

Title	<b>VOLUME FIVE</b>	
<b>VPPM - Re-Establishment and Compensation Programs</b>	Chap./Sect./Subsect.	
Chapter	Subsection number	
Section General	Date	Page
Sub-section Client Groups Eligible for Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance	2009-12	1 of 3

**1.0 SYNOPSIS**

1.1 Purpose

This document identifies the client groups eligible for VAC Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance and outlines eligibility criteria for each client group.

**2.0 AUTHORITY**

- 2.1 *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Act*, Sections 6, 7,8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 95.
- 2.2 *Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-establishment and Compensation Regulations*, Section 7 and 11.

**3.0 POLICY**

3.1 **Intent of Program**

The purpose of Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance is to address barriers to re-establishment in civilian life that have arisen from health problems resulting primarily from service, or that have led to the CF Veteran being medically released from service. It is aimed at restoring the CF Veteran’s physical, psychological, social and vocational functions following injury or illness.

The Program also allows for the provision of vocational assistance to CF Veterans who are releasing with no rehabilitation needs and to eligible spouses/common-law partners or survivors to assist in restoring their earnings capacity to a level that the Minister determines to be reasonable, given the person’s education, skills, and experience.

3.2 Eligible Clients

Canadian Forces Veterans Released on Medical Grounds

- a) Regular Force Veterans who have been medically released and who apply within 120 days of their medical release;

Title	<b>VOLUME FIVE</b>	
<b>VPPM</b> - Re-Establishment and Compensation Programs	Chap./Sect./Subsect.	
Chapter	Subsection number	
Section General	Date	Page
Sub-section Client Groups Eligible for Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance	2009-12	2 of 3

- b) Medically released Cadet Instructors Cadre, Canadian Rangers, and Supplementary Reserve Force Veterans, who were serving on a period of Class "C" Reserve Service at the time that the physical or mental health problem leading to release manifested itself, and who apply within 120 days of their medical release; and
- c) Medically Released Members of the Primary Reserve who were serving on a period of Class "A", "B" or "C" Reserve Service at the time that the physical or mental health problem leading to release manifested itself, and who apply within 120 days of their medical release.

Applications for Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance by a client who was "medically released" that are beyond the 120 day limit may be considered if the reasons for delay are reasonable in the circumstances, i.e. the CF Veteran's physical or mental health problems during the intervening time since release impaired or prevented their management of their personal affairs.

#### Rehabilitation Need Veterans

- a) "Rehabilitation Need Veterans" are identified to be Canadian Force Veterans, including those who have medically released over 120 days, who have been determined to have a physical or mental health problem which VAC finds has resulted primarily from service and which poses a barrier to re-establishment in civilian life.

#### Spouses and Common-law Partners

Spouses or common-law partners of CF Veterans will be eligible for Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance when all of the following conditions are met:

- a) the CF Veteran has applied and is approved for Rehabilitation Services;
- b) it has been determined that the CF Veteran would not benefit from vocational rehabilitation because of being 'Totally and Permanently Incapacitated';
- c) the spouse or common-law partner applies within one year of it being

Title	<b>VOLUME FIVE</b>	
<b>VPPM</b> - Re-Establishment and Compensation Programs	Chap./Sect./Subsect.	
Chapter	Subsection number	
Section General	Date	Page
Sub-section Client Groups Eligible for Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance	2009-12	3 of 3

determined that the CF Veteran is totally and permanently incapacitated;  
and

Applications that are beyond the one-year limit may be considered if the reasons for delay are reasonable in the circumstances.

- d) the spouse or common-law partner requires vocational assistance to restore his or her earnings capacity to a level that the Minister determines to be reasonable, given the person's education, skills and experience.

Spouses or common-law partners determined to be eligible for vocational assistance may also be eligible for medical, psycho-social and vocational rehabilitation if these rehabilitation services are determined necessary for them to benefit from vocational assistance.

### Survivors

Survivors of CF members and CF Veterans will be eligible for vocational assistance when all of the following conditions are met:

- a) the member or CF Veteran dies as a result of a service-related injury or disease or a non-service-related injury or disease that was aggravated by service;
- b) the death occurs on or after the April 1, 2006 implementation date of the CFMVRCA;
- c) the application for Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance is made within one year of the member's or CF Veteran's death; and,
- d) the survivor requires vocational assistance to restore their earnings capacity to a level that the Minister determines to be reasonable given the person's education, skills and experience.

Applications that are beyond the one-year limit may be considered if the reasons for delay are reasonable in the circumstances.

Survivors determined to be eligible for vocational assistance may also be eligible for medical, psycho-social and vocational rehabilitation if these services are necessary to address the vocational assistance needs.