



Privacy Impact Assessment for the VA IT System called:

# Digital GI Bill (DGI)

## Enterprise Program Management Office (EPMO)

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System Contacts:

*System Contacts*

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## Abstract

*The abstract provides the simplest explanation for “what does the system do?” and will be published online to accompany the PIA link.*

The Digital GI Platform (DGI) Managed Services information system has a system categorization of Moderate. It enables the VA to improve timely and accurate delivery of educational payments and determine real-time eligibility and benefit information. The platform will also provide the ability for GI Bill students to engage with VA through electronic outreach, intake and upgraded communication tools for on-the-spot service. As well as provide the VA with an end-to-end systems management perspective to ensure proper compliance and oversight of GI Bill programs, and the use of data and business intelligence tools to track, monitor and measure school and student outcomes. The system runs on top of AWS GovCloud and is tightly integrated with other SaaS services such as Mulesoft, Dynatrace and Accenture XDR

## Overview

*The overview is the most important section of the PIA. A thorough and clear overview gives the reader the appropriate context to understand the responses in the PIA. The overview should contain the following elements:*

- *The IT system name and the name of the program office that owns the IT system.*
- *The business purpose of the program, IT system, or technology and how it relates to the program office and agency mission.*
- *Indicate the ownership or control of the IT system or project.*
- *The expected number of individuals whose information is stored in the system and a brief description of the typical client or affected individual.*
- *A general description of the information in the IT system and the purpose for collecting this information.*
- *Any information sharing conducted by the IT system. A general description of the modules and subsystems, where relevant, and their functions.*
- *Whether the system is operated in more than one site, and if so, a description of how use of the system and PII is maintained consistently in all sites and if the same controls are used across sites.*
- *A citation of the legal authority to operate the IT system.*
- *Whether the completion of this PIA will result in circumstances that require changes to business processes*
- *Whether the completion of this PIA could potentially result in technology changes*
- *If the system is in the process of being modified and a SORN exists, will the SORN require amendment or revision and approval? If the system is using cloud technology, does the SORN for the system cover cloud usage or storage?*

The Digital GI Platform (DGI) is a managed service environment owned and operated by Accenture Federal Services for the exclusive use of the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA). The solution is authorized for use by the VA under the Enterprise Program Management Office (EPMO). The system houses the applications which are used to process the benefits of the Post-9/11 Veterans

Educational Assistance Act of 2008. The DGI provides an integrated solution of Education Benefit Information records between the systems of the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) using a single point of entry. The DGI is a Web-based system designed to run 24/7.

The DGI currently houses the educational benefits information for nearly 3.5 million veterans.

The DGI connects with the following information systems to fulfill the promise of educational benefits for Veterans in an efficient time frame:

- Identity and Access Management (IAM)
- ID.me (Id.me-e)
- VA DoD Identity Repository (VDR)
- Long Term Solution (LTS)
- Benefits Delivery Network (BDN)
- Veterans Service Network (VET)
- EDU PITS Web Applications EDU
- Web Enabled Approval Management System (WEA)
- Education Lan Application (ELA)
- VA Performance Analysis and Integrity Reporting (PA&I) Business Intelligence (VD3)
- Veterans-Facing Services Platform-Va.gov (VFSP-Va.gov)
- VR&E Case Management Solution (CMS)
- VA Profile
- Veterans Benefits Management Systems (VBMS) Cloud Assessing
- BIP Assessing (BIP)
- Enterprise Veterans Self Service Portal (EVSS)
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (CWI)
- CSOC Vulnerability Scanning System Assessing (CSOC VSS)

Additionally, the DGI is comprised of cloud-based components noted below:

- AWS GovCloud – Infrastructure Services for DGI
- Mulesoft – API Integration
- DynaTrace – Application Performance Monitoring and Tracing
- Duo Federal – Multi Factor Authentication Provider
- Accenture XDR – Security Monitoring Services
- SentinelOne – Application Protection
- Twilio – SMS Messaging Provider

The DGI is operated in a highly available architecture spanning across three Amazon Web Services (AWS) Availability Zones (AZs) within the US-GOV-WEST-1 region.

DGI aims to maximize the user experience, provide a flexible design to support benefit changes, provide an efficient workflow, and support programming integration across future VA projects. DGI minimizes manual intervention and maximizes efficiency of the process while meeting the needs of the VA for the long term.

Users of the DGI are VA Claim Evaluators (VCEs) at Regional Processing Offices (RPOs); School Certifying Officials (SCOs) at educational institutions across the United States, as well as DGI

administrators and development teams who monitor and maintain the infrastructure, software and processes that comprise the DGI. Future use cases will also provide for direct Veteran and Beneficiary access.

The VA has contracted with Accenture Federal Services (AFS) to provide a managed service environment to process educational claims on behalf of the VA. AFS contracts with AWS to maintain the underlying hardware required to provide DGI's underlying virtualized environments. DGI administrators can manage the virtual machines and network configurations through a secure Graphical User Interface (GUI) console. The AWS console allows authorized DGI systems, database, and security administrators to access the environment through the Web and manage the systems in AWS GovCloud West. All data contained within the DGI system, PII included, is owned by the VA.

SORN 58VA21/22/28 states authority for the DGI is: Title 10 United States Code (U.S.C.) chapters 106a, 510, 1606 and 1607 and Title 38, U.S.C., section 501(a) and Chapters 11, 13, 15, 18, 23, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 51, 53, and 55

[https://www.oprm.va.gov/privacy/systems\\_of\\_records.aspx](https://www.oprm.va.gov/privacy/systems_of_records.aspx)).

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-14/pdf/2019-02315.pdf>

The System meets the requirements of the 36 CFR XII – National Archives and Records Administration, SUBCHAPTER B – Records Management, which prescribes policies for Federal agencies' records management programs relating to records creation and maintenance, adequate documentation, and proper records disposition. The regulations in this subchapter implement the provisions of 44 U.S.C. Chapters 21, 29, 31, and 33. These regulations apply to Federal agencies as defined in 36 C.F.R. § 1220.18.

## Section 1. Characterization of the Information

The following questions are intended to define the scope of the information requested and collected as well as the reasons for its collection as part of the program, IT system, or technology being developed.

### 1.1 What information is collected, used, disseminated, created, or maintained in the system?

*Identify and list all Sensitive Personal Information (SPI) that is collected and stored in the system, including Individually Identifiable Information (III), Individually Identifiable Health Information (IIHI), Protected Health Information (PHI), and Privacy- Protected Information. For additional information on these information types and definitions, please see VA Directives and Handbooks in the 6500 series (<https://vaww.va.gov/vapubs/>). If the system creates information (for example, a score, analysis, or report), list the information the system is responsible for creating.*

*If a requesting system receives information from another system, such as a response to a background check, describe what information is returned to the requesting system.*

*This question is related to privacy control AP-1, Authority To Collect, and AP-2, Purpose Specification.*

Please check any information listed below that your system collects, uses, disseminates, creates, or maintains. If additional SPI is collected, used, disseminated, created, or maintained, please list those in the text box below:

- Name
- Social Security Number
- Date of Birth
- Mother's Maiden Name
- Personal Mailing Address
- Personal Phone Number(s)
- Personal Fax Number
- Personal Email Address
- Emergency Contact Information (Name, Phone

- Number, etc. of a different individual)
- Financial Account Information
- Health Insurance Beneficiary Numbers
- Account numbers
- Certificate/License numbers
- Vehicle License Plate Number
- Internet Protocol (IP) Address Numbers
- Current Medications

- Previous Medical Records
- Race/Ethnicity
- Tax Identification Number
- Medical Record Number
- Other Unique Identifying Information (list below)

VA\_PERSON\_ID  
 VA\_FILE\_NUMBER  
 DATE\_OF\_DEATH  
 GENDER  
 PRIMARY\_PHONE\_NUMBER  
 SECONDARY\_PHONE\_NUMBER  
 BRANCH\_OF\_SERVICE  
 BASD\_DATE (Basic Active Service Date)  
 CHARACTER\_OF\_SERVICE (Service Discharge Status)  
 REASON\_FOR\_SEPARATION (Reason Code for Separation from Active Duty)

**PII Mapping of Components**

Within each environment, the DGI store of PII consists primarily of the Oracle database which resides within the AWS GovCloud environment for DGI as well as additional components and cloud services which make up the DGI managed service ecosystem. Each component has been analyzed to determine if any elements of that component collect PII. The type of PII collected by DGI and the reasons for the collection of the PII are in the table below.

**PII Mapped to Components**

**Note:** Due to the PIA being a public facing document, please do not include the server names in the table.

*PII Mapped to Components*

Database Name of the information system collecting/storing PII	Does this system collect PII? (Yes/No)	Does this system store PII? (Yes/No)	Type of PII (SSN, DOB, etc.)	Reason for Collection/ Storage of PII	Safeguards

prod	Yes	Yes	All information noted in 1.1	Required for claimant benefit generation	Encrypted Tablespaces Hardware encryption of volumes
prod standby	Yes	Yes	All information noted in 1.1	Required for claimant benefit generation	Encrypted Tablespaces Hardware encryption of volumes
uat01	No	Yes	All information noted in 1.1	Required for claimant benefit generation	Encrypted Tablespaces Hardware encryption of volumes
uat02	No	Yes	All information noted in 1.1	Required for claimant benefit generation	Encrypted Tablespaces Hardware encryption of volumes
perf	No	Yes	All information noted in 1.1	Required for claimant benefit generation	Encrypted Tablespaces Hardware encryption of volumes
preprod	No	Yes	All information noted in 1.1	Required for claimant benefit generation	Encrypted Tablespaces Hardware encryption of volumes
sectest	No	Yes	All information noted in 1.1	Required for claimant benefit generation	Encrypted Tablespaces Hardware encryption of volumes
splunk prod	No	Yes	IP_ADDRESS	Required for audit logging	Hardware encryption of volumes
splunk nonprod	No	Yes	IP_ADDRESS	Required for audit logging	Hardware encryption of volumes
Cisco Duo Federal	No	Yes	FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME EMAIL_ADDRESS IP_ADDRESS	Required for Multi Factor Authentication user identification and audit logging.	Hardware encryption of volumes

			This is for DGI Staff accounts on the system, not personal information. No veteran information is synced with Duo.		
Mulesoft	No	Yes	IP_ADDRESS  Other information types noted in 1.1 are processed but not stored within system.	Required for audit logging	Hardware encryption of volumes
SentinelOne	No	Yes	IP_ADDRESS	Required for audit logging	Hardware encryption of volumes
Accenture XDR	No	Yes	IP_ADDRESS	Required for audit logging	Hardware encryption of volumes
DynaTrace	No	Yes	IP_ADDRESS	Required for application performance tracing	Hardware encryption of volumes
Twilio	No	Yes	PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER	Required for user messaging	Hardware encryption of volumes

**1.2 What are the sources of the information in the system?**

*List the individual, entity, or entities providing the specific information identified above. For example, is the information collected directly from the individual as part of an application for a benefit, or is it collected from other sources such as commercial data aggregators?*

*Describe why information from sources other than the individual is required. For example, if a program’s system is using data from a commercial aggregator of information or data taken from public Web sites, state the fact that this is where the information is coming from and then in question 1.3 indicate why the system is using this source of data.*

*If the system creates information (for example, a score, analysis, or report), list the system as a source of information.*

*This question is related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, and IP-1, Consent.*

**Identity and Access Management (IAM)** – Data is collected via IAM to uniquely identify and authorize users to role within the DGI.

**Education Lan Applications (ELA)** – The Image Management System (TIMS) data is used to facilitate manual claims processing workflow for which it is currently authoritative. TIMS functionality will be subsumed into DGI in later iterations.

**VA DoD Identity Repository (VDR)** – The VA/DoD Repository data is used to prepopulate claimant service data to facilitate claims adjudication. AD data provides authoritative user service history from the DOD and is a key component in calculating entitlement authorizations.

**EDU PITC Web Applications** – VA-ONCE provides school enrollment data needed for claims calculations. WAVE provides monthly verifications of enrollment and student status changes to Education Regional Processing Offices to release monthly payments.

**Benefits Delivery Network (BDN)** – BDN provides authoritative information on claims payments for DGI that is needed to determine payment history and to facilitate future payments.

**Web Enabled Approval Management System (WEA)** – WEA provides School Names, School Addresses, Facility Names, Housing Payment Rates, School Programs, etc. of participating school facilities approved for VA benefits.

**ID.me (Id.me-e)** – Identity Providers manage identity verification, including for claimants made eligible by new legislation.

**VET Veterans Service Network (VET)** – Personal Computer Generated Letters (PCGL), an application for non-automate generated letters that interprets a meta language used to generate letter response to cases, with an interface to allow for prompting of input data.

**Veterans-Facing Services Platform-Va.gov (VFSP-Va.gov)** – VA.gov, a web-based application(s) that allows the submission of various VA forms electronically to provide access to the DGI provided services. DGI interface with the Government email server and VA Twilio to communicate with stakeholders.

**VA Profile** – VAPRO provides single source of truth for Veteran data across all VA systems. Synchronizes name, phone/email, address, military personnel data, awards, disability ratings. Veterans Benefits Management Systems (VBMS) Cloud Assessing – VBMS eFolder to access Education claim-related documents that have been processed by the Government's scanning vendor.

**BIP Assessing (BIP)** – Enterprise Management of Payments, Workload, and Reporting (eMPWR-VA) for processing of VBA EDU payments and overpayments, offsets, withholdings and updates to budgetary data and General Ledger (GL). Additionally, DGI will receive transaction success/failure status from eMPWR-VA to allow for resubmission of failed transactions.

### **1.3 How is the information collected?**

*This question is directed at the means of collection from the sources listed in question 1.2. Information may be collected directly from an individual, received via electronic transmission from another system, or created by the system itself. Specifically, is information collected through technologies or other technology used in the storage or transmission of information in identifiable form?*

*If the information is collected on a form and is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, give the form's OMB control number and the agency form number.*

*This question is related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, and IP-1, Consent.*

The following are methods in which the information identified in 1.2 are collected:

- **IAM** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **ID.me** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **VDR** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **BDN** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **CSS** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **CRP** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **IVR** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **VET** data ingested through SFTP
- **EDU PITC** – VA-ONCE data ingestion through SFTP
- **WEA** – WEAMS data ingested through SFTP
- **ELA** – TIMS data ingested through SFTP
- **VA.gov** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **VA Profile** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **VBMS** data exchanged through Web Service calls
- **BIP Assessing** – eMPWR-VA data exchanged through Web Service calls

### **1.4 How will the information be checked for accuracy? How often will it be checked?**

*Discuss whether and how often information stored in the system is checked for accuracy. Is information in the system checked against any other source of information (within or outside your organization) before the information is used to make decisions about an individual? For example, is there a computer matching agreement in place with another government agency? For systems that receive data from internal data sources or VA IT systems, describe the system checks to ensure that data corruption has not occurred during transmission.*

*If the system checks for accuracy by accessing a commercial aggregator of information, describe this process and the levels of accuracy required by the contract.*

*This question is related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, and DI-2, Data Integrity and Integrity Board.*

The DGI does not collect information directly from the Veterans. It relies on the systems that collect and provide the data to check accuracy of the information. The application enforces some input validation measures (e.g. valid SSN entry), but it's primarily the application end users that are responsible for validating information for accuracy along with built in application checks for input validation.

### **1.5 What specific legal authorities, arrangements, and agreements defined the collection of information?**

*List the full legal authority for operating the system, specifically the authority to collect the information listed in question 1.1. Provide the authorities in a manner understandable to any potential reader, i.e., do not simply provide a legal citation; use statute names or regulations in addition to citations. Legal authorities include Federal laws, regulations, statutes, and Executive Orders.*

*This question is related to privacy control AP-1, Authority to Collect*

VCE end users are responsible for validating information for accuracy along with built in application checks for input validation.

Title 10 U.S.C. chapters 106a, 510, 1606 and 1607 and title 38, U.S.C., § 501(a) and Chapters 3, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 21, 23, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 51, 53, 55 and 77. Title 5 U.S.C. 5514

[https://www.oprm.va.gov/privacy/systems\\_of\\_records.aspx](https://www.oprm.va.gov/privacy/systems_of_records.aspx)).

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-14/pdf/2019-02315.pdf>

### **1.6 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Characterization of the information**

*Consider the specific data elements collected and discuss the potential privacy risks and what steps, if any are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.*

*Consider the following Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPs) when assessing the risk to individual privacy:*

*Principle of Purpose Specification: Explain how the collection ties with the purpose of the underlying mission of the organization and its enabling authority.*

*Principle of Minimization: Is the information directly relevant and necessary to accomplish the specific purposes of the program?*

*Principle of Individual Participation: Does the program, to the extent possible and practical, collect information directly from the individual?*

*Principle of Data Quality and Integrity: Are there policies and procedures for VA to ensure that personally identifiable information is accurate, complete, and current?*

*This question is related to privacy control AR-1, Governance and Privacy Program, and AR-2, Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment.*

Follow the format below when entering your risk assessment:

**Privacy Risk:**

The DGI collects Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and other sensitive information. If this information was breached or accidentally released to inappropriate parties or the public, it could result in financial, personal, and/or emotional harm to the individuals whose information is contained in the system.

**Mitigation:**

The system adheres to information security requirements instituted by the VA Office of Information Technology (OIT).

All employees/contractors with access to Veterans' information are required to complete the VA Privacy and Information Security Awareness training and Rules of Behavior annually.

The VA only collects the information necessary to identify the parties involved in an incident, identify potential issues and concerns, and offer assistance to the affected parties.

## **Section 2. Uses of the Information**

The following questions are intended to clearly delineate the use of information and the accuracy of the data being used.

### **2.1 Describe how the information in the system will be used in support of the program's business purpose.**

*Identify and list each use (both internal and external to VA) of the information collected or maintained.*

*This question is related to privacy control AP-2, Purpose Specification.*

VA\_PERSON\_ID – Individual Identifier

VA\_FILE\_NUMBER – Individual Identifier

SOCIAL\_SECURITY\_NUMBER – Individual Identifier

FIRST\_NAME – Individual Identifier

LAST\_NAME – Individual Identifier

MIDDLE\_NAME – Individual Identifier

DATE\_OF\_BIRTH – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system

DATE\_OF\_DEATH – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system

GENDER – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system

ADDRESS\_LINE\_1 – Used for communications

ADDRESS\_LINE\_2 – Used for communications

ADDRESS\_LINE\_3 – Used for communications  
CITY – Used for communications  
STATE\_CODE\_KEY – Used for communications  
ZIPCODE – Used for communications  
PRIMARY\_PHONE\_NUMBER – Used for communications with the user  
SECONDARY\_PHONE\_NUMBER – Used for communications with the user  
EMAIL\_ADDRESS – Used for communications with the user  
BRANCH\_OF\_SERVICE – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system  
BASD\_DATE (Basic Active Service Date) – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system  
CHARACTER\_OF\_SERVICE – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system  
REASON\_FOR\_SEPARATION – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system  
IP\_ADDRESS – Used for audit and application tracing

## **2.2 What types of tools are used to analyze data and what type of data may be produced?**

*Many systems sift through large amounts of information in response to a user inquiry or programmed functions. Systems may help identify areas that were previously not obvious and need additional research by agents, analysts, or other employees. Some systems perform complex analytical tasks resulting in, among other types of data, matching, relational analysis, scoring, reporting, or pattern analysis. Describe any type of analysis the system conducts and the data that is created from the analysis.*

*If the system creates or makes available new or previously unutilized information about an individual, explain what will be done with the newly derived information. Will it be placed in the individual's existing record? Will a new record be created? Will any action be taken against or for the individual identified because of the newly derived data? If a new record is created, will the newly created information be accessible to Government employees who make determinations about the individual? If so, explain fully under which circumstances and by whom that information will be used.*

*This question is related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, DI-2, Data Integrity and Integrity Board, and SE-1, Inventory of Personally Identifiable Information*

Application data inputs are checked to enforce applicable format and acceptable range compliance consistent with DGI requirements such as required fields. Data is checked by system audits, as well as, manual verifications, for example, data such as annual Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rates update. The system must collect all the data types/fields to verify the correct Veteran is receiving the correct benefits he/she is entitled to. Should new data be made available that was either previously unutilized or is new to the individual record, the existing Veteran record would be updated to incorporate that new data. Any newly derived information may be used to make additional determinations about the individual claimant record. One such example would be claim payment adjustments due to housing payment calculation logic changes in support of newly introduced Government legislation. Such determinations undergo rigorous consultation and thorough testing with Education Services Business sponsors in accordance with DGI system agile practices to support any necessary user interface, data model, application data

processing, etc. updates to assure desired results based on the recently introduced legislation policy.

### **2.3 How is the information in the system secured?**

*2.3a What measures are in place to protect data in transit and at rest?*

*2.3b If the system is collecting, processing, or retaining Social Security Numbers, are there additional protections in place to protect SSNs?*

*This question is related to security and privacy controls SC-9, Transmission Confidentiality, and SC-28, Protection of Information at Rest*

2.3a- Both data in transit and data at rest are protected by FIPS validated encryption algorithms. All data within DGI is encrypted at rest using AWS KMS. Data in transit utilizes standard encrypted protocols such as SSH and TLS (TLS 1.2). Insecure ports and protocols are blocked at the firewall.

2.3b - While all data is protected to the same technical standard (encryption at rest and in transit) there are additional handling measures utilized with social security numbers such as minimizing the use of SSNs wherever possible using internal unique identifiers, ensuring redaction of SSN data from any system audits, ensuring SSN data is not utilized where it may be accessed insecurely such as within a URI query string, and other security considerations as the use case dictates.

### **2.4 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Use of the information. How is access to the PII determined? Are criteria, procedures, controls, and responsibilities regarding access documented? Does access require manager approval? Is access to the PII being monitored, tracked, or recorded? Who is responsible for assuring safeguards for the PII?**

*Describe any types of controls that may be in place to ensure that information is handled in accordance with the uses described above. Example: Describe if training for users of the project covers how to appropriately use information. Describe the disciplinary programs or system controls (i.e. denial of access) that are in place if an individual is inappropriately using the information.*

*Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:*

*Principle of Transparency: Is the PIA and SORN, if applicable, clear about the uses of the information?*

*Principle of Use Limitation: Is the use of information contained in the system relevant to the mission of the project?*

*This question is related to privacy control AR-4, Privacy Monitoring and Auditing, AR-5, Privacy Awareness and Training, and SE-2, Privacy Incident response.*

The SORN defines the information collected from veterans, use of the information, and how the information is accessed and stored. The information collected is used for determining a veteran's benefits, such as compensation or education.

Users of the application all have roles based on job requirements and sensitivity of data that is needed to complete job functions. Only approved users can see veteran's information that

matches their job role/level. This is enforced via a Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) assertion that follows the user throughout the application.

The security controls for the DGI cover 17 security areas with regard to protecting the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of VA information systems and the information processed, stored, and transmitted by those systems. The security areas include: access control; awareness and training; audit and accountability; certification, accreditation, and security assessments; configuration management; contingency planning; identification and authentication; incident response; maintenance; media protection; physical and environmental protection; planning; personnel security; risk assessment; systems and services acquisition; system and communications protection; and system and information integrity. The DGI team has implemented the required security controls based on the tailoring guidance of NIST Special Publication 800-53 Rev 4 and VA directives or handbooks. VA Records Management Policy VA 6300.1, VA 6500 HB, National Rules of Behavior (ROB), and VA 6502.1, VA6502.3, VA 6502.4 Privacy Policies govern how veterans' information is used, stored, and protected.

## Section 3. Retention of Information

The following questions are intended to outline how long information will be retained after the initial collection.

### 3.1 What information is retained?

*Identify and list all information collected from question 1.1 that is retained by the system. This question is related to privacy controls DM-1, Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information, and DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal*

VA\_PERSON\_ID – Individual Identifier

VA\_FILE\_NUMBER – Individual Identifier

SOCIAL\_SECURITY\_NUMBER – Individual Identifier

FIRST\_NAME – Individual Identifier

LAST\_NAME – Individual Identifier

MIDDLE\_NAME – Individual Identifier

DATE\_OF\_BIRTH – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system

DATE\_OF\_DEATH – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system

GENDER – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system

ADDRESS\_LINE\_1 – Used for communications

ADDRESS\_LINE\_2 – Used for communications

ADDRESS\_LINE\_3 – Used for communications

CITY – Used for communications

STATE\_CODE\_KEY – Used for communications

ZIPCODE – Used for communications

PRIMARY\_PHONE\_NUMBER – Used for communications with the user

SECONDARY\_PHONE\_NUMBER – Used for communications with the user

EMAIL\_ADDRESS – Used for communications with the user

BRANCH\_OF\_SERVICE – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system  
BASD\_DATE (Basic Active Service Date) – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system  
CHARACTER\_OF\_SERVICE – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system  
REASON\_FOR\_SEPARATION – Used for entitlement benefit calculations in the system  
IP\_ADDRESS – Used for audit and application tracing

### **3.2 How long is information retained?**

*In some cases VA may choose to retain files in active status and archive them after a certain period of time. State active file retention periods, as well as archived records, in number of years, for the information and record types. For example, financial data held within your system may have a different retention period than medical records or education records held within your system, please be sure to list each of these retention periods. If the system is using cloud technology, will it be following the NARA approved retention length and schedule?*

*The VA records officer should be consulted early in the development process to ensure that appropriate retention and destruction schedules are implemented. This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.*

The SORN will be updated within the next year to include Cloud specific information regarding retention and retrieval of information. Until such time it is put in place DGI will maintain all records.

SORN 58VA21/22/28 states:

Compensation, pension, and vocational rehabilitation claims file folders are retained at the servicing regional office until they are inactive for three years, after which they are transferred to the Records Management Center (RMC) for the life of the veteran. At the death of the veteran, these records are sent to the Federal Records Center (FRC), and maintained by the FRC for 75 years, and thereafter, destroyed. Some claims files folders are electronically imaged, in which case, the electronic file folder is maintained in the same manner as the claims file folder.

Once a file is electronically imaged and accepted by VA, its paper contents (with the exception of service treatment records and official legal documents), are destroyed in accordance with Records Control Schedule VB–1 Part 1 Section XIII, as authorized by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) of the United States.

Vocational Rehabilitation counseling records are maintained until the exhaustion of a veteran's maximum entitlement or upon the exceeding of a veteran's delimiting date of eligibility (generally, ten or twelve years from discharge or release from active duty), whichever occurs first, and then destroyed. Automated storage media containing temporary working information are retained until a claim is decided, and then destroyed. All other automated storage media are retained and disposed of in accordance with disposition authorization approved by NARA. Education electronic file folders are retained at the servicing Regional Processing Office. Education folders may be destroyed in accordance with the times set forth in the Veterans Benefits Administration Records Management, Records Control Schedule VB–1, Part 1, Section VII, as authorized by NARA.

Employee productivity records are maintained for two years after which they are destroyed by shredding or burning. File information for CAIVRS is provided to HUD by VA on magnetic

tape. After information from the tapes has been read into the computer the tapes are returned to VA for updating. HUD does not keep separate copies of the tapes.

Audit event data such as system access logs are retained for 365 days. Any trace level data will be retained for the duration of its usefulness to facilitate system operations and diagnostics, not exceed 365 days.

The System meets the requirements of the 36 CFR XII – National Archives and Records Administration, SUBCHAPTER B – Records Management, which prescribes policies for Federal agencies' records management programs relating to records creation and maintenance, adequate documentation, and proper records disposition. The regulations in this subchapter implement the provisions of 44 U.S.C. Chapters 21, 29, 31, and 33. These regulations apply to Federal agencies as defined in 36 C.F.R. § 1220.18.

**3.3 Has the retention schedule been approved by the VA records office and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)? If so please indicate the name of the records retention schedule.**

*An approved records schedule must be obtained for any IT system that allows the retrieval of a record via a personal identifier. The VA records officer will assist in providing a proposed schedule. The schedule must be formally offered to NARA for official approval. Once NARA approves the proposed schedule, the VA records officer will notify the system owner. This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.*

Yes, the DGI uses the Veterans Benefits Administration Records Management, Records Control Schedule (RCS) VB–1, Part 1, Section VII approved by NARA.

[Admin20, Rcs, Part 1, Introduction \(va.gov\)](#)

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvbaw.vba.va.gov%2FOFAA%2Fdocs%2FRecordsControlScheduleVB1PartIField.pdf&data=04%7C01%7C%7C4adb0db8f9384a8fb21c08d96cb3d00d%7Ce95f1b23abaf45ee821db7ab251ab3bf%7C0%7C0%7C637660341801728413%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=lOw6cAlkhZ04xQuky86azNz36KPXGMeBNIDS4TP11Uo%3D&reserved=0>

**3.4 What are the procedures for the elimination of SPI?**

*Explain how records are destroyed or eliminated at the end of the retention period. Please give the details of the process. For example, are paper records shredded on site, or by a shredding company and accompanied by a certificate of destruction, etc?*

*This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal*

DGI will adhere to VBA Letter 20-21-04, Records and Information Management, VA 6300 Records and Information Management when the records are authorized for destruction (or upon

system decommission), will be carried out in as detailed in NIST SP800-88 Rev 1 Section 2.6 Use of Cryptography and Cryptographic Erase.

### **3.5 Does the system, where feasible, use techniques to minimize the risk to privacy by using PII for research, testing, or training?**

*Organizations often use PII for testing new applications or information systems prior to deployment. Organizations also use PII for research purposes and for training. These uses of PII increase the risks associated with the unauthorized disclosure or misuse of the information. Please explain what controls have been implemented to protect PII used for testing, training and research. Have policies and procedures been developed to minimize the use of PII for testing, training, and research? This question is related to privacy control DM-3, Minimization of PII Used in Testing, Training and Research*

The DGI application only uses PII within the Production (PRD) and Integration (INT) environments. The Production (PRD) environment is composed of production and preproduction instances, meanwhile the Integration (INT) environment is composed of User Acceptance Test (UAT) and Performance Test (PERF) instances. The Integration environments uses the same information found in the Production environment. This is to test if system and application changes would affect performance or stability within the Production environment. Both PRD and INT environments are held to the Moderate impact baseline. The Production environment does not conduct testing. Development (DEV) and Integrated Verification and Validation (IVV) instances contain generic sanitized data.

### **3.6 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Retention of information**

*Discuss the risks associated with the length of time data is retained and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.*

*While we understand that establishing retention periods for records is a formal process, there are policy considerations behind how long a project keeps information. The longer a project retains information, the longer it needs to secure the information and assure its accuracy and integrity. The proposed schedule should match the requirements of the Privacy Act to keep the minimum amount of PII for the minimum amount of time, while meeting the Federal Records Act. The schedule should align with the stated purpose and mission of the system.*

*Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:*

*Principle of Minimization: Does the project retain only the information necessary for its purpose? Is the PII retained only for as long as necessary and relevant to fulfill the specified purposes?*

*Principle of Data Quality and Integrity: Has the PIA described policies and procedures for how PII that is no longer relevant and necessary is purged?*

*This question is related to privacy controls DM-1, Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information, and DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.*

Follow the format below:

### **Privacy Risk:**

There is a risk that the information maintained by DGI could be retained for longer than is necessary to fulfill the VA mission. Records held longer than required are at greater risk of being unintentionally released or breached.

### **Mitigation:**

To mitigate the risk posed by information retention, DGI adheres to the VA RCS schedules for each category or data it maintains. When the retention data is reached for a record, the system owner will carefully dispose of the data by the determined method as described in question 3.4. VA Handbook 6500 contains the policies and responsibilities that VA components are required to follow to manage data breaches, including detection, correlation, notification, remediation, and reporting.

All environments containing PII follows the requirements of a Moderate level system detailed in the VA 6500 Handbook. This ensures that all data is protected based on the level of information contained within the system.

## **Section 4. Internal Sharing/Receiving/Transmitting and Disclosure**

The following questions are intended to define the scope of information sharing/receiving/transmitting within VA.

### **4.1 With which internal organizations is information shared/received/transmitted? What information is shared/received/transmitted, and for what purpose? How is the information transmitted?**

**NOTE: Question 3.10 (second table) on Privacy Threshold Analysis should be used to answer this question.**

*Identify and list the names of any program offices, contractor-supported IT systems, and any other organization or IT system within VA with which information is shared.*

*State the purpose for the internal sharing. If you have specific authority to share the information, provide a citation to the authority.*

*For each interface with a system outside your program office, state what specific data elements (PII/PHI) are shared with the specific program office, contractor-supported IT system, and any other organization or IT system within VA.*

*Describe how the information is transmitted. For example, is the information transmitted electronically, by paper, or by some other means? Is the information shared in bulk, on a case-by-case basis, or does the sharing partner have direct access to the information?*

*This question is related to privacy controls AP-2, Purpose Specification, AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers, AR-8, Accounting of Disclosures, TR-1, Privacy Notice, and UL-1, Internal Use.*

Data Shared with Internal Organizations

<i>List the Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with</i>	<i>List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system</i>	<i>List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT system</i>	<i>Describe the method of transmittal</i>
Identity and Access Management Assessing (IAM)	DGI Interface with IAM for user provisioning/credentialing. DGI interface with VA Master Person Index ( <b>VA MPI</b> ) for claimant/beneficiary identification and contact information. MPI is the new predominant data repository.	VA_PERSON_ID SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH GENDER EMAIL_ADDRESS	Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS)
ID.me (Id.me-e)	DGI Interface with Identity providers SSOe, <b>ID.me</b> , DS Logon and My HealthVet. Identity providers manage identity verification, including for claimants made eligible by new legislation.	VA_PERSON_ID SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH GENDER EMAIL_ADDRESS	HTTPS
VA DoD Identity Repository (VDR)	DGI Interface with <b>VDR</b> to obtain Military Service information. VDR data is used to prepopulate claimant service data to facilitate claims adjudication. It provides user service history from the DOD and is a key component in calculating entitlement authorizations.	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION	HTTPS

<i>List the Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with</i>	<i>List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system</i>	<i>List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT system</i>	<i>Describe the method of transmittal</i>
Benefits Delivery Network (BDN)	<p>DGI interface with <b>BDN</b>, a system used to pay education benefits. BDN (<b>ECAP, NEWMAN</b>) provides authoritative information on claims payments for DGI that is needed to determine payment history and to facilitate future payments.</p> <p><b>VRAP</b> (part of Chapter 30 on the BDN): To support VRAP benefits that have not been transferred to Chapter 33 and remaining 1607 beneficiaries, the Contractor shall provide a means for VA to manually review, manage workload, and finalize claims that cannot be processed through standard, approved, processes to include claims that are not ingested through automated intake services.</p>	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION	HTTPS
Common Security Services (CSS)	DGI interface with <b>CorpDB CSS</b> , a central VA database for the sensitivity level.	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE	HTTPS

<i>List the Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with</i>	<i>List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system</i>	<i>List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT system</i>	<i>Describe the method of transmittal</i>
		BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION	
VBA Corporate Infrastructure (CRP/BEP)	DGI interface with Corporate Database ( <b>CRP</b> ) to store historical and archival information	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION	HTTPS
Interactive Voice Response (IVR)	DGI interface with <b>IVR</b> , a telephone application allowing students to complete & transfer monthly verifications of enrollment to release monthly housing payments (CH 30 only).	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER	HTTPS

<i>List the Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with</i>	<i>List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system</i>	<i>List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT system</i>	<i>Describe the method of transmittal</i>
		EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION	
Veterans Service Network (VET)	<b>VETSNET</b> is the legacy suite of applications. DGI interface with the Personal Computer Generated Letters ( <b>PCGL</b> ), an application for non-automate generated letters that interprets a meta language used to generate letter response to cases, with an interface to allow for prompting of input data. <b>SHARE</b> updates both legacy and corporate information with one transaction.	FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME PARTIAL_SSN (last 4) ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE	Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP)
AITC Facility (AITC)	Austin Information Technology Center (AITC) hosts on-premise information systems in support of the Veterans Experience. DGI interface with AITC to interface with the Pinnacle Data Systems (PDS) / <b>Government Printing Office (GPO)</b> for all Education Service printing.	Last 4 digits of SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE	SFTP
EDU PITC Web Applications (EDU)  To be decommissioned once DGI replaces the functionality.	VA Online Certification of Enrollment ( <b>VA-ONCE</b> ) Enrollment System supplies enrollment data needed for calculations. Web Automated Verification of Enrollment ( <b>WAVE</b> ) provides monthly verifications of enrollment and release payments. It allows students to submit changes to Educational PROs.	FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER	SFTP

<i>List the Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with</i>	<i>List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system</i>	<i>List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT system</i>	<i>Describe the method of transmittal</i>
Web Enabled Approval Management System (WEA)  To be decommissioned once DGI replaces the functionality.	<b>WEAMS/WEAMS Public</b> data is extracted and sent to DGI. the DGI stores the housing and tuition data for determination of award for the veteran. Flight, On-the-job training, Correspondence, Apprenticeship System ( <b>FOCAS</b> ) processes non-Ch33 out-of-system claims. Work Study Management System ( <b>WSMS</b> ) processes work-study applications and supplemental time sheets.	No PII/PHI, contains School Name, School Address, Facility Name, Housing Payment Rates, School Programs	SFTP
Education Lan Applications (ELA)	DGI modernize the workflow processing in TIMS to be supported by DGI-provided services. It will interface with VBMS eFolder to receive digital images of data. <b>TIMS</b> Facilitates manual claims processing workflow management.	FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER VA_FILE_NUMBER	SFTP
Performance Analysis and Integrity Reporting (PA&I) Business Intelligence (VD3)	DGI interface with the Data Warehouse / Performance, Analysis, and Integrity to provide Business Analytics and Reporting to VBA Office. The VBA PA&I receives real-time status updates and other information on the claims and backlog inventory data from DGI.	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE	SFTP

<i>List the Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with</i>	<i>List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system</i>	<i>List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT system</i>	<i>Describe the method of transmittal</i>
		BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION	
Veterans-Facing Services Platform-Va.gov (VFSP-Va.gov)	DGI interface with <b>VA.gov</b> , a web-based application(s) that allows the submission of various VA forms electronically to provide access to the DGI provided services. DGI interface with the Government email server and VA Twilio to communicate with stakeholders. <b>GI Bill Comparison Tool</b> publishes information about EF/TFs allowing beneficiaries to compare EF/TF performance. <b>Tool/Feedback Tool</b> allows beneficiaries to provide feedback to VBA EDU on potential issues via va.gov.	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION	HTTPS
VR&E Case Management Solution (CMS)	DGI interface with the Veteran Readiness and Employment Case Management Solution ( <b>VR&amp;E CMS</b> ). VR&E processes Chapter 31 claims and set to replace CWINRS. It is anticipated that VR&E CMS is a replacement of legacy CWINRS/ Corp WINRS/Corporate WINRS	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER	HTTPS
VA Profile	<b>VAPRO</b> provides single source of truth for Veteran data across all VA systems. Synchronizes name, phone/email, address, military personnel data, awards, disability ratings.	FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY	HTTPS

<i>List the Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with</i>	<i>List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system</i>	<i>List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT system</i>	<i>Describe the method of transmittal</i>
		STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION Awards Disability Ratings Health Benefits Other demographic data	
Veterans Benefits Management Systems (VBMS) Cloud Assessing	DGI interface with <b>VBMS eFolder</b> to access Education claim-related documents that have been processed by the Government's scanning vendor.	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION	HTTPS
BIP Assessing (BIP)	DGI interface with Enterprise Management of Payments, Workload, and Reporting ( <b>eMPWR-VA</b> ) for processing of VBA EDU payments and overpayments, offsets, withholdings and updates to	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH	HTTPS

<i>List the Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with</i>	<i>List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system</i>	<i>List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are shared/received with the Program Office or IT system</i>	<i>Describe the method of transmittal</i>
	budgetary data and General Ledger (GL). Additionally, DGI will receive transaction success/failure status from eMPWR-VA to allow for resubmission of failed transactions.	DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION	
Enterprise Veterans Self Service Portal (EVSS)	<b>E-Benefits</b> provides benefit related information to wounded warriors, veterans, service members and their beneficiary and those who care for them.	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER	HTTPS
Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (CWI)  To be replaced by VR&E CMS.	Corporate Waco-Indianapolis-Newark-Roanoke-Seattle ( <b>CWINRS</b> ) uses LTS data to update its case management toolset which tracks a veteran's progress through employment and/or rehabilitation benefit paths and provides training and educational counseling services. Processes VR&E Chapter 31 claims.	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER	HTTPS
CSOC Vulnerability Scanning System Assessing (CSOC VSS)	The CSOC provides vulnerability management system scanning and VA log aggregation.	IP_ADDRESS	HTTPS

#### **4.2 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Internal sharing and disclosure**

*Discuss the privacy risks associated with the sharing of information within the Department and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.*

*This question is related to privacy control UL-1, Internal Use.*

Follow the format below:

##### **Privacy Risk:**

The privacy risk associate with maintaining PII is that sharing data within the Department of Veterans' Affairs could happen, and that the data may be disclosed to individuals who do not require access and heightens the threat of the information being misused.

##### **Mitigation:**

All employees/contractors with access to Veterans' information are required to complete the VA Privacy and Information Security Awareness training and Rules of Behavior annually.

Information is shared in accordance with VA Handbook 6500

The principle of need-to-know is strictly adhered by DGI personnel. Only personnel with a clear business purpose are allowed access to the system and the information contained within. This action adheres to the idea of least privilege and need to know found in the VA 6500 Handbook. Access to the DGI Production application requires a VA issued identity assertion via SSOi or SSOe along with the proper IAM permissions for login.

## **Section 5. External Sharing/Receiving and Disclosure**

The following questions are intended to define the content, scope, and authority for information sharing external to VA, which includes Federal, State, and local governments, and the private sector.

**5.1 With which external organizations (outside VA) is information shared/received? What information is shared/received, and for what purpose? How is the information transmitted and what measures are taken to ensure it is secure?**

**Is the sharing of information outside the agency compatible with the original collection? If so, is it covered by an appropriate routine use in a SORN? If not, please describe under what legal mechanism the IT system is allowed to share the information in identifiable form or personally identifiable information outside of VA.**

**NOTE: Question 3.11 on Privacy Threshold Analysis should be used to answer this question.**

*Identify and list the names of any Federal, State, or local government agency or private sector organization with which information is shared.*

*For each interface with a system outside VA, state what specific data elements (PII/PHI) are shared with each specific partner.*

*What legal mechanisms, authoritative agreements, documentation, or policies are in place detailing the extent of the sharing and the duties of each party? For example, is the sharing of data compatible with your SORN? Then list the SORN and the applicable routine use from the SORN. Is there a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Computer Matching Agreement (CMA), or law that mandates the sharing of this information?*

*Describe how the information is transmitted to entities external to VA and what security measures have been taken to protect it during transmission.*

*This question is related to privacy control UL-2, Information Sharing with Third Parties*

*Data Shared with External Organizations*

<b>List External Program Office or IT System information is shared/received with</b>	<b>List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted with the specified program office or IT system</b>	<b>List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are shared/received with the Program or IT system</b>	<b>List the legal authority, binding agreement, SORN routine use, etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)</b>	<b>List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data</b>
Amazon Web Services (AWS)	The majority of DGI systems and information are hosted in AWS GovCloud	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION IP_ADDRESS	SORN 58VA21/22/28 Routine Use #6	HTTPS SFTP

Mulesoft	Provides API integration services with the VA and the DGI managed service.	VA_PERSON_ID VA_FILE_NUMBER SOCIAL_SECURITY_NUMBER FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME DATE_OF_BIRTH DATE_OF_DEATH GENDER ADDRESS_LINE_1 ADDRESS_LINE_2 ADDRESS_LINE_3 CITY STATE_CODE_KEY ZIPCODE PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER SECONDARY_PHONE_NUMBER EMAIL_ADDRESS BRANCH_OF_SERVICE BASD_DATE CHARACTER_OF_SERVICE REASON_FOR_SEPARATION IP_ADDRESS	SORN 58VA21/22/28 Routine Use #6	HTTPS SFTP
DynaTrace	Provides application performance monitoring and tracing.	IP_ADDRESS	SORN 58VA21/22/28 Routine Use #6	HTTPS
Cisco Duo Federal	Provides multi-factor authentication services for internal platform components.	FIRST_NAME LAST_NAME MIDDLE_NAME EMAIL_ADDRESS IP_ADDRESS  This is for DGI Staff accounts on the system, not personal information. No veteran information is synced with Duo.	SORN 58VA21/22/28 Routine Use #6	HTTPS
Accenture XDR	Performs monitoring of application and system access logs for tracing of security event audits.	IP_ADDRESS	SORN 58VA21/22/28 Routine Use #6	HTTPS
SentinelOne	Provides Antivirus/Antimalware and endpoint Extended Detection and Response services.	IP_ADDRESS	SORN 58VA21/22/28 Routine Use #6	HTTPS
Twilio	Provides SMS capabilities to DGI for user communications	PRIMARY_PHONE_NUMBER	SORN 58VA21/22/28	HTTPS

	such as enrollment verification check-ins.		Routine Use #6	
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**If specific measures have been taken to meet the requirements of OMB Memoranda M-06-15 and M-06-16, note them here.**

In order to protect veteran personally identifiable information (PII) the following activities occur as part of the overall information assurance activities:

1. The information with each application is categorized in accordance with FIPS 199 and NIST SP 800-60. As part of the categorization any PII is identified.
2. The VA has policies which direct and guide the activities and processes performed by the VA. The policies are periodically reviewed to ensure completeness and applicability.
3. The NIST SP 800-53 controls are selected based on the categorization. The controls provide protection for veteran PII while developed or stored by an application or IT system, least privilege, stored offsite.
4. Internal protection is managed by access controls such as user IDs and passwords, authentication, awareness and training, auditing, and internal network controls. Remote protection is provided by remote access control, authenticator management, audit, and encrypted transmission.

**5.2 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: External sharing and disclosure**

*Discuss the privacy risks associated with the sharing of information outside the Department and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.*

*Discuss whether access controls have been implemented and whether audit logs are regularly reviewed to ensure appropriate sharing outside of the Department. For example, is there a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU), contract, or agreement in place with outside agencies or foreign governments.*

*Discuss how the sharing of information outside of the Department is compatible with the stated purpose and use of the original collection.*

*This question is related to privacy control AR-2, Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment, AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers, and AR-4, Privacy Monitoring and Auditing*

Follow the format below:

**Privacy Risk:**

The privacy risk associated with maintaining PII is that sharing data outside of the Department of Veteran’s Affairs could increase the risk that data may be disclosed to individuals who do not require access and heightens the threat of the information being misused.

**Mitigation:**

The principle of least privilege is strictly adhered to by the DGI personnel. Only authorized personnel that have authenticated to the system are allowed access to the system and the information contained within the system. Security controls from the VA 6500 Handbook are implemented and constantly reviewed to determine if changes to information sharing need to be changed.

## Section 6. Notice

The following questions are directed at providing notice to the individual of the scope of information collected, the right to consent to uses of the information, and the right to decline to provide information.

**6.1 Was notice provided to the individual before collection of the information? If yes, please provide a copy of the notice as an appendix. (A notice may include a posted privacy policy, a Privacy Act notice on forms, or a system of records notice published in the Federal Register.) If notice was not provided, why not?**

*This question is directed at the notice provided before collection of the information. This refers to whether the person is aware that his or her information is going to be collected. A notice may include a posted privacy policy, a Privacy Act statement on forms, or a SORN published in the Federal Register. If notice was provided in the Federal Register, provide the citation.*

*If notice was not provided, explain why. If it was provided, attach a copy of the current notice.*

*Describe how the notice provided for the collection of information is adequate to inform those affected by the system that their information has been collected and is being used appropriately. Provide information on any notice provided on forms or on Web sites associated with the collection. This question is related to privacy control TR-1, Privacy Notice, and TR-2, System of Records Notices and Privacy Act Statements, and TR-3, Dissemination of Privacy Program Information.*

DGI does not collect any data from Veterans, it pulls data from other systems. If DGI begins collecting data directly from Veterans in the future the PTA/PIA will be updated to speak to it. The Department of Veterans Affairs does provide public notice that the system does exist. This notice is provided in 2 ways:

1. The System of Records Notice (SORN) “Compensation, Pension, Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records-VA”; 58VA21/22 SORN
  - a. SORN 58VA21/22/28 are located at:  
<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-14/pdf/2019-02315.pdf>
  - b. Amended SORNs are located at:
    - i. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2008-09-02/pdf/E8-20219.pdf>
    - ii. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2009-04-01/pdf/E9-7269.pdf>
    - iii. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2009-06-19/pdf/E9-14302.pdf>
    - iv. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-04-27/pdf/2010-9755.pdf>
    - v. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-19/pdf/2012-17507.pdf>

2. This Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) also serves as notice of the DGI. As required by the eGovernment Act of 2002, Pub.L. 107–347 §208(b)(1)(B)(iii), the Department of Veterans Affairs “after completion of the [PIA] under clause (ii), make the privacy impact assessment publicly available through the website of the agency, publication in the Federal Register, or other means”.

**6.2 Do individuals have the opportunity and right to decline to provide information? If so, is a penalty or denial of service attached?**

*This question is directed at whether the person from or about whom information is collected can decline to provide the information and if so, whether a penalty or denial of service is attached. This question is related to privacy control IP-1, Consent, IP-2, Individual Access, and IP-3, Redress*

All information collected from other government sources and systems listed in section 1.2. Depending on the information required, some data collection is mandatory while others are voluntary. Failure to provide information may result in denial of compensation and pension benefits. Veterans and their family or guardian (spouse, children, parents, grandparents, etc.) may not decline or request their information not be included as part to determine eligibility and entitlement for VA compensation and pension benefits and designate a guardian to manage the VA compensation and pension benefits.

**6.3 Do individuals have the right to consent to particular uses of the information? If so, how does the individual exercise the right?**

*This question is directed at whether an individual may provide consent for specific uses or the consent is given to cover all uses (current or potential) of his or her information. If specific consent is required, how would the individual consent to each use?*

*This question is related to privacy control IP-1, Consent*

Depending on the information required, some data collection is mandatory while others are voluntary. Failure to provide information may result in denial of compensation and pension benefits. Veterans and their family or guardian (spouse, children, parents, grandparents, etc.) may not decline or request their information not be included as part to determine eligibility and entitlement for VA compensation and pension benefits and designate a guardian to manage the VA compensation and pension benefits.

**6.4 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Notice**

*Describe the potential risks associated with potentially insufficient notice and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.*

*Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:*

*Principle of Transparency: Has sufficient notice been provided to the individual?*

*Principle of Use Limitation: Is the information used only for the purpose for which notice was provided either directly to the individual or through a public notice? What procedures are in place to ensure that information is used only for the purpose articulated in the notice?*

*This question is related to privacy control TR-1, Privacy Notice, AR-2, Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment, and UL-1, Internal Use*

Follow the format below:

**Privacy Risk:**

There is a risk that individuals may not been given notice of the DGI or the data contained in that system.

**Mitigation:**

The VA mitigates this risk by providing the public with two forms of notice that the system exists, as discussed in detail in question 6.1, including the Privacy Act statement and a System of Record Notice (SORN).

## **Section 7. Access, Redress, and Correction**

The following questions are directed at an individual's ability to ensure the accuracy of the information collected about him or her.

### **7.1 What are the procedures that allow individuals to gain access to their information?**

*Cite any procedures or regulations your program has in place that allow access to information. These procedures, at a minimum, should include the agency's FOIA/Privacy Act practices, but may also include additional access provisions. For example, if your program has a customer satisfaction unit, that information, along with phone and email contact information, should be listed in this section in addition to the agency's procedures. See 5 CFR 294 and the VA FOIA Web page at <http://www.foia.va.gov/> to obtain information about FOIA points of contact and information about agency FOIA processes.*

*If the system is exempt from the access provisions of the Privacy Act, please explain the basis for the exemption or cite the source where this explanation may be found, for example, a Final Rule published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).*

*If the system is not a Privacy Act system, please explain what procedures and regulations are in place that covers an individual gaining access to his or her information.*

*This question is related to privacy control IP-2, Individual Access, and AR-8, Accounting of Disclosures.*

Individuals wishing to obtain more information about access, redress and record correction of the Digital GI Platform should contact the Department of Veteran's Affairs regional office as directed in the System of Record Notice (SORN) 58VA21/22/28 SORN and can be found at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-14/pdf/2019-02315.pdf>

## **7.2 What are the procedures for correcting inaccurate or erroneous information?**

*Describe the procedures and provide contact information for the appropriate person to whom such issues should be addressed. If the correction procedures are the same as those given in question 7.1, state as much.*

*This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress, and IP-4, Complaint Management.*

Individuals wishing to obtain more information about access, redress and record correction of the Digital GI Platform should contact the Department of Veteran's Affairs regional office as directed in the System of Record Notice (SORN) 58VA21/22/28 SORN and can be found at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-14/pdf/2019-02315.pdf>

## **7.3 How are individuals notified of the procedures for correcting their information?**

*How are individuals made aware of the procedures for correcting his or her information? This may be through notice at collection or other similar means. This question is meant to address the risk that even if procedures exist to correct information, if an individual is not made fully aware of the existence of those procedures, then the benefits of the procedures are significantly weakened. This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress, and IP-4, Complaint Management.*

Individuals wishing to obtain more information about access, redress and record correction of the Digital GI Platform should contact the Department of Veteran's Affairs regional office as directed in the System of Record Notice (SORN) 58VA21/22/28 SORN and can be found at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-14/pdf/2019-02315.pdf>

## **7.4 If no formal redress is provided, what alternatives are available to the individual?**

*Redress is the process by which an individual gains access to his or her records and seeks corrections or amendments to those records. Redress may be provided through the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), and also by other processes specific to a program, system, or group of systems.*

*This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress, and IP-4, Complaint Management.*

*Example: Some projects allow users to directly access and correct/update their information online. This helps ensure data accuracy.*

Formal redress is provided in SORN 58VA21/22/28 SORN and can be found at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-14/pdf/2019-02315.pdf>

## **7.5 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Access, redress, and correction**

*Discuss what risks there currently are related to the Department's access, redress, and correction policies and procedures for this system and what, if any, steps have been taken to mitigate those risks. For example, if a project does not allow individual access, the risk of inaccurate data needs to be discussed in light of the purpose of the project. For example, providing access to ongoing law enforcement activities could negatively impact the program's effectiveness because the individuals involved might change their behavior.*

*Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:*

*Principle of Individual Participation: Is the individual provided with the ability to find out whether a project maintains a record relating to him?*

*Principle of Individual Participation: If access and/or correction is denied, then is the individual provided notice as to why the denial was made and how to challenge such a denial?*

*Principle of Individual Participation: Is there a mechanism by which an individual is able to prevent information about him obtained for one purpose from being used for other purposes without his knowledge?*

*This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress.*

Follow the format below:

### **Privacy Risk:**

There is a risk that individuals may seek to access, or redress records held in the DGI and become discouraged with the process of change.

### **Mitigation:**

By publishing this PIA, and the applicable SORN, the VA makes the public aware of the unique status of applications and evidence files, such as those stored on the Virtual VA platform. Furthermore, this document and the SORN provide the point of contact for members of the public who have questions or concerns about applications and evidence files.

## **Section 8. Technical Access and Security**

The following questions are intended to describe technical safeguards and security measures.

### **8.1 What procedures are in place to determine which users may access the system, and are they documented?**

*Describe the process by which an individual receives access to the system.*

*Identify users from other agencies who may have access to the system and under what roles these individuals have access to the system. Who establishes the criteria for what PII can be shared?*

*Describe the different roles in general terms that have been created to provide access to the system. For example, certain users may have "read-only" access while others may be permitted to make certain amendments or changes to the information.*

*This question is related to privacy control AR-7, Privacy-Enhanced System Design and Development.*

Per VA Directive and Handbook 6330, every 5 years the Office of Information Technology (OIT) develops, disseminates, and reviews/updates a formal, documented policy that addresses purpose, scope, roles, responsibilities, management commitment, coordination among organizational entities, and compliance; along with formal, documented procedures to facilitate the implementation of the control policy and associated controls.

VA documents and monitors individual information system security training activities including basic security awareness training and specific information system security training; and retains individual training records for 7 years. This documentation and monitoring are performed using VA's Talent Management System (TMS).

For the DGI, VA Identity and Access Management (IAM) provides the user management of all DGI application users. This control requires each person to have a unique username, account updates, and account disabling.

VA employees or contractors submit an IAM request by choosing the Chapter 33 application, select an applicable user role, facility, and access level. VCE and other application users do not have access to the underlying infrastructure such as operating systems or databases. This access is only given to system administrators.

Only VCE roles can edit veteran work products.

DGI Platform administrators request access to underlying systems by submitting a VA 9957 form to the system owner. This form includes type of access (i.e. database, server, windows, etc.), create, modify, or delete user, and access requested (i.e. read, write, execute permissions, specific environments). 9957 forms are then sent to the system owner for review and accepted if the system owner agrees a user needs access.

**8.2 Will VA contractors have access to the system and the PII? If yes, what involvement will contractors have with the design and maintenance of the system? Has a contractor confidentiality agreement, Business Associate Agreement (BAA), or a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) been developed for contractors who work on the system?**

*If so, how frequently are contracts reviewed and by whom? Describe the necessity of the access provided to contractors to the system and whether clearance is required. If Privacy Roles and Responsibilities have been established to restrict certain users to different access levels, please describe the roles and associated access levels. Explain the need for VA contractors to have access to the PII.*

*This question is related to privacy control AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers.*

Contractor access is verified through VA personnel before access is granted to any contractor. Contracts and contractor access are reviewed annually at a minimum. Elevated privileges are reviewed quarterly. The contractors who provide support to the system are required to complete annual VA Privacy and Information Security and Rules of behavior training via TMS. All contractors are cleared using the VA background investigation process and must obtain the appropriate background investigation for their role. Contractors with systems administrative access are required to complete additional role-based training prior to gaining system administrator access.

### **8.3 Describe what privacy training is provided to users either generally or specifically relevant to the program or system?**

*VA offers privacy and security training. Each program or system may offer training specific to the program or system that touches on information handling procedures and sensitivity of information. Please describe how individuals who have access to PII are trained to handle it appropriately. This question is related to privacy control AR-5, Privacy Awareness and Training.*

Personnel that will be accessing information systems must read and acknowledge their receipt and acceptance of the VA National Rules of Behavior (ROB) prior to gaining access to any VA information system or sensitive information. The rules are included as part of the VA Privacy and Information Security Awareness and Rules of Behavior (VA10176) training which all personnel must complete via the VA's Talent Management System (TMS). After the user's initial acceptance of the Rules, the user must re-affirm their acceptance annually as part of the security awareness training. Acceptance is obtained via electronic acknowledgment and is tracked through the TMS system. VA users with access to protected health information must complete mandatory HIPAA Privacy training annually in TMS.

### **8.4 Has Authorization and Accreditation (A&A) been completed for the system?**

*Yes*

- 1. The Security Plan Status = Signed*
- 2. The Security Plan Status Date = 30 April 2021*
- 3. The Authorization Status = Authorized, 180-day ATO*
- 4. The Authorization Date = 13 May 2021*
- 5. The Authorization Termination Date = 09 November 2021*
- 6. The Risk Review Completion Date = 12 May 2021*
- 7. The FIPS 199 classification of the system = MODERATE*

*Please note that all systems containing SPI are categorized at a minimum level of "moderate" under Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 199.*

## Section 9 – Technology Usage

The following questions are used to identify the technologies being used by the IT system or project.

### 9.1 Does the system use cloud technology?

*If so, Does the system have a FedRAMP provisional or agency authorization? If the system does use cloud technology, but does not have FedRAMP authorization, explain how the Cloud Service Provider (CSP) solution was assessed and what FedRAMP documents and processes were used for the assessment in order to comply with VA Handbook 6517.*

*This question is related to privacy control UL-1, Information Sharing with Third Parties.*

The DGI system consists of cloud technology from various vendors such as AWS GovCloud (FedRAMP High), Accenture XDR (FedRAMP Moderate), Mulesoft (FedRAMP Moderate), SentinelOne (FedRAMP Moderate), and Duo Federal (FedRAMP Moderate). DGI being a managed service will be assessed and authorized with all component FedRAMP artifacts included in the assessment.

### 9.2 Identify the cloud model being utilized.

*Example: Software as a Service (SaaS), Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), Commercial off the Shelf (COTS).*

*This question is related to privacy control UL-1, Information Sharing with Third Parties.*

DGI system utilizes a combination of SaaS, PaaS and IaaS cloud models internally within the managed service provided to the VA. AWS GovCloud (IaaS), Accenture XDR (SaaS), Mulesoft (PaaS), SentinelOne (SaaS), and Duo Federal (SaaS).

### 9.3 Does the contract with the Cloud Service Provider, Contractors and VA customers establish who has ownership rights over data including PII? (Provide contract number and supporting information about PII/PHI from the contract)

*This question is related to privacy control AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers.*

All data and business rules related to Veterans and service provision remain the property of the VA, and that processes be in place for VA to access / maintain copies of this data and business rules as required by the Department.

Contract: VA118-16-D-1013 36C10D21N0007

Task Order SOO Version Number: 1.0 dtd 12/30/20

**9.4 Will the CSP collect any ancillary data and if so, who has ownership over the ancillary data?**

*Per NIST 800-144, cloud providers hold significant details about the accounts of cloud consumers that could be compromised and used in subsequent attacks. Ancillary data also involves information the cloud provider collects or produces about customer-related activity in the cloud. It includes data collected to meter and charge for consumption of resources, logs and audit trails, and other such metadata that is generated and accumulated within the cloud environment.*

*This question is related to privacy control DI-1, Data Quality.*

While VA application metadata, audits, etc. will be controlled by DGI and owned by the VA, DGI CSPs will collect ancillary data necessary to provide the backend cloud service such as billing metrics and audit events when interacting with the CSP management plane. Such ancillary data will be owned by the respective CSP.

**9.5 NIST 800-144 states, “Organizations are ultimately accountable for the security and privacy of data held by a cloud provider on their behalf.” Is this principle described in contracts with customers? Why or why not?**

*What are the roles and responsibilities involved between the organization and cloud provider, particularly with respect to managing risks and ensuring organizational requirements are met?*

*This question is related to privacy control AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers.*

The Contractor shall manage aspects of interfacing/configuring automation/AI with VBA systems. This includes complying with the security requirements in VA Handbook 6500 and referenced NIST standards to safeguard the data of Veterans who depend upon VA. Security compliance includes obtaining and maintaining an agency-level Authority to Operate (ATO) which shall prevent the Contractor from processing transactions in production systems until complete.

Contract: VA118-16-D-1013 36C10D21N0007

Accenture T4NG-0557 DGIB Attachment B PWS

**9.6 If the system is utilizing Robotics Process Automation (RPA), please describe the role of the bots.**

*Robotic Process Automation is the use of software scripts to perform tasks as an automated process that executes in parallel with or in place of human input. For example, will the automation move or touch PII/PHI information. RPA may also be referred to as “Bots” or Artificial Intelligence (AI).*

N/A

## Section 9. References

### Summary of Privacy Controls by Family

*Summary of Privacy Controls by Family*

<b>ID</b>	<b>Privacy Controls</b>
<b>AP</b>	<b>Authority and Purpose</b>
AP-1	Authority to Collect
AP-2	Purpose Specification
<b>AR</b>	<b>Accountability, Audit, and Risk Management</b>
AR-1	Governance and Privacy Program
AR-2	Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment
AR-3	Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers
AR-4	Privacy Monitoring and Auditing
AR-5	Privacy Awareness and Training
AR-7	Privacy-Enhanced System Design and Development
AR-8	Accounting of Disclosures
<b>DI</b>	<b>Data Quality and Integrity</b>
DI-1	Data Quality
DI-2	Data Integrity and Data Integrity Board
<b>DM</b>	<b>Data Minimization and Retention</b>
DM-1	Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information
DM-2	Data Retention and Disposal
DM-3	Minimization of PII Used in Testing, Training, and Research
<b>IP</b>	<b>Individual Participation and Redress</b>
IP-1	Consent
IP-2	Individual Access
IP-3	Redress
IP-4	Complaint Management
<b>SE</b>	<b>Security</b>
SE-1	Inventory of Personally Identifiable Information
SE-2	Privacy Incident Response
<b>TR</b>	<b>Transparency</b>
TR-1	Privacy Notice
TR-2	System of Records Notices and Privacy Act Statements
TR-3	Dissemination of Privacy Program Information
<b>UL</b>	<b>Use Limitation</b>

<b>ID</b>	<b>Privacy Controls</b>
UL-1	Internal Use
UL-2	Information Sharing with Third Parties

**Signature of Responsible Officials**

**The individuals below attest that the information they provided in this Privacy Impact Assessment is true and accurate.**

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**Privacy Officer, Simon Caines**

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**Information System Security Officer, Bobbi Begay**

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**Information System Owner, Riley Ross**

## APPENDIX A-6.1

Please provide a link to the notice or verbiage referred to in Section 6 (a notice may include a posted privacy policy, a Privacy Act notice on forms).

<https://www.va.gov/privacy-policy/>