



PACT ACT OVERVIEW

All Things PACT Act 101



Choose **VA**

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs





What is the PACT Act?



Vietnam



Gulf War Era



Post9/11



The **P**romise to **A**ddress **C**omprehensive **T**oxics **A**ct of 2022 ...

is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve.

The PACT Act

- 1) Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era, and
- 2) Expands eligibility for benefits for Veterans exposed to toxic substances.

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Key Components of the PACT Act (1 of 2)



The Act **expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic-exposures** and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era



VA **will improve the decision-making process** for determining what medical conditions will be considered for presumptive status.



Every enrolled Veteran will **receive an initial toxic exposure screening** and a follow-up screening every five years. Veterans who are not enrolled, but who are eligible to enroll, will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.



VA health care staff and claims processors will receive **toxic exposure-related education and training.**





Key Components of the PACT Act (2 of 2)



The Act requires research studies of the mortality of Veterans who served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War; Post-9/11 Veteran health trends; and Veteran cancer rates.



The Act will help VA **build a stronger, more skilled workforce** to meet the growing demand for benefits and services



The Act authorizes **31 new medical facilities** across the country, providing greater access to VA health care





What conditions will be presumed to be service-connected?

As of Aug 10, a long list of new conditions are presumed to be service-connected due to various in-service toxic exposures. You should **APPLY NOW** at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/pact) so that your claim can be processed, and you can get your benefits.

- Asthma (*diagnosed after service*)
- Brain cancer
- Chronic bronchitis
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Chronic rhinitis
- Chronic sinusitis
- Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis
- Emphysema
- Gastrointestinal cancer of any type
- Glioblastoma
- Granulomatous disease
- Head cancer of any type
- High blood pressure (*hypertension*)
- Interstitial lung disease (ILD)
- Kidney cancer
- Lymphatic cancer of any type
- Lymphoma of any type
- Melanoma
- Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)
- Neck cancer
- Pancreatic cancer
- Pleuritis
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Reproductive cancer of any type
- Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type
- Sarcoidosis



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VA Health Care Eligibility Available Now

Vietnam Era Veterans: Veterans who served in the following locations and time periods can enroll in VA health care **NOW**:

- Republic of Vietnam (between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975),
- Thailand at any US or Royal Thai base (between January 9, 1962, and June 30, 1976)
- Laos (between December 1, 1965, and September 30, 1969)
- Certain Provinces in Cambodia (between April 16, 1969, and April 30, 1969)
- Guam or American Samoa or their territorial waters (between January 9, 1962, and July 31, 1980)
- Johnston Atoll, or a ship that called there, between January 1, 1972, and September 30, 1977

For Post-9/11 combat Veterans who separated or discharged between September 11, 2001, and October 1, 2013:



Special Enrollment Period – October 1, 2022 - October 1, 2023

Enrollment is free, there are no annual costs, and care may be free as well!

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Other affected Veterans and Survivors

What about additional benefits and care for other Veterans?...
Gulf War Veterans? What about survivors' benefits?

Information for Vietnam-era Veterans,
Gulf War Veterans, survivors, and
SO MUCH MORE can be found at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT)

Get the care and benefits you EARNED and DESERVE!

Apply at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT) today.



va.gov/pact





When / How should I file a claim?

APPLY NOW!

If you think you may be eligible for benefits and/or care under the PACT Act, **apply now**

Go to [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT) for more info!

If you have questions, call [1-800-MyVA411](tel:1-800-MyVA411)

What if I've previously been denied?

Veterans previously denied a toxic-exposure related claim are encouraged to file a supplemental claim. Once a supplemental claim is received, VA will review the claim under the new law.

More info at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT)

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