

Message from Secretary Schneider

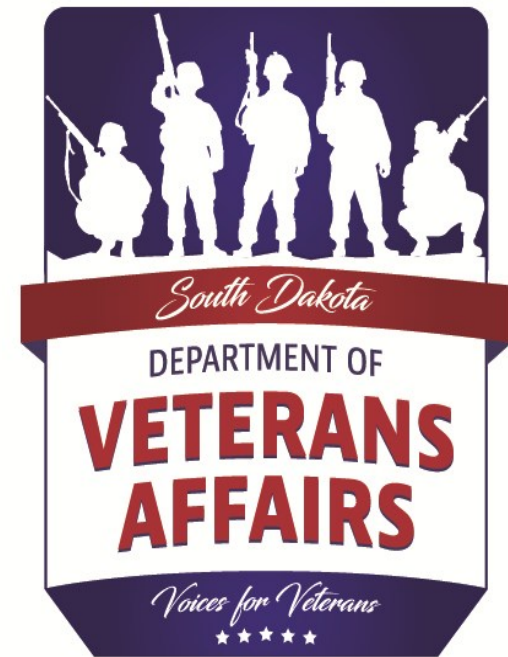
Welcome to this year's SDDVA Annual Benefit School. We appreciate your commitment to supporting our veterans and ensuring they receive the care and benefits they deserve.

Over the next few days, we'll cover essential topics to help better understand veterans' benefits. These sessions are meant to inform, encourage discussion, and strengthen our shared mission. Please join, ask questions, and share your experiences.

Thank you for your continued dedication and service. We are grateful for all that you do.



Jeremiah Schneider
Secretary SDDVA



2025 Annual Benefit School
September 9-12, 2025
SD Military Heritage Alliance
Sioux Falls, SD

<http://vetaffairs.sd.gov>

Tuesday—September 9

Noon	Registration
1:00 pm	Introductions – Aaron Pollard
1:20 pm	Claims Office Update – Brett Dickerson
1:30 pm	MJFSVH Update – Danny Tiger
1:40 pm	Cemetery Update – DJ Isles
1:50 pm	Break
2:00 pm	Welcome – Governor or Lt. Governor
2:30 pm	Welcome from Secretary – Jeremiah Schneider
2:50 pm	Break
3:00 pm	Effective Claims Decision Making – David Huntimer
4:00 pm	Adjourn – Association Meeting

Wednesday—September 10

8:00 am	What's New at the VA—Megan Carter
8:50 am	Break
9:00 am	C&P Exams—Mark Cali
9:50 am	Break
10:00 am	SFVAHCS / VABHHCS / Dakota Regional Updates Sara Ackert / Spencer Mion / Shawn Bohn
10:50 am	Break
11:00 am	Appeal's—David Huntimer
Noon	Lunch (Provided by SDVSOA)
1:00 pm	Appeal's Scenario Breakout—FSO's
1:50 pm	Break
2:00 pm	Appeal's Scenario Discussion—David Huntimer
2:50 pm	Break
3:00 pm	Jeopardy Rd. 1 – David Huntimer
4:00 pm	Adjourn—Association Meeting

Thursday—September 11

8:00 am	Break Out Sessions SMC (Advance) – Will Huffmon— The Heritage Room Pension 201 (Advance) – Kevin Bowen—S Dakota Room 7 Steps to a Claim – David Denson—Main Floor Pension 101 (Basic) – Jerry Lemme — American Room Interviewing (Basic) – Guy Arnold — The Bunker
8:50 am	Break
9:00 am	Break Out Sessions Continued
9:50 am	Break
10:00 am	Break Out Sessions Continued
10:50 am	Break
11:00 am	VR&E Benefits – Chelsea Reisch
Noon	Lunch (Provided by SDVSOA)
1:00 pm	Education – Shane Olivier / Ryan Fowler
1:50 pm	Break
2:00 pm	SAVE Training – Machel Kocer
2:50 pm	Break
3:00 pm	Jeopardy Rd. 2 – David Huntimer
4:00 pm	Adjourn

Friday—September 12

8:00 am	Pension 301: UME—Kevin Bowen
8:50 am	Break
9:00 am	CALM Training—Machel Kocer
10:00 am	Test—David Huntimer
11:00 am	Post Test Review—David Huntimer
Noon	End of Conference

