



WOUNDED WARRIOR REGIMENT

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FACT SHEET

PHYSICAL DISABILITY BOARD OF REVIEW (PDBR)

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION:

WWR Sergeant Merlin German
Wounded Warrior Call Center:
1-877-487-6299

HQ Marine Corps Disability
Section for Separations/Retirements
(MMSR-4):
703-784-9308/9309/9321

PDBR Intake Unit:
210-565-3256

DFAS Retired Pay and Annuities:
1-800-321-1080

Defense Manpower Data Center
Support Office:
1-800-538-9552

Veterans Affairs help line:
1-877-827-1000

TRICARE North Region:
1-877-874-2273

TRICARE South Region:
1-800-444-5445

TRICARE West Region:
1-888-874-9378

LINKS TO IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS/FORMS:

WWR IDES Toolkit:
www.woundedwarriorregiment.org

Application for a review by the PDBR
of the rating awarded accompanying
a medical separation from the Armed
Forces of the United States:
[www.Dtic.Mil/Whs/Directives/
Infomgt/Forms/Eforms/Dd0294.Pdf](http://www.Dtic.Mil/Whs/Directives/Infomgt/Forms/Eforms/Dd0294.Pdf)

MARINE CORPS ORDER P1900.16F
Ch. 2—Marine Corps Separation
and Retirement Manual:
[www.woundedwarriorregiment.org/
documents/MCOP190016FWCH12.pdf](http://www.woundedwarriorregiment.org/documents/MCOP190016FWCH12.pdf)



Marines who have medically separated since September 11, 2001 will have the opportunity to have their disability ratings reviewed to ensure fairness and accuracy.

The Physical Disability Board of Review (PDBR) will examine each applicant's medical separation, compare Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs ratings, and make a recommendation to the Secretary of the Navy. The Secretary of the Navy cannot lower the rating and any changes to the rating are effective on the date of final decision.

Eligibility for PDBR Review:

- Medically separated between September 11, 2001 and December 31, 2009
- Combined DoD awarded disability rating of 20% or less
- Not previously found eligible for a DoD disability retirement (30% disabled or higher)

The applicant will not be able to appear in person, but may include any statements, briefs, medical records or other supporting documents with the application.

After the document review is completed and final decision is made, each applicant will be notified of the decision and any further information regarding a change of rating.

PDBR CHECKLIST

Once a Marine receives their PDBR approval letter from the office of the Secretary of the Navy placing them on the Temporary / Permanent Disability Retired List (TDRL/PDRL), they should expect to see their retirement certificate / orders within 8–12 weeks. The same approval letter is forwarded to MMSB-20 to issue the corrected DD-214 that should reflect disability retirement on a DD-215.



A Marine that has been placed on the disability retired list can then proceed to initiate the following benefits and entitlements:

- 1 Blue retiree and dependant ID cards can be obtained at any DEERS / RAPID site (this entitles the ID holder to Commissary / Exchange privileges).
- 2 Update DEERS information prior to applying for TRICARE benefits and any DEERS / RAPID site (Cost for TRICARE is \$460.00 for the family plan/\$230.00 for the single plan annually).
- 3 Obtain a DoD decal for access to any/all on base privileges at base security / pass & ID.
- 4 Complete DD form 2656 for DoD Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP).
Note: Please read through the information carefully before electing or declining. If no election is made within 90 days of the receipt of the approval letter, DFAS will automatically provide coverage.
- 5 Complete DD form 2860 for Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) (Marines with combat related injuries). CRSC is retroactive to 1 January 08 for Marines who retired prior to 1 January 08.
- 6 Contact DFAS Retired Pay and Annuities at 1-800-321-1080 for information on retroactive disability retired pay.
- 7 Contact HQ Marine Corps Disability Section for Separations/Retirements (MMSR-4) if there seems to be a significant delay in receiving the retirement orders / certificates at 703-784-9308/9309/9321.
- 8 The following applies to retroactive TRICARE benefits:
 - Formally enroll in DEERS.
 - Once eligibility is established for TRICARE, contact the appropriate TRICARE Regional Office and request assistance through the claims division.
 - A "reasonable time" exception (which is normally one year) will be made for retirees who are retroactively retired through the PDBR process.*Note: Significant collection and gathering of documents will need to take place on the part of the member prior to initiating these claims. TRICARE requires copies of all medical expenses incurred by the member from the time he/she separated up to when the member was formally approved for retirement.*
- 9 For any PDBR related questions, you may contact the WWR Sergeant Merlin German Wounded Warrior Call Center at 1-877-487-6299.



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