

# **2021 NATIONAL VETERANS SUMMER SPORTS CLINIC**



September 19 - 24, 2021

## **Veteran Participant Application Packet**

The San Diego VA Medical Center and the VA National Programs and Special Events Office invites you to participate in the 2021 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic in San Diego, CA. This event will promote the value of rehabilitation utilizing a variety of summer leisure activities and adaptive sports. The mission of this innovative program is to provide a training ground for both veterans and health care providers in exciting outdoor summer sports. Our overall objective is to instill the value of these types of leisure pursuits as a viable means to aid in community re-entry and adjustment. Developing these skills, Veterans and therapists will be able to return home and implement a treatment plan emphasizing similar experiences on a regular basis. As part of VA's continued commitment to Veterans we are offering this program as a method to educate and build a strong foundation which will further each Veterans' dedication to their overall rehabilitation, health, and pursuit of a rewarding lifestyle.

## What:

A VA rehabilitative clinic offering adaptive sailing, kayaking, cycling, surfing, and adaptive fitness. Qualified VA staff and adaptive instructors will provide event instruction. Included will be educational sessions that will reinforce your commitment to a healthier lifestyle.

## When:

**September 19 - 24, 2021.** Registration will take place Sunday, September 19 at the Wyndham Bayside Hotel. Opening Ceremony will be held Sunday, September 19 and Closing Ceremony will be held Friday, September 24.

## Who:

Participation is open to post 9/11 Veterans who are currently engaged in a rehabilitation or other treatment program, or to Veterans whose current rehabilitation goals would benefit from the value of adaptive summer sports. Qualifying disabilities include: spinal cord injuries, amputations, visual impairments, neurological conditions, PTSD, burns, and TBI/Poly Trauma. All applications are subject to review by the NVSSC Medical Director and NVSSC Director. Their decisions are final.

### Special note for all participants:

All participants are expected to possess good mobility and independent living skills. Weight limit for anyone who is dependent is 250 pounds; weight limit for those who can participate independently is 300 pounds. Any Veteran that requires partial or full assistance with their ADLs must bring their own caregiver. Each Veteran participant must attend the entire week and participate in all scheduled events.

## How to Apply:

Eligible Veterans can apply by completing **all** enclosed registration forms and submitting them to the NVSSC office. A healthcare provider must complete and sign the enclosed General Medical/Physical Exam form. There will not be any exceptions to this policy. ***In addition to these forms there is additional medical information that is required (please see checklist).*** **Only complete applications will be reviewed for consideration.**

**Registration deadline is May 1, 2021.** All applications must be scanned and emailed to [summersportsclinic@va.gov](mailto:summersportsclinic@va.gov) or faxed to 858-642-6406. Please allow four weeks for processing. **Applications received after application deadline will not be processed.**

## Supportive Health Care Needs:

Medical care supervision will be provided throughout the event. Caregivers must accompany all Veteran participants throughout the program and assist where necessary. If you require DME equipment, please plan to bring your own. This includes assistive devices, specialty devices, and any other specialty equipment you require. Visually impaired Veterans are encouraged to bring any head mounted devices or monoculars to view board during education sessions.

*All personal equipment or supplies such as catheters, leg bags, irrigating solutions, etc., must be brought by the Veteran.*

## **Service Animals:**

Veterans with service animals are responsible for the care and behavior of their dog. It is the owner's responsibility to bring all items (food, dishes, medication, leash, etc.). There are certain events that service animals will not be allowed for their safety, such as on the sail boats and kayaks - please plan accordingly. **Non-service animals are not allowed.**

## **Cost:**

Veteran participants are expected to pay for lodging and transportation to and from San Diego including any incidentals. Meals and bus transportation during the clinic week will be provided.

To avoid confusion please do not make any travel plans until you have been accepted and received an acceptance packet with event details regarding your lodging, transportation, and meals.

### Please Remember:

- If accepted to attend, bring all necessary medications, personal supplies, and equipment that you require;
- Submit your completed application and forms no later than **May 1, 2021 deadline.**
- Double check you have included all medical information the application requires. Only complete applications will be considered.
- We are hoping to send acceptance letters out those that are selected in June.

We look forward to your processing your application!

**\*\*Please Note\*\***: After you have been accepted to attend the 2021 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic, you will receive information regarding lodging, event schedule, and any additional event specifics.

Thank you for your interest in the National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic.  
VA continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and will have an update on plans by late May.