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Expanded presumptive disability benefits for Vietnam Veterans

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By Bryan Lett

VBA Office of Communications

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Vietnam Veterans may be eligible for expanded VA disability compensation under the [PACT Act](#), a law passed in 2022 which increases access to VA benefits and health care for Veterans exposed to toxic substances during their military service.

If you are a Vietnam Veteran who served in any of the locations below, you may qualify for disability compensation due to certain medical conditions. VA considers these “presumptive locations”—meaning

that if you served in any of these places during the specified time periods, you do not have to prove that you were exposed to toxins, such as Agent Orange. VA automatically assumes you were.

Qualifying presumptive locations and dates include:

* represents new locations added under the PACT Act

- Republic of Vietnam or on a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975
- Korean demilitarized zone (DMZ) between Sept. 1, 1967, and Aug. 31, 1971
- Air Force or Air Force Reserve Veterans who regularly and repeatedly operated, maintained or served aboard a C-123 aircraft known to have been used for spraying herbicides.
- *Any U.S. or Royal Thai military base in Thailand from Jan. 9, 1962, through June 30, 1976
- *Laos from Dec. 1, 1965, through Sept. 30, 1969
- *Cambodia at Mimot or Krek, Kampong Cham Province from April 16, 1969, through April 30, 1969
- *Guam or American Samoa, or in the territorial waters off Guam or American Samoa from Jan. 9, 1962, through July 31, 1980
- *Johnston Atoll or on a ship that called at Johnston Atoll from Jan. 1, 1972, through Sept. 30, 1977

If you were exposed to Agent Orange—or have a presumption of exposure—and experience any of the below medical conditions, you may be eligible for VA disability compensation. VA considers these to be “presumptive conditions”—meaning that you do not have to prove that the condition was caused by your military service if you served in one of the locations and time periods listed above.

Qualifying presumptive conditions include:

* represents new conditions added under the PACT Act

- AL amyloidosis
- B-cell leukemia
- Chronic lymphocytic leukemia
- Chloracne (or other acne-form disease consistent with chloracne)
- Early-onset peripheral neuropathy
- Multiple myeloma
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus
- Hodgkin’s disease

- Ischemic heart disease (including but not limited to, coronary artery disease and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease)
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Parkinson's disease
- Parkinsonism
- Porphyria cutanea tarda
- Prostate cancer
- Respiratory cancers
- Soft-tissue sarcoma (not including osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma or mesothelioma)
- Bladder cancer
- Hypothyroidism
- *High blood pressure (hypertension)
- *Monoclonal gammopathy of underdetermined significance (MGUS)

Learn more

You can learn more about PACT Act benefits for Vietnam Veterans and how to file a claim for disability compensation by visiting va.gov/pact or calling 1-800-698-2411.

Visit benefits.va.gov/PERSONA/veteran-vietnam.asp to learn more about how VA supports Vietnam Veterans.