

## Veteran Categories: Definition Summaries

*Please refer to this link for the U.S. Department of Labor definitions:*

<http://www.dol.gov/compliance/guide/vietvets.htm#who>

A “**special disabled veteran**” is a person who is entitled to compensation under laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs for a disability rated at 30 percent or more; or, rated at 10 or 20 percent, if it has been determined that the individual has a serious employment disability; or, a person who was discharged or released from active duty because of a service-connected disability.

A “**disabled veteran**” means a veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. military ground, naval, or air service and is entitled to disability compensation (or who but for the receipt of military retired pay would be entitled to disability compensation) under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or was discharged or released from active duty because of a service-connected disability.

With respect to federal contracts and subcontracts entered into on or after December 1, 2003, “**recently separated veterans**” means any veteran who served on active duty during the three-year period beginning on the date of such veteran’s discharge or release from active duty.

An “**other protected veteran**” means any other veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. military ground, naval, or air service during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized.

An “**Armed Forces Service Medal veteran**” means a veteran who, while serving on active duty in the U.S. military ground, naval, or air service, participated in a United States military operation for which an Armed Forces service medal was awarded pursuant to Executive Order 12985 (61 Fed. Reg. 1209).

NOTE: The 2002 Jobs for Veterans Act (JVA) eliminated Vietnam era veterans as a protected category under VEVRAA. However, most Vietnam era veterans will continue to be protected under other categories.