

# PROPOSAL VERSUS FINAL REDUCTION

These are different decisions with different jobs, deadlines, and response paths.



|                                                |                                                       |                                               |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| PROPOSAL<br>Advance notice and response window | FINAL ACTION<br>Decision after considering the record | REVIEW RIGHTS<br>Attach to the final decision |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

RULE FILE

A proposal tells the beneficiary what VA is considering. A final rating action tells the beneficiary what VA decided after the proposal process.

SPLIT 01 | SIDE-BY-SIDE

## KNOW WHICH DOCUMENT YOU HAVE

PROPOSED

### Advance notice

Sets out the contemplated lower evaluation or severance, the material facts and reasons, and the time to respond.

FINAL

### Completed action

Explains the final determination, evidence considered, reasons, effective date, payment effect, and review rights.

SPLIT 02 | WHAT TO DO NEXT

## USE THE CORRECT RESPONSE PATH

30D

### Proposal: consider a hearing

A predetermination hearing request must reach VA within 30 days to receive the related payment-continuation protection.

60D

### Proposal: submit evidence

Use the 60-day period to answer the contemplated action before VA makes the final determination.

REVIEW

### Final: read review rights

After final action, choose the review option that fits the error, evidence need, and deadline.

SPLIT 03 | DOCUMENT CONTROL

## KEEP THE FULL SEQUENCE TOGETHER

A

### Proposal notice

Preserve the notice date, proposed percentage, stated reasons, and cited evidence.

Starts proposal clocks

B

### Response record

Keep hearing requests, delivery proof, exhibits, testimony, and VA acknowledgments.

Shows what VA had to consider

C

### Final decision and codesheet

Compare the final reasons, effective date, payment amount, and review instructions with the proposal and response.

Starts decision-review clock

## DO NOT SKIP THE PROPOSAL

A proposal is the best point to stop an adverse action before payment changes. A final decision is the point at which ordinary decision-review options attach.

