

CLAIM READINESS CHECK ORIENTATION

Grade the completeness of the file from the veteran's answers and turn gaps into a preparation list.



SCORE Arithmetic over user answers	COVERAGE Initial, secondary, increase, supplemental	NOT INCLUDED No outcome prediction
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READ FIRST

The Claim File Readiness Check evaluates whether the file contains the categories of evidence relevant to the selected claim type. The score is a completeness grade, not an assessment of credibility, entitlement, or likely approval.

START

CHOOSE THE CLAIM TYPE AND CONDITION

INIT

Initial or direct

Checks current disability, service basis, theory, evidence, rating documentation, and file review.

SEC

Secondary

Adds the claimed relationship, including causation, aggravation, or an intermediate-step pathway.

INC

Increase

Focuses on the current rating, next criteria tier, flare-ups, updated severity evidence, and review.

SUPP

Supplemental

Focuses on the prior decision, new and relevant evidence, Duty to Assist issues, and timing.

ANSWER PATH

REPORT WHAT IS ACTUALLY IN THE FILE

1

Records

Identify relevant service, VA, private, and other evidence.

2

Current disability

Confirm what medical evidence documents the condition now.

3

Theory

Select the legal or medical relationship being claimed.

4

Evidence

Mark which supporting items are present and which are missing.

5

Rating support

Check current severity, functional impact, and criteria-linked documentation.

6

Review

Confirm answers before generating the score and gap list.

RESULT

READ THE OUTPUT IN THE RIGHT ORDER

0 to 100

Completeness grade

Coverage summary

Shows which record elements the answers indicate are present.

Gap list

Identifies missing or uncertain categories that may need attention.

Guide links

Routes the user to condition, evidence, rating, and process resources.

USE SAFELY

FOUR RULES FOR AN HONEST CHECK



Answer from the actual file

Do not count evidence that is planned, requested, or assumed but not yet available.



Review one condition carefully

Different conditions and theories can require different evidence.



Use the gaps as a work list

A low score points to incomplete categories, not a denial prediction.



Do not treat 100 as a guarantee

The tool cannot evaluate credibility, medical persuasiveness, legal error, or how the VA will weigh evidence.



Re-run after the file changes

Update the answers when records, opinions, examinations, or statements are added.

COMPLETENESS ONLY

The tool does not prepare, present, or prosecute a claim. It does not assess whether evidence is true or persuasive and does not recommend whether a veteran should file.



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OPEN THE CLAIM READINESS CHECK

RateMyVSO.net/dc/claim-readiness

All results are educational and based on the user's own answers.