

the State or Indian Tribe to submit a remediation plan under which the State shall describe how and when it plans to meet such outcome measures.

(2) The Secretary may not award a subsequent grant under this section to a State or Indian Tribe described in paragraph (1) unless the Secretary approves the remediation plan submitted by the State or Indian Tribe.

(n) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “county or Tribal veterans service officer” includes a local equivalent veterans service officer.

(2) The term “covered outreach” means outreach with respect to—

(A) benefits administered by the Under Secretary for Benefits; or

(B) similar benefits administered by a State or Indian Tribe.

(3) The term “Indian Tribe” has the meaning given such term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(4) The term “State” includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any territory or possession of the United States.

(5) The term “Veterans Crisis Line” means the toll-free hotline for veterans established under section 1720F(h) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 118–210, title III, §302(a)(2), Jan. 2, 2025, 138 Stat. 2789.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 6307 was renumbered section 6308 of this title.

#### § 6308. Outreach for eligible dependents

(a) NEEDS OF DEPENDENTS.—In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary shall ensure that the needs of eligible dependents are fully addressed.

(b) INFORMATION AS TO AVAILABILITY OF OUTREACH SERVICES FOR DEPENDENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure that the availability of outreach services and assistance for eligible dependents under this subchapter is made known through a variety of means, including the Internet, announcements in veterans publications, and announcements to the media.

(Added Pub. L. 109–233, title IV, §402(a), June 15, 2006, 120 Stat. 410, §6307; amended Pub. L. 117–205, §2(b)(2), Oct. 17, 2022, 136 Stat. 2233; renumbered §6308, Pub. L. 118–210, title III, §302(a)(1), Jan. 2, 2025, 138 Stat. 2789.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 6308 was renumbered section 6309 of this title.

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 7727 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 109–233.

##### AMENDMENTS

2025—Pub. L. 118–210 renumbered section 6307 of this title as this section.

2022—Pub. L. 117–205 substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” in subsecs. (a) and (b).

#### § 6309. Biennial report to Congress

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall, not later than December 1 of every even-numbered year (beginning in 2008), submit to Congress a report on the outreach activities carried out by the Department.

(b) CONTENT.—Each report under this section shall include the following:

(1) A description of the implementation during the preceding fiscal year of the current biennial plan under section 6302 of this title.

(2) Recommendations for the improvement or more effective administration of the outreach activities of the Department.

(Added Pub. L. 109–233, title IV, §402(a), June 15, 2006, 120 Stat. 410, §6308; renumbered §6309, Pub. L. 118–210, title III, §302(a)(1), Jan. 2, 2025, 138 Stat. 2789.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 7726 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 109–233.

##### AMENDMENTS

2025—Pub. L. 118–210 renumbered section 6308 of this title as this section.

#### SUBCHAPTER II—OTHER OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

#### § 6320. Solid Start program

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program, to be known as the “Solid Start program”, under which the Secretary shall—

(1) build the capacity of the Department to efficiently and effectively respond to the queries and needs of veterans who have recently separated from the Armed Forces; and

(2) systemically integrate and coordinate efforts to assist veterans, including efforts—

(A) to proactively reach out to newly separated veterans to inform them of their eligibility for programs of and benefits provided by the Department, including how to enroll in the system of annual patient enrollment established and operated under section 1705 of this title and the ability to seek care and services under sections 1703 and 1710 of this title; and

(B) to connect veterans in crisis to resources that address their immediate needs.

(b) ACTIVITIES OF THE SOLID START PROGRAM.—(1) The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall carry out the Solid Start program of the Department by—

(A) collecting up-to-date contact information during transition classes or separation counseling for all members of the Armed Forces who are separating from the Armed Forces, while explaining the existence and purpose of the Solid Start program;

(B) calling each veteran, regardless of separation type or characterization of service, three times within the first year after separation of the veteran from the Armed Forces;

(C) providing information about the Solid Start program on the website of the Department and in materials of the Department, especially transition booklets and other resources;

(D) ensuring calls are truly tailored to the needs of each veteran’s unique situation by conducting quality assurance tests;

(E) prioritizing outreach to veterans who have accessed mental health resources prior to separation from the Armed Forces;

(F) providing women veterans with information that is tailored to their specific health care and benefit needs;

(G) as feasible, providing information on access to State and local resources, including Vet Centers and veterans service organizations; and

(H) gathering and analyzing data assessing the effectiveness of the Solid Start program.

(2) The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, may carry out the Solid Start program by—

(A) encouraging members of the Armed Forces who are transitioning to civilian life to authorize alternate points of contact who can be reached should the member be unavailable during the first year following the separation of the member from the Armed Forces; and

(B) following up missed phone calls with tailored mailings to ensure the veteran still receives similar information.

(3) In this subsection:

(A) The term “Vet Center” has the meaning given that term in section 1712A(h) of this title.

(B) The term “veterans service organization” means an organization recognized by the Secretary for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 117-205, §2(a), Oct. 17, 2022, 136 Stat. 2232; amended Pub. L. 118-210, title I, §102(b), Jan. 2, 2025, 138 Stat. 2710.)

**Editorial Notes**

**AMENDMENTS**

2025—Subsec. (a)(2)(A). Pub. L. 118-210 inserted “, including how to enroll in the system of annual patient enrollment established and operated under section 1705 of this title and the ability to seek care and services under sections 1703 and 1710 of this title” before “; and”.

**PART V—BOARDS, ADMINISTRATIONS, AND SERVICES**

Chap.		Sec.
71.	Board of Veterans’ Appeals .....	7101
72.	United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims .....	7251
73.	Veterans Health Administration—Organization and Functions .....	7301
74.	Veterans Health Administration—Personnel .....	7401
75.	Visual Impairment and Orientation and Mobility Professionals Educational Assistance Program .....	7501
76.	Health Professionals Educational Assistance Program .....	7601
77.	Veterans Benefits Administration .....	7701
78.	Veterans’ Canteen Service .....	7801

Chap.		Sec.
79.	Information Security Education Assistance Program .....	7901

**Editorial Notes**

**AMENDMENTS**

2010—Pub. L. 111-163, title III, §302(b), May 5, 2010, 124 Stat. 1149, added item for chapter 75.

2006—Pub. L. 109-461, title IX, §903(a)(2), Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3464, added item for chapter 79.

1998—Pub. L. 105-368, title V, §512(a)(4)(B), Nov. 11, 1998, 112 Stat. 3341, substituted “Appeals for Veterans Claims” for “Veterans Appeals” in item for chapter 72.

1991—Pub. L. 102-83, §2(d)(3), Aug. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 402, added item for chapter 77.

Pub. L. 102-54, §14(e)(1), June 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 287, inserted “United States” before “Court of Veterans Appeals” in item for chapter 72.

Pub. L. 102-40, title IV, §§402(c)(2), 403(e)(1), (f)(2), May 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 239-241, substituted “BOARDS, ADMINISTRATIONS, AND SERVICES” for “BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS” in part heading, renumbered section numbers by substituting “7101” for “4001” in item for chapter 71, “7251” for “4051” in item for chapter 72, and “7601” for “4301” in item for chapter 76, substituted “Veterans Health Administration—Organization and Functions” for “Department of Medicine and Surgery” and “7301” for “4101” in item for chapter 73, added item for chapter 74, struck out item for chapter 75 “Veterans’ Canteen Service”, and added item for chapter 78.

1988—Pub. L. 100-687, div. A, title III, §301(b), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4121, added item for chapter 72.

Pub. L. 100-322, title II, §216(e)(2), May 20, 1988, 102 Stat. 530, added item for chapter 76.

**CHAPTER 71—BOARD OF VETERANS’ APPEALS**

Sec.	
7101.	Composition of Board of Veterans’ Appeals.
7101A.	Members of Board: appointment; pay; performance review.
7102.	Assignment of members of Board.
7103.	Reconsideration; correction of obvious errors.
7104.	Jurisdiction of the Board; decisions; notice.
7105.	Filing of appeal.
7105A.	Simultaneously contested claims.
[7106.]	Repealed.]
7107.	Appeals: dockets; hearings.
7108.	Rejection of applications.
[7109.]	Repealed.]
[7110.]	Repealed.]
7111.	Revision of decisions on grounds of clear and unmistakable error.
7112.	Expedited treatment of certain claims.
7113.	Evidentiary record before the Board of Veterans’ Appeals.
7114.	Internship program.

**Editorial Notes**

**AMENDMENTS**

2024—Pub. L. 118-196, §5(b), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2673, added item 7114.

2022—Pub. L. 117-300, §2(a)(2)(B), Dec. 27, 2022, 136 Stat. 4380, added item 7112 and struck out former item 7112 “Expedited treatment of remanded claims”.

Pub. L. 117-168, §1(b)(2), title VIII, §807(a)(5)(A), Aug. 10, 2022, 136 Stat. 1759, 1806, inserted “; decisions; notice” after “Board” in item 7104.

2017—Pub. L. 115-55, §2(q)(2), (s)(2), (u)(3), (w)(3), Aug. 23, 2017, 131 Stat. 1112, 1113, 1115, substituted “Filing of appeal” for “Filing of notice of disagreement and appeal” in item 7105, struck out items 7106 “Administrative appeals” and 7109 “Independent medical opinions”, and added item 7113.

2003—Pub. L. 108-183, title VII, §707(b)(2), Dec. 16, 2003, 117 Stat. 2673, added item 7112.