

How the VA Rates Skin Conditions (Eczema, Dermatitis, etc.)

Regulatory Source: 38 CFR § 4.118 – Diagnostic Codes 7806, 7813, 7820

VA Source: <https://ecfr.gov>

Summary:

Skin conditions are rated by how much of the body or exposed areas they affect, and whether they require systemic medications like corticosteroids. Photos, prescriptions, and treatment logs are critical.

VA Rating Table:

Rating	Explanation
0%	Condition exists but does not affect enough of the body or require systemic treatment.
10%	At least 5%, but less than 20%, of the body or exposed areas affected, or intermittent systemic therapy like corticosteroids for less than 6 weeks in past 12 months.
30%	20%–40% of the body or exposed areas affected, or systemic therapy for more than 6 weeks but not constantly over 12 months.
60%	More than 40% of the body or exposed areas affected, or constant or near-constant systemic therapy required over past 12 months.

Required Evidence:

- Diagnosis of a skin condition (eczema, dermatitis, fungal, etc.)
- Photographic evidence or dermatologist reports
- Medical records showing body surface area affected
- Medication history (especially systemic therapy)
- Documentation of flare-ups or seasonal impact

Pro Tip:

If your condition flares seasonally, ask your doctor to document peak severity. Surface area is based on total skin, so even 5% can qualify if documented correctly.