



AFTER THE HLR DECISION



Read the new result, separate each issue, and choose the next lane from the new record.

POSSIBLE RESULT

Changed, continued, or DTA return

NEXT REVIEW

Supplemental or Board

NEW CONTROL DATE

The HLR decision notice

REVIEW FIRST

The HLR decision creates a new issue-by-issue analysis. Do not assume every issue had the same outcome or that the same next lane applies to all of them.

OUTCOME | READ EACH ISSUE

CLASSIFY THE HLR RESULT

Decision changed

Check the granted benefit, percentage, effective date, and whether any part remains disputed.

Prior result continued

Read the new Reasons for Decision and decide whether new evidence or Board review is needed.

Duty-to-Assist error found

Track the corrective development and wait for the later readjudication decision before evaluating that result.

NEXT LANE | USE THE NEW DECISION

IF DISAGREEMENT REMAINS

SC

Supplemental Claim

Use new and relevant evidence to address the remaining reason for the HLR result.

BVA

Board Appeal

Ask a Veterans Law Judge to review the issue and choose the docket that matches the desired record.

WAIT

DTA correction underway

Respond to development and read the later decision. The correction stage is not another HLR outcome choice.

DECISION CONTROL | FIVE CHECKS

REBUILD THE ISSUE MAP



Result

Record the outcome for each issue and any partial grant.



Favorable findings

Carry forward findings the VA states are binding under the applicable rules.



Remaining reason

Identify the exact fact or law that still prevents the requested result.



Evidence status

Decide whether new and relevant evidence now exists or still must be developed.



Deadline

Use the date on the HLR decision notice for the next review analysis.

Do not file a second HLR in a row on the same issue. VA's current decision-review guidance directs claimants from an HLR decision to a Supplemental Claim or Board Appeal.

NO AUTOMATIC NEXT LANE

Supplemental Claim is not always the right next step after HLR, and Board review is not always required. The remaining issue and evidence determine the next path.

