



August 2025

BENEFITS AWARDED

\$548,671

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

196

WALK-IN CLIENTS

479

CLAIMS FILED

210 Auditable

621 Total

**MEDI-CAL
VERIFICATIONS**

27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

July was a busy month for the San Francisco County Veterans Service Office. Despite an uptick in planned and unplanned leave from June to July, the CVSO realized a significant increase in most of the reported figures. July is also the beginning of the State and County fiscal year so there were annual and semi-annual reporting requirements to complete. The office also participated in an outreach event and helped coordinate the distribution of passes providing free entrance to National Parks and other federally owned lands

The SF CVSO saw higher numbers in all reported categories but 'Benefits Awarded' from June to July, possibly due in part to staff simply not attending a conference on one of the busiest days of the week for three weeks during June. The largest increases, 'Claims Filed', saw an almost across the board jump between June and July in some of the most common forms filed, including claims for initial benefits or increases, supplemental claims and claims for survivor's benefits. Another contributing factor was a huge increase in CA College Fee Waiver applications processed. Auditable Claims filed saw the largest percentage increase: 33.76%, from 157 in June to 210 in July, and All Claims increased from 477 in June to 621 in July, or 30.19%. There were an additional 45 appointments in July, up from 151 in June, a 29.8% increase, while walk-in clients increased by 46 from June to July, or 10.62%. 'Benefits Awarded', the only category that reduced from June to July, saw \$85,239 less in total retroactive plus ongoing monthly benefits awarded, a 13.45% decrease. This is likely just a function of either fewer claims having been posted in July compared to June or the claims that were posted had lesser amounts awarded.





Being the start of the new fiscal year also means there are several reporting requirements due in July. This includes the conclusion of the 2nd six-month period of the California Dept. of Veterans Affairs semi-annual audit that determines the local assistance funding CVSOs receive from the State. This audit reviews certain claims activities to ensure that they meet the criteria established by the Department. The program monitoring process for the Mental Health Services Act Prop. 63 grant, which is a pass-through grant from the SF CVSO to Swords to Plowshares via the California Dept. of Veterans Affairs, also wrapped up in July.

At the end of the month the SF CVSO hosted a National Park Service Ranger, who provided Lifetime Access passes and Military Access passes to eligible recipients, both veterans and non-veterans. The CVSO assisted with the marketing of the event through San Francisco Human Service Agency channels, including the CVSO webpage and SFHSA social media. The Ranger was able to provide around 25 passes of both types to clients of the DAS Hub throughout the time she spent there. The SF CVSO also participated in Swords to Plowshares' Vet Connect at the San Francisco War Memorial Building and provided direct assistance to nine Veterans, including three who had never previously engaged with a County Veterans Services Office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 28 As the start of the Fall term nears, the San Francisco County Veterans Services Office, in coordination with San Francisco State University, will host a CA College Fee Waiver Clinic at the San Francisco State University campus. The goal of the Clinic is to provide college students from San Francisco who are seeking to avail themselves of the CA College Fee Waiver either for the first time or who are resubmitting for the current academic year, with their award letter on the same day if they have all required documentation available. The Clinic will also serve as an informational event for eligible students attending a CA public institution of higher education who were not previously aware of this robust benefit, which is based on their Veteran parent's service-connected disability. (See attached flyer and checklist for information about eligibility, to register, and to see what documentation is required).

