



Department of Veterans Affairs Senior Executive Biography

Rachel McArdle, PhD

Deputy Executive Director

Rehabilitation and Prosthetics Service, VHA

Rachel McArdle serves as the Deputy Executive Director, Rehabilitation and Prosthetics Service (RPS) for the Department of Veterans Affairs. She received her Ph.D. in cognitive and neural sciences from the University of South Florida and is an Associate Professor in the College of Health and Behavioural Sciences at the University of South Florida. Dr. McArdle is an audiologist by training and is a member of the American Academy of Audiology, the American Speech and Hearing Association, and the American Auditory Society. She has published 31 peer-reviewed papers, 12 non-peer-reviewed papers and 3 book chapters. Dr. McArdle has been an author on 57 national and international presentations. She also has been a primary investigator or co-investigator on 11 funded studies, 6 of which were large multi-site clinical trials. In her position as the Deputy Executive Director, she is responsible for the provision of all medical rehabilitation services across the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), including national programs for Audiology and Speech Pathology, Blind Rehabilitation Services, Chiropractic Care, National Adaptive Sports Programs, Recreational Therapy Services, Clinical Orthotic and Prosthetic Services/Labs, Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Services, and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Services. Dr. McArdle also supports administering RPS special programs, including Traumatic Brain Injury/Polytrauma System of Care, Amputation System of Care, Driver Rehabilitation and Driver Training programs, Advanced Technology Labs, and programs for Veterans qualified to receive VA benefits. Dr. McArdle interprets policies promulgated by senior VA officials and determines their effect on program needs and serves as an information resource and advisor to senior Government officials on matters of national significance. She provides leadership, consultation, and recommendations to medical centers in VHA across all Veterans Integrated Service Networks.



CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

2022 – Present	Deputy Executive Director, Rehabilitation and Prosthetics Service, VHACO
4/2025 – 8/2025	Acting Executive Director, Rehabilitation and Prosthetics Service, VHACO
2015 – Present	National Director, Audiology and Speech Pathology
2014 – 2015	Acting National Director, Audiology and Speech Pathology
2007 – 2014	Service Chief, Audiology and Speech Pathology, Bay Pines VA Healthcare System
2000 – 2007	Research Audiologist, Bay Pines VA Healthcare System
1997 – 2000	Pre-doctoral Fellowship, Bay Pines VA Healthcare System
1996 – 1997	Clinical Fellowship Year, Bay Pines VA Healthcare System
1995 – 1996	OAA traineeship, Bay Pines VA Healthcare System

EDUCATION:

2002	Doctor of Philosophy, Experimental Psychology, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
1996	Master of Science, Audiology, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
1994	Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL