

David Smith – Veteran Services Office

In order to comply with Federal, State, and County mandates related to COVID-19, the Warren County Veteran Service Office will have limited availability until further notice.

If you have a current open claim and would like to check the status, or you feel you might be eligible for service connected disability, pension, or survivors pension and would like to open a claim or submit an intent to file then you can do that by:

Calling **1-800-827-1000** or, by logging into www.ebenefits.va.gov

If you have a claim open with the VSO and you have documents you need to provide in support of your claim then you can email those to dsmith@warrencountytn.gov and I will get them uploaded to your file and submitted to the VA.

I have provided the following two forms if you would like to assign TDVS as your Veteran Service Organization and/or submit an Intent to File.

Intent to file form: VA Form 21-0966

Appointment of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative: VA Form 21-22

SPECIAL NOTES

Call your VA medical center before going to a clinic, urgent care, or emergency room, especially if you have symptoms of fever, cough and shortness of breath. Calling first helps us protect you, medical staff, and other patients. Ask your VA health care team about the option of care by phone or video instead of an in-person visit. We also ask that visitors who feel unwell postpone their visits to VA facilities.

McMinnville VA Clinic 931-474-7700

BVA Hearings, both in-person travel board and video hearings, have been cancelled until “at least” May 1, 2020

TVHS VISITATION RESTRICTIONS

If you are feeling ill, please stay home and call your primary care provider or use [My HealtheVet](#). Please advise the following restrictions are now in place at ALL TVHS sites:

Effective 7AM on Monday 3/16/2020, the following visitation safeguards are in place:

- If you become sick, stay home, and call ahead to your clinic or VA facility before visiting.
- All patients, visitors, and staff will be screened for COVID-19 at the entrances.
- Outpatients should come to appointments alone if possible, but if necessary, should limit the number of individuals accompanying you to one immediate family member or caregiver.
- Visitors are not allowed in the Community Living Center except for hospice and palliative care patients.
- Visitation to the Intensive Care Unit and Inpatient Wards is discouraged. Absolutely no visitors under age 16. Visitors are asked to limit to immediate family members and only one at a time allowed in the patient room.

- Visitation to the Marrow Transplant Unit will be only by direction of the medical staff.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports that some people are at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19. These people include:

- Older adults
- People who have serious chronic medical conditions like:
 - Heart disease
 - Diabetes
 - Lung disease

To protect our most vulnerable Veterans, Tennessee Valley Healthcare System asks our patients, staff, and visitors to help slow the spread of infection.