

1 July 2026: Does This Affect My DVA Entitlements?

The DRCA and VEA closed to new claims on 1 July 2026. Most veterans are not affected. Work through both sections below to see where you stand.

SECTION 1

If any of these apply to you — you are not affected.



Currently receiving a VEA disability pension or TPI pension

Your pension continues under the VEA at the same rate, indexed as before.



Receiving DRCA incapacity payments or permanent impairment compensation

These payments continue under the DRCA. Nothing changes for existing entitlements.



You lodged a DRCA or VEA initial liability claim before 30 June 2026

Your claim is assessed under the rules that applied when you lodged. DVA may take time to process it — that is normal. The cut-off date is what matters, not when DVA finishes.



Your service was after 1 July 2004

Post-2004 service has always been under the MRCA. The July 2026 transition does not change your claims pathway.

SECTION 2

If either of these apply — read on.



Pre-2004 service with conditions you have never claimed

The entry point for new claims has changed. These claims now go through the MRCA rather than the DRCA or VEA. The process is different — speak to a veteran advocate before lodging.



A family member passed away with an accepted DVA condition

New entitlements became available from 1 July for eligible dependants of veterans under the DRCA and VEA, including Gold Card access and the MRCAETS education scheme. Eligibility conditions apply — a separate claims process is required.