

ACCESSING PACT ACT BENEFITS AND SERVICES

LIKELY IMPACTED:



VIETNAM ERA



POST-9/11 ERA



GULF WAR ERA



SURVIVORS

The Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act 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 will provide generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve.

PACT ACT KEY COMPONENTS:

- » **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.
- » **Improves the decision-making process** for determining what medical conditions will be considered for presumptive status, making it easier for Veterans to get their benefits.
- » Ensures 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.
- » **Requires VA research** on the mortality of Veterans who served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War; Post-9/11 Veteran health trends; and Veteran cancer rates.
- » Provides robust authority to VA to **expand the workforce and meet the growing demand** for benefits and services.
- » **Authorizes construction of 31 new facilities** across the country, providing greater access to VA health care.

GULF WAR ERA AND POST-9/11 ELIGIBILITY

If a Veteran served in any of these locations and time periods, they are eligible for the new Gulf War-related presumptions. This includes the airspace above any of these locations.

On or After August 2, 1990: Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, The United Arab Emirates (UAE)

On or After September 11, 2001: Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Uzbekistan, Yemen

NEW RADIATION PRESUMPTIVE LOCATIONS

If a Veteran was called to respond to one of the listed cleanup and response missions below, they may be eligible for radiation exposure presumptives under the PACT Act.

RESPONSE EFFORT	DATES
Cleanup of Enewetak Atoll	January 1, 1977 – December 31, 1980
Cleanup of the Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons off the coast of Palomares, Spain	January 17, 1966 – March 31, 1967
Response to the fire onboard an Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons near Thule Air Force Base in Greenland	January 21, 1968 – September 25, 1968

CONDITIONS PRESUMED TO BE SERVICE-CONNECTED

As of August 10, 2022, a long list of new conditions are presumed to be service-connected due to various in-service toxic exposures. **APPLY NOW** at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT).

PRESUMED SERVICE CONNECTED CONDITIONS: 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, Lymphoma of any type, Melanoma, Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS), Neck cancer, Pancreatic cancer, Pleuritis, Pulmonary fibrosis, Reproductive cancer of any type, including cervical, ovarian, uterine, vaginal, and vulvar, Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type, Sarcoidosis

HEALTH CARE ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY

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

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

SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2022 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

For Post-9/11 combat Veterans who separated or discharged between **September 11, 2001, and September 30, 2013**. **Enrollment is free**, there are no annual costs, and care may be free as well!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, TO APPLY OR FILE A CLAIM



VISIT: [VA.GOV/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT)

CALL: 800-698-2411 (TTY: 711)

Download the **VA Welcome Kit** [VA.gov/welcome-kit/](https://va.gov/welcome-kit/)
Subscribe to **#VetResources** [VA.gov/vetresources/](https://va.gov/vetresources/)
Veterans Crisis Line: Dial 988 & press 1 or Text 838255
or **Chat** at www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/chat
The one number to reach VA: 1-800-MyVA411



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs