

OPM issues final rule on disabled veteran leave

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- By Federal Soup Staff
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Disabled veteran leave, established by the Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act signed into law last year, is available to any federal employee hired on or after Nov. 5, 2016, who is a veteran with a service-connected disability rating of 30 percent or higher. The 104 hours of up-front leave, which is available during a 12-month period beginning on the first day of a vet's federal employment, allows vets to seek treatment for a service-connected disability.

The leave also will be available to eligible veterans reappointed to federal service with at least a 90-day break in service, and military reservists and members of the National Guard returning to civilian duty after military service.

Renee Johnson, national president of the Federal Managers Association, which advocated for the legislation that created the leave, applauded the final rule.

"I am grateful for OPM's work in drafting the final rule, and acting Director Beth Cobert's leadership in how to implement disabled veteran leave," she said in a [statement](#). "The rule not only remains loyal to the congressional intent of the bill, but also extends the new leave to the broadest number of potentially eligible disabled veterans. From FMA's perspective, the rule is broad and fair, helping as many eligible disabled veterans as possible."

Reader comments

Mon, Aug 8, 2016

I'm a veteran rated @ 40% and started a government civilian job this year on 21MAR2016 would I be entitled to this new bill?

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What about Veterans already serving on civil service appointments?