notified once the PEB has rendered the IPEB decision (DA Form 199, Physical Evaluation Board Proceedings)
- Your PEBLO will contact you to schedule a counseling session to review the IPEB's findings and recommendations. (This session should be within 3 calendar days)*
- You may consult with an attorney from the local SMEBC office (or legal representation of your choice) to determine how you want to respond to the PEB findings
- Your four (4) basic election options when you receive the IPEB findings are:
 - Concur
 - Concur and request VA Ratings Reconsideration (If an IDES case)
 - Non-concur with PEB findings (with or without a written appeal)
 - Non-concur with PEB findings and request a Formal PEB (with or without personal appearance and with or without a written statement identifying issues of disagreement)
- You will be given six (6)* calendar days to make your election

(*Time may decrease pending DoD and Army guidance)



Types Of Military Dispositions

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- Fit for Duty -- Return to Duty
- Unfit for Duty
 - Separation Without Benefits (SWOB) (no % given)
 (When the unfitting condition is not service-connected or due to own misconduct)
 - Separation With Severance Pay (SWSP)
 - Rating of 0%-20% and less than 20 YOS
 - Temporary Disability Retirement List (TDRL)
 - Rating of 30% or more or 20 YOS and medical condition is NOT stabilized enough for permanent rating
 - Periodic re-exams every 12 18 months (3 yr maximum)**
 - Minimum of 50% of base pay during period of TDRL
 - Permanent Disability Retirement (PDR)
 - Rating of 30% or more (or 20 YOS) and condition is stable for rating purpose

(**Note: Frequency of TDRL <u>re-evaluations</u> can vary by condition – FY17 NDAA reduced TDRL maximum tenure from 5 years to 3 years for those placed on TDRL after 31 DEC 16)

PEB Appeal Process

- If your disposition is "UNFIT FOR FURTHER MILITARY SERVICE", you have the right to request a formal hearing with or without personal appearance
- You cannot request a formal PEB to question any disability rating percentages provided by the VA. The PEB can only determine whether you are fit or unfit and if your unfitting conditions are service connected
- You may request in writing that the disability rating for unfitting conditions be reconsidered by the VA on a one-time basis
- You can only appeal the PEB findings of unfit or fit for duty or service connection. You
 may submit any relevant and material evidence regarding the fitness of your medical
 conditions
- You have the right to be represented by a trained and qualified JAG Corps attorney (SPEBC or SMEBC) at no cost or by a private counsel of your choice (at your own expense) for your formal hearing
- You may also elect to have representation from any of the various veterans organizations, if available. (e.g.DAV- Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, etc). Their services are free.

For Soldier's Found Fit For Duty

- You are entitled to submit a written appeal
- You may request a formal hearing, as an exception to policy
- Your local SMEBC can assist with your appeal or formal hearing request

 The PEB President decides whether to grant a request for formal hearing to contest a fit finding



- Component of Army G-1/Human Resources Command
- Reviews and approves/disapproves findings and recommendations of the PEB



- Approve the PEB decision on behalf of the Secretary of the Army
- Return case to PEB for reconsideration, clarification, further investigation, formal hearing or other action
- Issue modified findings which could change Soldier's fit or unfit decision
- If PDA makes any changes to the findings or dispositions, the Soldier has appeal rights (counsel + 10 days to sign)
- Army Physical Disability Appeal Board (APDAB) receives case from PDA and takes final administrative actions
- Your board is not concluded until it is approved by the PDA



Final Disposition

UNFIT FOR FURTHER MILITARY SERVICE :

- Transmits message to your Transition Center for disability separation/retirement orders
- Assigns final separation/retirement date: "Not Later Than 90 days"
- Transition Center will publish appropriate orders

FIT FOR DUTY:

- Issues a fit memorandum to the MTF
- The fit memorandum completes the disability evaluation processing



Adjustments to the PDA NLT date

- The NLT 90 separation date that is established once PDA enters the disability separation instructions into TRANSPROC is not intended to be the actual separation date. The intent is that the unit and transition center will establish a separation date within the 90 day window, depending upon the amount of leave and PTDY taken and the time it takes to receive orders and clear the installation and unit.
- For example, if a Soldier is cashing in all leave, is not taking PTDY, can receive orders within ten days and clear post in 14 days, the separation date should be set at 24 days after the TRANSPROC notification.
- Current policy is that Soldiers be permitted to take all their accrued leave as transition leave if desired. The NLT 90 day separation date can be extended by USAPDA to enable all leave to be taken and when other extenuating circumstances exist. Extensions should be requested within the first 10 days of the 90-day period.

Note: PTDY is a privilege, not a right. Officers extended past their mandatory removal/retirement date must separate NLT 30 days upon board completion.



If I am found unfit by the PEB Is there any way I can stay in?

- You can submit a request for Continuation on Active Duty (COAD) or Continuation on Active Reserve Status (COAR)
 - https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/active/epord/coad.htm
 - See AR 635-40 Chapter 6 for COAD/COAR policy details
 - Requests for COAD/COAR must be made at the time of the 199 election to give HRC time to approve
- Your PEBLO will provide you with specific criteria/details related to requesting continuation
- You can also obtain information and counseling on COAD/COAR from the SMEBC
- Generally, HRC is the approval authority for most requests
 G-1 is the disapproval authority for requests by Soldiers tracked by the Army Wounded Warrior (AW2) Program



Do You Have Any Questions About the PEB Process?



YOU

Be Aware, Available and Informed –

Stay Involved!



- You own your DES process
 - Attend all examinations and appointments
 - Work with PEBLO, MSC and SMEBC to ensure medical conditions are documented and all health records are available
 - Read over entire MEB packet carefully before making election
- Remember, if you do not make your MEB or PEB election within the prescribed timeframe your case will continue to process forward; if you need an extension, contact your PEBLO right away!
- Ask questions!
 - Your MEB team can answer any questions you have during IDES process.



- DO NOT miss any of your appointments Be on time, with your CAC ID and PIN, and in appropriate uniform
- No shows for any appointment will be reported to your CDR and will require a military escort to all future appointments
- Always provide accurate phone numbers, email address and mailing address
- Let your PEBLO know if your unit of assignment or your contact information changes
- Contact your PEBLO if you become unavailable and/or if you plan to have surgery (Command Approved)
- Contact your PEBLO if you plan to leave the area and make sure to have a plan for the next step



- Know where you are in the process what comes next and what is expected of you in that step
- Be familiar with the overall process and what is involved beyond that next step
- Prepare yourself for each potential outcome - have the options in mind when you receive any updates
- Stay flexible remember things can change – every case is unique



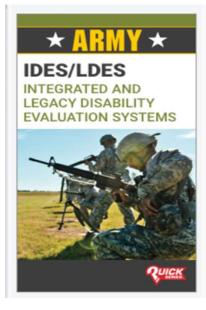
- You are in DES and until the day you separate or are returned to duty
- You are in the Army until your separation date
- Committing UCMJ or civil criminal offenses while in DES (even on terminal leave) can result in your board being suspended or terminated
- Your Separation Authority (usually the General Officer with courts martial convening authority over you) can decide to court martial you or separate you under the provisions of AR 635-200, CH 14, even after the your board is finalized by the PDA.
- (It happens, otherwise we would not include it in the brief)

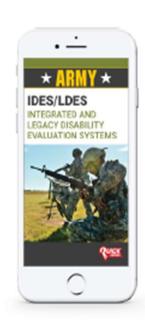
DES RESOURCES

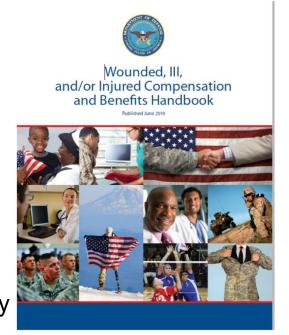
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SOLDIER:

- Initial briefing from MEB office
- **DES Booklet** (*Provided by MEB office*) or
- DES eGuide QR code provided by MEB office)
 - Requires www.quickseries.com/reader
- DoD Wounded, Ill, and/or Injured Compensation and Benefits Handbook (June 2019)
- Visit http://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/benefits/compensation-and-benefits/ for an electronic copy of the Wounded, III and Injured Compensation & Benefits Handbook.
- Also see the VA's TAP site for information on benefits including Vocational Rehabilitation and many more topics at: http://www.benefits.va.gov/tap/
- Feel free to contact your PEBLO or MSC at any time if you have any questions.







Acronyms

- AC Active Component
- AD Active Duty
- AOC Area of Concentration
- APDAB Army Physical Disability Appeal Board
- AW2 Army Wounded Warrior (Program)
- CAC Common Access Card
- CDR Commander
- C&P Compensation and Pension (VA C&P Exams)
- COAD/COAR Continue on AD / Reserve Status
- DES Disability Evaluation System
- DRAS Disability Rating Activity Site
- DAV Disabled American Veterans
- DVOP Disabled Veterans Outreach Program
- eDES/eMEB/ePEB/eProfile electronic DES/MEB/PEB/Profile (systems)
- ERB Enlisted Record Brief
- EPTS Existed Prior to Service
- FFD Fit For Duty
- FPEB Formal Physical Evaluation Board
- HRC Human Resources Command
- IAW In Accordance With
- IDES Integrated Disability Evaluation System
- IDESPR IDES Performance Report
- IMR Impartial Medical Review
- IPEB- Informal Physical Evaluation Board
- JAG Judge Advocate General
- LDES Legacy Disability Evaluation System
- MEB Medical Evaluation Board
- MAR2 Military Occupational Specialty (MOS)
 Administrative Retention Review

- MODS Medical Operational Data System
- MOS Military Occupational Specialty
- MRDP Medical Retention Determination Point
- MSC Military Service Coordinator (VA representative)
- MTF Military Treatment Facility
- NARSUM Narrative Summary
- NDAA National Defense Authorization Act
- ORB Officer Record Brief
- PDB Physical Disability Branch
- PDES Physical Disability Evaluation System
- PDR Permanent Disability Retirement
- PEBLO Physical Evaluation Board Liaison Officer
- PEB Physical Evaluation Board
- PMOS Primary MOS
- RC Reserve Component
- SMEBC Soldier MEB Counsel (also OSMEBC or Office of SMEBC)
- SPEBC Soldier's PEB Counsel
- SWSP Separation with Severance Pay
- SWOB Separation without Benefits
- TAP Transitional Assistance Program
- TDRL Temporary Disability Retired List
- USAPDA U.S. Army Physical Disability Agency (AKA PDA)
- VA Veterans' Affairs (Department of)
- VR&E Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment
- YOS Years of Service



Do You Have Any Questions?



MTF

ATTN: PEBLO NAME

STREET ADDRESS

Fort XXXX, STATE XXXXXX, ZIP Code XXXXXX

Normal Business Hours:

Front desk: xxx-xxx-xxxx

Fax number: xxx-xxxx



VA Points of Contact

Office of The Surgeon General

Local MSC Location/Contact Information

Location	1: <u> </u>	
Phone:		

Other VA Resources

National VA Liaison Program:

www.oefoif.va.gov/VAliaisons.asp

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E):

http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/eligibility and entitlement.asp

Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP):

https://www.benefits.gov/benefits/benefit-details/106



SMEBC Location/Contact Information

CUI

Location:	
Phone:	

Thank you for Your Service!



This Concludes the Briefing