

VA Accountability Through Scheduling Audit Reform Act of 2025

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “**VA Accountability Through Scheduling Audit Reform Act of 2025.**”

SECTION 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

1. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) relies on the **National Standardized Scheduling Audit Program** to monitor compliance with appointment scheduling requirements.
 2. These audits have become a “**check-the-box**” **exercise** that emphasize compliance reporting without demonstrating improved access to care or patient outcomes.
 3. Facilities often treat audit completion as a formality, with limited evidence that findings are acted upon or that corrective measures are effective.
 4. Oversight without impact constitutes wasted effort and undermines veterans’ trust.
 5. Independent evaluation and mandatory corrective action are necessary to ensure that audits serve their intended purpose of **improving access to care for veterans.**
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SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

1. **“Scheduling audit”** means any review conducted by VA or its designees to measure compliance with appointment scheduling standards.
 2. **“Corrective action plan”** means a documented, time-bound plan developed by a VA facility or VISN to address deficiencies identified in a scheduling audit.
 3. **“Public reporting”** means the posting of audit findings and corrective actions on a publicly accessible VA website.
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SECTION 4. GAO EVALUATION OF SCHEDULING AUDIT PROGRAM.

(a) **Evaluation Required.**— The Comptroller General shall conduct a **comprehensive evaluation** of the VA’s National Standardized Scheduling Audit Program within 12 months of enactment.

(b) **Scope of Evaluation.**— The evaluation shall determine whether the audit program:

1. Improves veterans’ access to timely care;
2. Identifies systemic scheduling weaknesses;
3. Produces actionable recommendations;
4. Requires redesign, replacement, or additional oversight.

(c) **Report.**— The GAO shall submit findings to Congress and make them available to the public.

SECTION 5. CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS.

(a) **Requirement.**— Any VA facility or VISN identified as noncompliant in a scheduling audit shall develop a **corrective action plan** within 60 days.

(b) **Content.**— Plans shall:

1. Identify deficiencies and their root causes;

2. Set specific, measurable goals for resolution;
3. Establish deadlines for corrective actions;
4. Assign responsible officials for implementation.

(c) **Review.**— Corrective action plans shall be reviewed and approved by the Veterans Health Administration central office, and progress shall be tracked by OIG.

SECTION 6. PUBLIC REPORTING.

(a) **Requirement.**— The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall publish on a publicly accessible website:

1. Results of scheduling audits;
2. Corrective action plans submitted by facilities;
3. Progress updates until deficiencies are resolved.

(b) **Frequency.**— Updates must occur at least quarterly.

SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT.

(a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure compliance with this Act not later than 180 days after enactment.

(b) The Comptroller General shall issue annual reports to Congress on the effectiveness of corrective actions and the impact of audit reforms on access to care.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect 180 days after enactment.