

# **Veteran Orientation Express**

## Veteran Orientation Express Description

The Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) Service launched a web-based tool and series of videos that are designed to increase understanding of the program and enhance the Veteran experience. The Veteran Orientation Express is intended for transitioning Service members, Veterans, and other partners interested in the VR&E program (Veterans' family members, friends, etc.). It provides individuals with clear, accurate information about the VR&E program before deciding to apply, including:

- VR&E Eligibility
- Basic information about what VR&E offers
- VR&E process
- VR&E's Five Tracks to Employment

The tool and videos are located here: <u>Veteran Readiness and Employment Orientation</u> <u>Veteran Affairs (va.gov)</u>.

# The Tool

The tool guides individuals through a series of questions to help them understand how the VR&E program can assist with employment and independent living needs. The tool initially prompts users with some basic eligibility screening questions. If the Service member or Veteran appears to be eligible, the tool leads to the orientation of the VR&E program by presenting detailed information and short videos explaining VR&E's Five Tracks to Employment. At the end of the orientation, the individual will have a better understanding of the services that VR&E provides and can decide if they want to apply to the program or learn about other VA benefits. If the individual decides to apply, they will be directed to <u>VR&E's How to Apply page</u> to access VR&E's application. The tool complements VA's modernization efforts to improve the Veteran experience, like VR&E's electronic Virtual Assistant (e-VA) and tele-counseling. It should take approximately 15 minutes to complete the tool's questions and orientation.

## **Orientation Overview**

During the orientation portion, Service members, Veterans, and interested partners will be able to view a series of short videos and learn more about VR&E's basic benefit information and processes.

Most importantly, the orientation will cover an overview of VR&E's Five Tracks to Employment. The tracks will help Veterans discover their career path, uncover exciting employment opportunities, and succeed and grow in their chosen profession. Here's a breakdown of VR&E's Five Tracks to Employment:

- **Reemployment track** is for Veterans seeking to successfully return to a civilian job previously held before deployment.
- **Rapid Access to Employment track** is to quickly secure employment with a Veteran's existing skills and experience.
- **Self-Employment track** is for Veterans planning to start a business or pursue entrepreneurial endeavors.
- **Employment through Long-Term Services track** is to obtain training and/or education, college or certification programs, on the job training, non-paid work experience, apprenticeships, and/or internships.
- Independent Living track is for a Veteran who can't return to work right away and needs assistance with being as self-sufficient as possible.

#### For more information:

To speak with a VR&E representative at your nearest VA Regional Office:

- Go to <a href="https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/offices.asp">https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/offices.asp</a>
- Call 800-827-1000
- Visit <u>https://www.va.gov/vre</u>