

Wounded Warrior Data Dictionary

The following established style guidelines reflect the longstanding practices of developers and editors of content for the wounded warrior content area. They are consistent with rules and guidance outlined in The Associated Press Style Guide and reflective of Office of Military Community and Family Policy style and usage preferences.

DO

- Keep the wide audience range in mind, including service members, veterans, family members, leaders, and service providers
- Use “softening” or qualifying words, such as “generally,” “may be,” “can be,” or “might,” to avoid making blanket statements about how people feel, react, etc.
- Use “wounded warrior” instead of “Wounded Warrior”

DO NOT

- Refer to Wounded Warrior Care Center or Wounded Warrior Resource Center
- Refer to Wounded Warrior Program
- Refer to DVBIC, use [Traumatic Brain Injury Center of Excellence](#)
- Use clinical jargon or phrases like "as best you can"
- Use Heroes to Hometowns content
- Tell people what they always/never/should do
- Overuse athlete photos

FORMATTING

- Keep bullets to seven or less for each section
- Be concise – remember less is more

DEFINITIONS

- **Adaptive sports:** Reconditioning activities and competitive athletic opportunities to help all wounded, ill and injured service members improve their physical and mental quality of life throughout the continuum of recovery and transition.

For more information, visit the [Department of Defense Warrior Care Military Adaptive Sports Program](#) website, and the [VA Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events](#).

- **AFW2:** [Air Force Wounded Warrior Program](#).
- **AW2:** [Army Wounded Warrior Program](#).
- **Caregiver stakeholders:** Organizations, agencies, and programs that work together or independently to provide support to the caregivers of wounded, ill, or injured service members.
- **DEA:** The [Survivors’ and Dependents’ Education Assistance Program](#) is a federally funded VA program providing education and training benefits to family members of service members who have been permanently and totally disabled or who have died while on active duty as a result of a service-connected condition.

- **IDES:** The [Integrated Disability Evaluation System](#) is a joint effort between the DOD and VA to evaluate medical examinations and determine fitness for duty for wounded, ill or injured service members. The IDES ratings are used to determine DOD and VA compensation and benefits.
- **Invictus Games:** An international sporting event for wounded, injured and/or ill servicemen and women, both active-duty and veterans. The United Kingdom's Prince Harry founded the [Invictus Games](#) after attending the 2013 Warrior Games in Colorado.
- **Military caregiver:** Someone who is providing care for a service member or veteran who was wounded, injured or fell ill as a direct consequence of military service. Learn more about [VA support for caregivers](#) and [Military OneSource caregiver resources](#).
- **Post-traumatic stress disorder:** A mental health diagnosis that can occur after someone goes through a traumatic event like war, assault, or disaster.
- **Transition Assistance Program:** Also known as TAP, this is a program with both service branch and VA components designed to smooth the transition from active duty to the civilian sector.
- **Traumatic brain injury:** Also known as TBI, this is an acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment.
- **Warrior Games:** Department of Defense sponsored annual event designed to enhance the recovery and rehabilitation of wounded warriors by providing them exposure to adaptive sports.
- **Wounded, ill or injured:** [DOD policy](#) recognizes three care categories to identify a recovering warrior, or RW. :
 - Category I: An RW labeled with a mild injury or illness, likely to return to duty in less than 180 days
 - Category II: An RW labeled with a serious injury or illness, unlikely to return to duty in less than 180 days
 - Category III: An RW labeled with a severe/catastrophic injury or illness, likely to be medically separated from the military.
- **Vet Centers:** A community-based VA program providing a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to eligible veterans to help them make a satisfying post-war readjustment to civilian life.

RESOURCES

[Army Wounded Warrior Program](#)

[Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment](#)

[Navy Wounded Warrior](#)

[Air Force Wounded Warrior Program](#)

[Special Operations Command Warrior Program \(Care Coalition\)](#)

[Military OneSource wounded warrior specialty consultations](#)

[DOD Wounded, Ill and/or Injured Compensation and Benefits Handbook](#)