

SUPPLEMENTAL CLAIM PROCESS FLOWCHART

From the prior decision to new evidence, development, and another decision.



START
A previously decided issue

ENTRY
New and relevant evidence

END
A new VA decision

REVIEW FIRST

The Supplemental Claim process adds or identifies evidence that changes the record. The claimant should remain involved when VA requests authorizations, examinations, or clarification.

FLOW | PRIOR DECISION TO READJUDICATION

THE SUPPLEMENTAL CLAIM SEQUENCE

01

Read the prior decision

Identify each issue, favorable finding, missing element, and decision date.

Build from the Reasons for Decision.

02

Develop new and relevant evidence

Create or obtain proof that directly addresses the disputed fact.

Do not submit duplicates as the new evidence.

03

Submit VA Form 20-0995

List the issues and decision dates, attach evidence, or identify records VA should gather.

Keep the complete packet and receipt.

04

VA reviews completeness and develops evidence

VA may request releases, obtain records, schedule an examination, or seek an opinion.

Respond to requests and attend examinations.

05

VA readjudicates the issue

The reviewer considers the prior record and the new evidence.

Read the new favorable findings and reasons.

06

Choose the next review if needed

Another Supplemental Claim, HLR, or Board Appeal may be available under the current notice.

Use the new decision date.

CLAIMANT CONTROL | WHILE PENDING

KEEP THE DEVELOPMENT MOVING

✓

Confirm identified records are specific

Give provider or facility name, location, treatment dates, and the issue supported.

✓

Return authorization forms

VA cannot obtain many private records without a valid release.

✓

Attend scheduled examinations

Address scheduling conflicts promptly and keep contact information current.

✓

Avoid uncontrolled duplicate uploads

Submit a correction or missing item with a clear label instead of resending the whole packet.

✓

Read the resulting notice

The later decision creates the next issue map and deadline.

Change in law: VA also permits Supplemental Claim review in certain change-in-law situations. Keep that basis separate from an evidence-based Supplemental Claim.

VA ASSISTANCE IS NOT PASSIVE FILING

VA may help gather identified evidence, but the claimant must identify the records, provide required releases, and respond to development requests.

