

National Veterans Wheelchair Games Medical Forms and Clearance



Dear Provider,

You are being asked to medically clear your patient to participate in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG). The National Veterans Wheelchair Games provides opportunities for health and healing through 22 adaptive sports competitions and exhibition events reflecting adaptive sports opportunities available to Veterans in their home communities for year-long participation.

Participation is open to Veterans having spinal cord injuries, lower extremity amputations, multiple sclerosis, or other central neuro-muscular conditions. Physical disabilities must be permanent and measurable and require a wheelchair for sport participation. All Veterans registering for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games must be eligible to receive care at a VA medical facility. When a Veteran's diagnosis and eligibility to compete is in question, we will refer to the eligibility criteria appropriate for that person to participate in other community wheelchair sports organizations. **Medical clearance must be provided by a physician, physician assistant or a nurse practitioner.** A full and complete neuromuscular exam must be completed on all Veterans new to the NVWG and without a permanent classification. The neuromuscular exam portion can be provided by a physical therapist.

All activities include physical exertion and training is highly recommended prior to participating in the event. If the Veteran is new to the NVWG, we recommend a consult to a rehabilitation therapist/specialist to assist developing a conditioning program appropriate to their goals and level of participation.

Medical Conditions that meet NVWG eligibility criteria include:

- Spinal Cord Injury (must include if complete or incomplete paraplegia or quadriplegia, Level of Injury and ASIA Impairment Scale (AIS)).
- Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (w/impairments requiring a wheelchair for sports)
- Amputee (excludes toe amputations or upper extremity)
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)
- Multiple Sclerosis (w/impairments requiring a wheelchair for sports)
- Other neurologic disorders causing disabling neuromuscular function (case by case)

Medical Conditions that do NOT meet the criteria for participation in the NVWG:

- Functional Movement Disorder (Conversion Disorder)
- Hip, knee and ankle surgeries/replacements
- Degenerative Joint Disease (DJD)
- Degenerative Disc Disease (DDD)
- Radiculopathy
- Peripheral neuropathy
- Osteoarthritis (OA)
- Pain syndromes (Central Pain Syndrome (CPS), Fibromyalgia, Chronic Low Back Pain (CLBP), etc.)
- Low Vision
- Diabetes Mellitus (DM)

- Mental Health (as primary diagnosis and/or only diagnosis)
- Cardiovascular/Respiratory disease
- Systemic/Metabolic disease
- Spinal Stenosis if no physical impairment requiring wheelchair is present
- Rheumatologic conditions and other systemic joint conditions

If at any time the medical condition of your patient changes so that they would not be safe to participate, please contact the NVWG office at 206-407-9542. If you have any questions regarding your patient's medical clearance you can contact the NVWG Medical Director.

Regards,

Kenneth Lee, MD
Medical Director, National Veterans Wheelchair Games
Kenneth.Lee8@va.gov

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Registration: [OPENS - Feb 1, 2023](#)

[CLOSES – Apr 5, 2023](#)

We are providing you with the General Medical and Physical (2 pages) forms so you can schedule your appointment with your provider. If you are also applying to attend another National Veterans Sports Program and Special Events program (i.e. Winter Sports Clinic), **please have the provider complete this application at the same time.** We will only accept the NVWG Medical and Physical forms.

***New for 2023, Medical and Physical form MUST be submitted electronically via our secure VA Box portal. Do NOT mail!**

The secure VA Box portal will be available Feb 1, 2023.

Contact: Kristine.Goedhard@va.gov

206-407-9542

A FULL & COMPLETE application is required. Incomplete applications will DELAY your application being processed and **event assignments are not given until a complete application is received.**

Application Checklist - Tips to Complete

General Medical and Physical (2 pages)

Intro page on General Medical Form (page 1, top section) MUST be completed by the participant.

ALL areas must be completed EVEN if you've attended before!

- Date** (date you are completing, it is critical we obtain a current year evaluation)
- VA Medical Center** (the main VA where you obtain care)
- Full Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial**
- YOUR Address** (not the VA medical center's)
- E-mail** (your e-mail associated with your online registration/account)
- Last 4 of SSN**
- Date of Birth**
- Telephone** (provide the number we can reach you, preferable a cell phone number)
- Team Coordinator** (your VA coach or therapist or PVA team representative)
- Team Coordinator's phone and e-mail** (we need this if we have questions)
- Emergency Contact**

Page 2 – Please add your full name to the top of page two. Only a **Physician, Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner** can complete your medical forms. **Signature, address, date, and a phone number IS required.**

Neuromuscular exam is **REQUIRED for NEW applicants or those with a temporary classification.
The neuro exam can be completed by a Physical Therapist.