

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 5 February 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240005120

APPLICANT REQUESTS: to overturn the U.S. Army Human Resources Command (AHRC) decision to deny her claim for Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC).

APPLICANT'S SUPPORTING DOCUMENT(S) CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Self-authored statement
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Rating Decision, 29 April 2020
- VA Disability Evaluation System Proposed Rating
- VA letter, 1 April 2021
- VA Rating Decision, 21 January 2022
- VA letter, 13 June 2022
- AHRC letter
- Illinois (IL) Army National Guard (ARNG) Memorandum, Subject: Verification of Medical Records
- Medical records

FACTS:

1. The applicant states she requests the Board to overturn the AHRC decision to deny her claim for CRSC for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). She suffered traumatic experiences during her deployment to Afghanistan in 2009 which resulted in her being diagnosed with PTSD. A Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) found that she was physically unfit for retention, and she was medically retired from the Army and placed on the Temporary Disability Retired List (TDRL) on 24 June 2021. The PEB found her PTSD was a disability based on disease or injury which was incurred in the line of duty in combat with the enemy and as a result of an armed conflict or caused by an instrumentality of war and incurred in the line of duty during a period of war.

a. She deployed as a new Soldier in the ARNG with a unit she was not familiar with to Afghanistan. She worked as the only 68G (Patient Administration Specialist) to support an entire battalion with medical treatment and additional support as needed for the Theater Medical Command. She was required to deal with a variety of killed in action and injured Soldiers and experienced combat attacks, seen burned children and

the death of civilians and Soldiers. She also witnessed the death of a fellow Soldier as a result of a roadside bomb. These events affected her mentally and emotionally. These experiences left her in a state of heightened anxiety and fear during her 12-month deployment. After her deployment, she had difficulty adjusting to civilian life and began withdrawing from her family and friends. She also continued to experience frequent outbursts of anger and was in a constant state of irritability, lost sleep due to nightmares which effective her relationships with her loved ones and in her military career. A family member suggested she seek professional help due to the anger, anxiety, and inability to sleep. She was diagnosed by the VA with PTSD with major depressive disorder and panic attacks with a 50 percent disability rating which had been increased to 100 percent.

c. She was informed her CRSC claim for PTSD was denied because she did not receive a Combat Action Badge and the only way she could received an approved CRSC claim for PTSD was to have an award.

2. A review of the applicant's service records shows:

a. On 27 June 2003, the applicant enlisted in the Army National Guard (ARNG).

b. On 7 January 2005, the applicant was discharged from the ARNG with an uncharacterized character of service for entry level status and conduct. National Guard Bureau Form 22 (Report of Separation and Record of Service) shows the applicant completed 1-year, 6-months, and 11-days of service.

c. On 11 July 2007, the applicant enlisted in the ARNG and had continuous service through reenlistments and extensions.

d. On 13 July 2007, Orders Number 7194014, issued by the Military Entrance Processing Station, the applicant was ordered to initial active duty for training, effective 30 October 2007, to attend Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training.

e. On 3 March 2008, Orders Number 63-243, issued by Headquarters (HQs), U.S. Army Medical Department and School, the applicant was awarded military occupational specialty 68G, effective 27 March 2008.

f. On 27 March 2008, the applicant was released from active duty with an uncharacterized character of service. DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) shows the applicant completed 4-months and 28-days of active service. It also shows in items:

- 11 (Primary Specialty): 68G, Patient Administration Specialist

- 14 (Military Education): Patient Administration Specialist Course, 7-weeks, 2008

g. On 16 October 2008, Orders Number 290-020, issued by the Department of Military Affairs, State of IL, the applicant was ordered to active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, effective 15 October 2008.

h. On 4 November 2009, the applicant was honorably released from active duty. DD Form 214 shows she completed 1-year and 20-days of active service. It also shows in item 18 (Remarks) that she served in the designated imminent danger pay area of Afghanistan during the period of 9 December 2008 through 7 September 2009. She was awarded the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with bronze service star and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Afghanistan Service Medal.

i. DD Form 214 shows the applicant was ordered to active duty in support of recruiting and retention assistance on 16 November 2009. She was honorably released from active duty on 14 January 2012 after completion of 2-years, 1-month, and 29-days of active service.

j. On 20 June 2013, Orders Number 171-011, issued by the Texas (TX) Military Forces, the applicant was ordered to full time National Guard duty – Operational Support (FTNGD-OS), effective 10 June 2013. She remained on FTNGD-OS through multiple orders.

k. On 10 September 2015, the applicant was honorably released from active duty. DD Form 214 shows the applicant completed 1-year, 11-months, and 10-days of active service.

l. On 11 July 2017, Orders Number 192-056, issued by the TX Military Department ARNG, the applicant was ordered to active duty in an Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) status, effective 16 July 2017.

m. On 20 May 2020, Orders Number 141-003, issued by the TX Military Department TXARNG Adjutant General's Department, the applicant was ordered to active duty in an AGR status for continuation on the AGR program, effective 16 July 2020.

n. On 2 March 2021, an informal PEB found the applicant physically unfit for retention and recommended that she be placed on the TDRL with 70 percent disability for PTSD. She was diagnosed with PTSD in November 2019 while assigned in Abilene, TX. She reported her PTSD began as a result of her deployment to Afghanistan in 2009 where she dealt with Soldiers who were killed in action or injured as a result of an armed conflict. The PTSD was related to combat stressors. It was determined that the disability was based on disease or injury incurred in the line of duty in combat with an

enemy of the United States and as a direct result of armed conflict or was caused by an instrumentality of war and incurred in the line of duty during a period of war. The applicant concurred with the findings and waived a formal hearing.

o. On 13 April 2021, Orders Number 103-0129, issued by HQs, III Corps and Fort Hood, the applicant was released from active duty because of a physical disability that was incurred while entitled to basic pay and was placed on the TDRL, effective 24 June 2021, in the rank of staff sergeant with a 70 percent disability and a disability retirement for 10-years, 1-month, and 13-days of service. The disability was based on injury or disease received in the line of duty as a direct result of armed conflict or caused by an instrumentality of war and incurred in the line of duty during a period of war. The disability resulted from a combat related injury. The retirement is due to a disability incurred in the line of duty in a combat zone or as a result of performing combat related operations.

p. On 23 June 2021, Orders Number 1244720, issued by the TXARNG Augueo Army Element Joint Force HQs, the applicant was assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Control Group (Retired Reserve) and placed on the TDRL, effective 24 June 2021.

q. On 23 June 2021, the applicant was honorably retired due to a combat related disability and assigned to the USAR Control Group (Retired Reserve). DD Form 214 shows the applicant completed 3-years, 11-months, and 8-days of active service.

r. On 23 August 2021, AHRC notified the applicant that her initial claim for CRSC was partially approved. The conditions of Tinnitus and Allergic Rhinitis were verified as combat related due to an instrumentality of war and was awarded a 10 percent total combat related disability. Her claim for PTSD was disapproved because the applicant did not show documented evidence of a direct causal relationship between the disability claimed and a CRSC qualifying event. Though her claim contained her PEB proceedings, it did not include any supporting documentation to verify combat exposure or any other CRSC qualifying criteria. The PEB determinations are in reference to other laws than CRSC. A thorough review of her provided documentation and available military records, they were unable to find any substantiating documentation such as medical records, DD Form 214 entries, awards, etc. linking the cause of her condition to the qualification for CRSC entitlement. An uncorroborated statement in a record that a disability is combat related will not, in and of itself be considered determinative for purposes of meeting the combat related standards for CRSC benefits. For reconsideration, she must provide military documentation that establishes a direct causal relationship between a qualifying combat related event and the disability claimed. Some examples are, but not limited to, award recommendations (DA Forms 638), combat badges, and award certificates; evaluation reports; or wartime chain of command statements corroborating exposure to armed conflict, duties and/or actions on

her claim form. A wartime chain of command must be first sergeant (1SG) and/or company commander or higher.

s. On 22 August 2022, AHRC notified the applicant her reconsideration for CRSC was approved for Chronic Sinusitis, Tinnitus and Allergic Rhinitis for a total combat related disability of 60 percent. However, the claim for PTSD still could not be verified as a combat related disability. Though the Physical Disability Agency (PDA) has determined that her PTSD, major depressive disorder was combat related due to armed conflict; PDA determinations are in reference to other laws than CRSC. Which means that although the PEB proceedings stated her disability was combat related, the disability does not automatically qualify for CRSC.

t. On 13 October 2022, the informal PEB found the applicant to be physically unfit for retention and recommended that she be placed on the Permanent Disability Retired List (PDRL) with 100 percent disability for PTSD. The applicant concurred with the findings and waived a formal hearing.

u. On 19 October 2022, Orders Number D292-0009 issued by HQs, U.S. Army PDA, the applicant was removed from the TDRL and placed on the PDRL, effective 19 October 2022, with 100 percent disability that was based on injury or disease received in the line of duty as a direct result of armed conflict or caused by an instrumentality of war and incurred in line of duty during a war period. The disability resulted from a combat related injury.

v. On 8 February 2023, AHRC notified the applicant that her appeal for a claim for CRSC for PTSD decision could not be overturned from the previous adjudications. The documentation she submitted still shows no new evidence to link her conditions to a combat related event. This disapproval was considered final. If she chose to appeal the decision, she must submit a notice of disagreement to the Army Review Boards Agency (ARBA). Her conditions of chronic sinusitis, tinnitus and allergic rhinitis were previously verified as combat related and she was awarded a total combat related disability of 60 percent. However, the condition of PTSD could not be verified as combat related as there was no new medical evidence provided to show a combat related event caused the condition.

3. The applicant provides:

a. VA rating decision dated 29 April 2020 shows the applicant received a rating for PTSD which was increased to 70 percent.

b. VA Disability Evaluation System Proposed Rating dated 21 December 2020 shows for the purposes of entitlement to VA benefits PTSD was proposed to confirm

and continue the 70 percent evaluation for PTSD with unspecified depressive disorder (PEB referred as major depressive disorder).

c. VA letter dated 1 April 2021 in response to the applicant's request for a statement to verify her service-connected disabilities, the VA records show her service connected rated disabilities as:

- PTSD 70 percent
- left knee arthritis status post meniscectomy 10 percent
- right knee arthritis 10 percent
- right foot hallux valgus with arthritis 10 percent

d. VA rating decision dated 21 January 2022; the applicant was awarded service-connected disability for PTSD 100 percent.

e. VA letter dated 13 June 2022 in response to the applicant's request for a statement to verify her service-connected disabilities, the VA records show her service connected disabilities as:

- chronic sinusitis 50 percent
- right shoulder acromioclavicular joint arthritis 40 percent
- lower back pain 40 percent
- urinary tract infection with stress incontinence 40 percent
- painful scars right knee and right foot 20 percent
- PTSD 100 percent
- right and left hand thumb degenerative arthritis 10 percent
- right and left hand index finger degenerative arthritis 10 percent
- right and left hand long finger degenerative arthritis 10 percent
- tinnitus 10 percent
- tempromedial disc location with reduction or left and ride side with bruxism and myalgia of the left and right masseter and lateral ptergoid muscles 10 percent
- right and left knee arthritis 0 percent
- right foot hallux valgus with arthritis 0 percent
- right and left hand ring finger degenerative arthritis 0 percent
- right and left hand little finger degenerative arthritis 0 percent
- allergic rhinitis 0 percent
- hypertension 0 percent
- scar, left and right knee and right foot 0 percent

f. AHRC letter dated 26 January 2024, notified the applicant her request for reconsideration of her claim for CRSC for PTSD could not be process as she had

exhausted her reconsideration and appeals with the agency. However, she may appeal to ARBA. Additionally, she was informed her personal statements of how her disability occurred was not admissible as evidence that her disability was combat related.

g. ILARNG Memorandum, Subject: Verification of Medical Records, dated 13 February 2024 which stated the Military Personnel Officer had reviewed the applicant's personnel and medical records, there was sufficient evidence to show she suffered traumatic experiences during her deployment to Afghanistan in 2009 which resulted in a diagnosis of PTSD during her PEB. The PEB found her disability was based on disease or injury incurred in the line of duty in combat with an enemy of the United States and was a direct result of an armed conflict or was caused by an instrumentality of war and incurred in the line of duty during a period of war. The disability did result from a combat related injury. There was no evidence the applicant was directly involved in combat with the enemy and was never awarded a combat action badge during her deployment.

h. Eighteen pages of various medical and mental health records which are available for the Boards review.

4. On 2 December 2024, in the processing of this case, AHRC provided an advisory opinion regarding the applicant's request to overturn the denial decision for her claim of PTSD. The advisory official stated the applicant had requested consideration for PTSD with major depressive disorder and panic attacks. However, their office was unable to verify a combat related event in relation to her condition. Her claim has now been reviewed at the initial and reconsideration levels and denied due to insufficient evidence. The PEB proceedings stated that the applicant reported her PTSD with major depressive disorder and panic attacks started in Afghanistan 2009, when she was required to deal with a variety of killed in action and injured Soldiers. Although the condition happened in a deployment environment, by program guidance, it does not automatically qualify for CRSC. The PEB found her condition to be combat related due to an armed conflict. However, the PDA determinations are in reference to other laws than CRSC. This means that although the PEB stated a disability was combat related, the disability does not automatically qualify for CRSC. Due to the differences in the program guidance, our office must verify the condition was combat related independently from the PEB findings.

5. On 2 December 2024, the ARBA, Case Management Division, provided the applicant the advisory opinion for review and comment.

6. On or about 31 December 2024, in response to the advisory opinion the applicant resubmitted her original statement and medical records which she provided in the original application.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition, available military records, Human Resources Command (HRC) Special Compensation branch advisory opinion, the Board concurred with the advising official finding their office was unable to verify a combat related event in relation to her condition. Her claim has now been reviewed at the initial and reconsideration levels and denied due to insufficient evidence.
2. The Board determined there is insufficient evidence to support the applicant's contentions to overturn the U.S. Army Human Resources Command (AHRC) decision denying her Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) claim for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The Board acknowledged, the applicant has been medically retired with a 100 percent disability rating for PTSD and other conditions, CRSC eligibility requires documented evidence directly linking the claimed condition to a qualifying combat-related event. Despite multiple reviews and reconsideration by AHRC, the applicant has not provided sufficient documentation—such as award recommendations, combat badges, evaluation reports, or wartime chain of command statements—to establish a direct causal relationship between her PTSD and a specific combat-related incident.
3. The Board noted, the Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) and Physical Disability Agency (PDA) determinations, while relevant to disability retirement, are governed by separate standards and do not automatically qualify a condition for CRSC. The Board agreed with the advisory opinion and AHRC's final determination that the applicant's PTSD does not meet the evidentiary threshold for CRSC entitlement. Therefore, reversal of the decision to deny her claim for Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) is denied.
4. Prior to closing the case, the Board did note the analyst of record administrative notes below, and recommended the correction is completed to more accurately depict the military service of the applicant.

BOARD VOTE:

<u>Mbr 1</u>	<u>Mbr 2</u>	<u>Mbr 3</u>	
:	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
XXX	XXX	XXX	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

Except for the correction addressed in Administrative Note(s) below, the Board found the evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. Therefore, the Board determined the overall merits of this case are insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned.

X //SIGNED//

CHAIRPERSON

I certify that herein is recorded the true and complete record of the proceedings of the Army Board for Correction of Military Records in this case.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

1. Reference the enclosed request for correction of military records from the subject individual to correct his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) for the period of service 30 October 2007 through 27 March 2008, by:

- a. Delete: Item 24 (Character of Service): Uncharacterized.
- b. Add: Item 24: Honorable.

2. A review of the records listed below (enclosed) is sufficient to substantiate correction of the DD Form 214 without action by the Board.

- DD Form 214 period of service 30 October 2007 through 27 March 2008
- Orders Number 63-243, dated 3 March 2008, Headquarters, U.S. Army Medical Department and School, Military Occupational Specialty award, effective 27 March 2008

3. Please correct the applicant's DD Form 214 by deleting and adding the items shown in paragraph 1 above. Provide the applicant a copy of the corrections. Please ensure that the corrections are recorded in the applicant's official military personnel record.

REFERENCES:

1. Title 10, United States Code (USC), section 1413a (Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) (c) (Eligible Retirees), an eligible combat related disabled uniformed services retiree is a member of the uniformed services who: is entitled to retired pay (other than by reason of section 12731b of this title); and has a combat-related disability. Effective date shall take effect not later than 180-days after the date of the enactment of this act of 2 December 2002. (e) (Combat-Related Disability), "combat-related disability" means a disability that is compensable under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and that: (1) is attributable to an injury for which the member was awarded the Purple Heart; or (2) was incurred (as determined under criteria prescribed by the Secretary of Defense); as a direct result of armed conflict; while engaged in hazardous service; in the performance of duty under conditions simulating war; or through an instrumentality of war.
2. Title 10, USC, chapter 61, section 1201 (Regulars and members on active duty for more than 30 days: retirement), (a) Retirement - upon a determination by the Secretary concerned that a member is unfit to perform the duties of the member's office, grade, rank, or rating because of physical disability incurred while entitled to basic pay, the Secretary may retire the member, with retired pay if the Secretary also makes the determinations with respect to the member and that disability specified in subsection (b). (b) Required Determinations of Disability - determinations by the Secretary that: (1) based upon accepted medical principles, the disability is of a permanent nature and stable; (2) the disability is not the result of the member's intentional misconduct or willful neglect, and was not incurred during a period of unauthorized absence; and (3) either; (A) the member has at least 20 years of service; or (B) the disability is at least 30 percent under the standard schedule of rating disabilities in use by the Department of Veterans Affairs at the time of the determination; and either (i) the disability was not noted at the time of the member's entrance on active duty (unless clear and unmistakable evidence demonstrates that the disability existed before the member's entrance on active duty and was not aggravated by active military service); (ii) the disability is the proximate result of performing active duty; (iii) the disability was incurred in line of duty in time of war or national emergency; or (iv) the disability was incurred in line of duty after 14 September 1978.
3. Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation 7000.14-R, Volume 7B, (Military Pay Policy – Retired Pay), provides information for the specific qualifications and entitlement for military retired pay, describes the basic types of retirement (regular, non-regular, and disability), discusses voluntary and involuntary retirements, and explains basic qualifications for the differing military retired pay programs.
 - a. Chapter 63, Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC), paragraph 1.1 Effective Date. The CRSC program became effective 31 May 2003. Payments are

made on the first day of the first month following the month in which the compensation accrued, provided the member is receiving VA disability compensation for a disability that has been determined to be combat related by the Military Department. No CRSC is payable for any month prior to June 2003.

b. Paragraph 1.1.1.3, for an eligible member who is retired under Title 10, USC, Chapter 61 (Title 10, USC, Chapter 61) with less than 20 years of active duty or with less than sufficient service and age to qualify for retirement under Title 10, USC, section 12731, compensation is effective 1 January 2008.

c. Section 630502 states, a combat-related disability is a disability with an assigned medical diagnosis code from the VA Schedule Rating of Disabilities (VASRD). The Military Departments will determine whether a disability is combat-related based on the following criteria:

- as a direct result of armed conflict
- while engaged in hazardous service
- in the performance of duty under conditions simulating war, or
- through an instrumentality of war

d. The Department will record for each disability determined to be combat-related which of the circumstances provided qualifies the disability as combat-related. A determination of combat-relatedness (see section 6306) will be made with respect to each separate disability with an assigned medical diagnosis code from the VASRD. A retiree may have disabilities that are not combat-related. Such disabilities will not be considered in determining eligibility for CRSC or the amount of CRSC payable. An uncorroborated statement in a record that a disability is combat-related will not, by itself, be considered determinative for purposes of meeting the combat-related standards for CRSC prescribed herein. CRSC determinations must be made on the basis of the program criteria.

e. Section 6306 (Determinations of Combat Relatedness)

(1) Direct Result of Armed Conflict:

a. The disability is a disease or injury incurred in the line of duty as a direct result of armed conflict. To support a combat-related determination, it is not sufficient to only state the fact that a member incurred the disability during a period of war, in an area of armed conflict, or while participating in combat operations. There must be a definite causal relationship between the armed conflict and the resulting disability.

b. Armed conflict includes a war, expedition, occupation of an area or territory, battle, skirmish, raid, invasion, rebellion, insurrection, guerilla action, riot, or

any other action in which Service members are engaged with a hostile or belligerent nation, faction, force, or with terrorists.

(2) In the Performance of Duty Under Conditions Simulating War. In general, performance of duty under conditions simulating war covers disabilities resulting from military training, such as war games, practice alerts, tactical exercises, airborne operations, leadership reaction courses, grenade and live fire weapon practice, bayonet training, hand-to-hand combat training, repelling, and negotiation of combat confidence and obstacle courses. It does not include physical training activities such as calisthenics, jogging, formation running, or supervised sport activities.

(3) Instrumentality of War:

a. There must be a direct causal relationship between the instrumentality of war and the disability. It is not required that a member's disability be incurred during an actual period of war. The disability must be incurred incident to a hazard or risk of the service.

b. An instrumentality of war is a vehicle, vessel, or device designed primarily for military service and intended for use in such service at the time of the occurrence or injury. It may also include such instrumentality not designed primarily for military service if use of or occurrence involving such instrumentality subjects the individual to a hazard peculiar to military service. Such use or occurrence differs from the use or occurrence under similar circumstances in civilian pursuits.

c. A determination that a disability is the result of an instrumentality of war may be made if the disability was incurred in any period of service as a result of such diverse causes as wounds caused by a military weapon, accidents involving a military combat vehicle, injury or sickness caused by fumes, gases, or explosion of military ordnance, vehicles, or materiel.

d. For example, if a member is on a field exercise, and is engaged in a sporting activity and falls and strikes an armored vehicle, then the injury will not be considered to result from the instrumentality of war (armored vehicle) because it was the sporting activity that was the cause of the injury, not the vehicle. On the other hand, if the individual was engaged in the same sporting activity and the armored vehicle struck the member, then the injury would be considered the result of an instrumentality of war.

4. Title 38, USC, sections 1110 and 1131, permit the VA to award compensation for a medical condition which was incurred in or aggravated by active military service. The VA, however, is not required by law to determine medical unfitness for further military service. The VA, in accordance with its own policies and regulations, awards

compensation solely on the basis that a medical condition exists and that said medical condition reduces or impairs the social or industrial adaptability of the individual concerned. Consequently, due to the two concepts involved, an individual's medical condition, although not considered physically unfit for military service at the time of processing for separation, discharge, or retirement, may be sufficient to qualify the individual for VA benefits based on an evaluation by that agency.

5. Title 26 USC, section 104 (Compensation for injuries or sickness), (b) (3) (Special rules for combat-related injuries), for purposes of this subsection, the term "combat-related injury" means personal injury or sickness, (A) which is incurred; as a direct result of armed conflict, while engaged in extra hazardous service, or under conditions simulating war; or (B) which is caused by an instrumentality of war. In the case of an individual who is not described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (2), except as provided in paragraph (4), the only amounts considered shall be the amounts which he receives by reason of a combat-related injury. (4) Amount excluded to be not less than veterans' disability compensation in the case of any individual described in paragraph (2), the amounts excludable under subsection (a) (4) for any period with respect to any individual shall not be less than the maximum amount which such individual, on application therefor, would be entitled to receive as disability compensation from the Veterans Administration.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//