



U.S. Army Physical Disability Agency



"People Always ... Mission First"

TEMPORARY DISABILITY RETIRED LIST (TDRL) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. QUESTION: What is the TDRL?

ANSWER: The TDRL is a list of Army members found to be unfit for performance of military duty by reason of physical disability which may be permanent, but which has not sufficiently stabilized to permit an accurate assessment of a permanent degree of disability. The Secretary of the Army is required by law to maintain the TDRL, and has delegated responsibility for this function to HQDA (AHRC-PDB). See **AR 635-40, Chapter 7, para 7-2; 10 USC 1210.**

2. QUESTION: What will happen when my medical condition has stabilized?

ANSWER: You will either be retired for permanent disability if your disability is rated 30% or more and you have less than 20 years service; retired for permanent disability no matter the percentage of disability if you have over 20 years of service; separated with severance pay if your disability is rated less than 30% and you have less than 20 years service; or found physically fit for return to active duty.

3. QUESTION: How will the final determination be made in my case?

ANSWER: The same procedure used when you were first placed on the TDRL will be employed. A medical reevaluation is completed and, after being reviewed by you, is forwarded to a Physical Evaluation Board. The determination by the Physical Evaluation Board is not final and may be reviewed by the Physical Disability Agency. All medical evidence will be carefully evaluated to ensure that a just and accurate determination is made. To ensure that your interests are protected, you will be afforded the opportunity to appeal or rebut the Physical Evaluation Board's findings before your case is finalized.

4. QUESTION: What happens if I am found physically fit?

ANSWER: a. Regular Army Officers and warrant officers will, subject to their consent, be called to active duty and reappointed to the active list in the regular grade held when placed on TDRL or the next higher grade, as determined appropriate. If the officer or warrant officer does not consent to be called to active duty, he/she will be separated. See, **AR 635-40, para 7-11a (3) (a); 10 USC 1211.**

b. Regular Army enlisted members will, subject to their consent, be reenlisted in the grade held on the day preceding the date placed on TDRL, or in the next higher grade, as deemed appropriate. If the member does not consent to reenlistment, he/she will be separated. See, **AR 635-40, para 7-11a (3) (b); 10 USC 1211.**

c. Members of the Army Reserve will, subject to their consent, be reappointed or reenlisted in the Army Reserve in the grade held on the day preceding the date placed on TDRL, or in the next higher grade, as determined appropriate. This does not necessarily entail recall to active duty. See, **AR 635-40, para 7-11a (3) © & (d); 10 USC 1211.**

5. QUESTION: How long can I stay on TDRL?

ANSWER: Five Years. The law requires that a final determination be made before the fifth anniversary of placement on the TDRL. However, you may be removed from TDRL at an earlier date whenever a periodic examination discloses that your medical condition has stabilized for rating purposes. The law also

directs the termination of Army retired pay if a final determination is not made at the end of five years. See, AR 635-40, para 7-11b (4); 10 USC 1210.

6. QUESTION: I am currently a TDRL member and will be permanently retired. Will I receive a new DD214?

ANSWER: No. If you are a current TDRL member, you received a DD214 at the time of separation placing you in a retired status due to temporary disability. After your required TDRL re-examination, the Physical Evaluation Board may recommend placing you in a permanent retirement status. You will receive orders removing you from the TDRL and placing you in a permanent retirement status. A new DD214 will not be prepared for you. See AR 635-5, para 2-1

7. QUESTION: Can my percentage of disability change while I am on TDRL?

ANSWER: Your percentage of disability will remain the same as long as you are on the TDRL. Changes in the degree of severity of your disability will not affect your retired pay while you are on the TDRL. When your condition has stabilized, the final determination in your case may result in removal from the TDRL as discussed in # 2. See AR 635-40, para 7-20b.

8. QUESTION: Am I entitled to an Army ID Card while I am on the TDRL?

ANSWER: Yes, you are entitled to the Identification Card (DD Form 2) (Ret) (BLUE). The card is valid for the five-year period the law allows you to be carried on the TDRL. Application for this card may be made to the commanding officer of the nearest Army installation where facilities for handling such applications are available, or to the commanding general of the major Army command in which you reside. You should bring a copy of your retirement orders or DD Form 214 (Report of Transfer or Discharge) with you when you apply for an Identification Card.

9. QUESTION: What if I change my mailing address or place of residence while I am on the TDRL?

ANSWER: You are required to keep HQDA (AHRC-PDB) advised of changes in your address, and it is essential that you do so in order that you may be contacted promptly when you are being scheduled for physical examination and when you are notified of the Physical Evaluation Board findings. Four (4) months prior to each scheduled examination you will receive an "address verification" letter from HQDA (AHRC-PDB). This letter, which is mailed to the address currently on file for you, advises you of the month in which your examination will be scheduled and also requests verification of your mailing address. Enclosed with the letter is a copy of mailing cards (DA Form 3955), Change of Address and Directory Records, which you should fill out and return to HQDA (AHRC-PDB). In addition to the DD Forms 3955 furnished with the "address verification" letter, you should promptly notify HQDA (AHRC-PDB) by letter, postal card or telephone call whenever you move or change your mailing address. **Failure to keep the Department of the Army informed of your whereabouts could jeopardize your entitlement to disability retirement benefits. Send change of address information to Headquarters, Department of the Army, ATTN: AHRC-PDB (TDRL Section), Building 7, 6900 Georgia Ave. NW, WRAMC, WASHINGTON, DC 20307-5001. Contact the TDRL section at: Commercial (877) 577-3065 or (202) 782-1991. Inquiries may be sent to the following e-mail address: Irene.Baker@NA.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL or Irene.Baker@us.army.mil.**

10. QUESTION: How often will I have to undergo a physical examination?

ANSWER: You are required by law to undergo physical examinations at least once every 18 months. However, examinations may be scheduled with greater frequency if deemed necessary by medical/disability authorities. See, AR 635-40, para 7-4; 10 USC 1210.

11. QUESTION: Must I undergo TDRL physical examinations if I have elected to receive Veterans Administration compensation instead of retired pay from the Army?

ANSWER: Yes, you are required by law to undergo periodic physical examinations as ordered by the Secretary of the Army. This requirement exists even if you waive Army retired pay in favor of Veterans Administration compensation or are receiving treatment at a VA Hospital. Examinations administered by the VA to determine the amount of compensation you are eligible to receive from that agency cannot take the place of examinations required by the Army. In other words, your responsibilities to the Army and the VA with respect to physical examinations are separate and distinct. **See, AR 635-40; para 7-4 (a).**

12. QUESTION: If I apply for benefits from the VA which I may be entitled to, will these benefits be based on the percentage of disability I received from the Army?

ANSWER: The Veterans Administration is not bound by the Department of the Army rulings and determinations pertaining to the disabilities of its members, but rather, by laws administered solely by that agency. The Army determines fitness or unfitness to perform military duties. The Veterans Administration, on the other hand, determines if the disability is the result of or incident to military service and is concerned with the individual's ability to perform in a civilian environment. Therefore, differences in ratings made by the Army and the Veterans Administration may occur.

13. QUESTION: Where will my examinations take place?

ANSWER: Your medical file will be referred to an Army hospital closest to your home. The hospital commander will be responsible for conducting the examination at his facility or scheduling it at another Federal medical facility or civilian hospital/clinic at or near your home. **See, AR-635-40, para 7-14.**

14. QUESTION: When and how will I be scheduled for examination?

ANSWER: HQDA (AHRC-PDB) will forward a letter to the designated hospital four (4) months in advance requesting that a physical examination be conducted. After an appointment has been made for you, the hospital commander will send you Department of the Army Orders authorizing your travel to the hospital and also advising you of the exact date and time to report. **See, AR 635-40, para 7-9.**

15. QUESTION: Can I expect to complete my examination in one day?

ANSWER: You will probably be examined on an outpatient basis. However, the nature of the examination and tests required may take more than one day, so you should be prepared to remain overnight.

16. QUESTION: What if I am physically incapable of traveling to the hospital by myself?

ANSWER: If medically required, a relative or friend can accompany you to the hospital as an attendant. The attendant will be issued Department of the Army Invitational Orders for the trip to the hospital. **Requests must be made in advance with accompanying medical documentation citing the need for non-medical attendant, and signed by competent medical authority. See, AR 635-40, para 7-10e.**

17. QUESTION: Am I required to report for examinations if I am attending school or have a job?

ANSWER: Yes, you must report for your examinations even if they interfere with your job or school enrollment. In this situation, HQDA (AHRC-PDB) will furnish a statement, on request, explaining the legal requirement for your absence to undergo a physical examination, which you can present to your employer or school officials.

18. QUESTION: Will I be paid for my personal expenses incurred in traveling to the hospital for my examination, and what if I do not have sufficient money to make the trip?

ANSWER: You are entitled to travel and transportation allowances authorized for a service member in your retired grade as well as per diem allowance equal to the cost of meals at the hospital, if you are

required to pay for your meals. For travel to the hospital, particularly if your personal funds are limited, you should use a Transportation Request (TR). The TR, which may be obtained at the nearest military installation or recruiting station, enables you to travel with no cost to you. Although travel by TR is encouraged, you may travel at personal expense by commercial carrier or privately owned vehicle. For travel at personal expense, reimbursement for the distance traveled is authorized upon submission of travel voucher. Assistance in preparing your travel voucher and clarifying specific points will be provided at the hospital. **See, AR 635-40, para 7-21.**

19. QUESTION: How will my examination be handled if I am living outside of the Continental United States?

ANSWER: If you reside in an overseas area (Europe or the Far East, for example), arrangements for your examination at the closest military hospital to your home will be made by the major overseas commander of the area in which you reside. If you live in Hawaii or Alaska, you will be examined at a hospital in those states. Members who are required to travel within an overseas command or to the Continental United States from a territory or possession (Puerto Rico, for example) should contact the nearest Military Transportation Officer to determine if travel by military airlift is available.

20. QUESTION: What if I fail to report for a scheduled examination?

ANSWER: The law specifies that your entitlement to receive Army retired pay and eligibility for an Identification Card **will be terminated** if you fail to report for physical examination without showing just cause. Once terminated, your entitlements are not reinstated until you undergo an examination. You must promptly notify the hospital at which you are scheduled or HQDA (TAPD-PDB) if you cannot make the scheduled appointment. Repeated failure to report for examinations may result in suspension of retired pay or administrative removal from the TDRL on the fifth anniversary of placement thereon without entitlement to any of the benefits resulting from disability separation or retirement. **See, AR 635-40, para 7-11b; 10 USC 1210.**

21. QUESTION: Who can furnish advice and assistance when I report to the hospital for examination?

ANSWER: Each Army hospital has on its staff a Physical Evaluation Board Liaison Officer (PEBLO). The PEBLO's job is to offer counseling and provide assistance to members as appropriate. You are encouraged to make maximum use of the services furnished by the PEBLO. If you are not examined at an Army facility, you should contact the hospital's Registrar or Patient Administration Division for assistance. **See AR 635-40, para 7-5.**

22. QUESTION: Who can I contact if I have questions about my physical examinations or other matters pertaining to my status on the TDRL?

ANSWER: In addition to the PEBLO at the hospital, you may contact **Headquarters, Department of the Army, ATTN: AHRC-DPD-B (TDRL Section), Building 7, 6900 Georgia Ave., NW, WRAMC, Washington, D.C. 20307-5001** by mail, or telephone as follows: **Monday through Friday, 0700-1600 EST. TDRL members are managed by the following points of contact:**

Mrs. Jones: (202)782-7715 /DSN: 662-7715 or email Gloria.Jones@NA.Amedd.Army.mil
Mrs. Noland: (202)782-1990 /DSN: 662-1990 or email Darlana.Noland@NA.Amedd.Army.mil
Mrs. Alston: (202)782-1986/DSN: 662-1986 or email LaShawn.Alston@NA.Amedd.Army.mil
Mrs. Young: (202)782-1980/DSN: 662-1980 or email Cassandra.Young@NA.Amedd.Army.mil

All other TDRL inquiries please contact Mrs. Baker at (202) 782-1991 or DSN 662-1991
Irene.Baker@NA.Amedd.Army.Mil

23. QUESTION: What if I do not receive my monthly Army retired paycheck or have other problems concerning my pay?

ANSWER: Your retired pay is the responsibility of the Defense Finance & Accounting Service (DFAS), U.S. Military Retirement Pay, P.O. Box 7130, London, KY 40742-7130. DFAS telephone number is 1-800-321-1080.

24. QUESTION: If I elect to receive disability compensation or other benefits from the Veterans Administration, where can I obtain information or assistance concerning my VA compensation and benefits?

ANSWER: You should write, telephone or visit the Veterans Administration regional or local office closest to you to your home. Refer to your local telephone directory for additional information.

25. QUESTION: What do I have to bring to my TDRL reexamination?

ANSWER: You must bring copies of all medical records (civilian, Department of Veterans Affairs, and all military records, to include all medication/pharmacy records) documenting all treatment you have received since placement on the TDRL, or since the last TDRL reevaluation, whichever is more recent. Your records will be reviewed by the physician who examines you, and will be included in the medical documents forwarded to the Physical Evaluation Board. **FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS CAN ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR CASE AND IS GROUNDS FOR SUSPENDING YOUR DISABILITY PAYMENTS.**