

What is COMPACT Act?

Under the COMPACT Act (Section 201), Veterans experiencing an acute suicidal crisis may be eligible to receive emergency health care services at any VA or non-VA facility at no cost.

What is an Acute Suicidal Crisis?

Acute suicidal crisis (*per COMPACT Act qualification*) means an individual was determined to be at imminent risk of self-harm by a trained crisis responder, or health care provider, at the time of crisis.

Who is Eligible?

COMPACT Act (Section 201) expands eligibility for Veterans who may not otherwise be eligible for other VA health care services.

Contact VA Eligibility and Enrollment to see if you qualify at 1 (877) 222-8387.



VA Midwest Health Care Network (VISN 23)

VISN 23 proudly serves more than 440,000 enrolled Veterans through an integrated system of nine hospitals and sixty-three community based outpatient or outreach clinics.

Please visit the **VISN 23 home page** to find contact information for each of our health care systems:

Fargo VA HCS
Central Iowa VA HCS
Iowa City VA HCS
Minneapolis VA HCS
VA Nebraska - Western Iowa HCS
Sioux Falls VA HCS
St. Cloud VA HCS
VA Black Hills HCS

VA Midwest Health Care Network
<https://www.visn23.va.gov/VISN23/index.asp>

 **Veterans
Crisis Line**
DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**

COMPACT Act

Comprehensive Prevention,
Access to Care, and Treatment



Help for Veterans Experiencing a Suicidal Crisis

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



What Services are Available?

In general, services covered by the COMPACT Act address immediate safety, reduce distress, and prevent a return to acute suicidal crisis.

Additional care may include:

- ★ Up to 30 days of inpatient and/or crisis residential care, and up to 90 days of outpatient care.
- ★ VA will make appropriate referrals for care following the period of emergent suicidal care.
- ★ VA will determine eligibility for other VA services. VA will refer eligible Veterans for appropriate VA programs and benefits following the period of emergent suicide care.

How it Works

1. In the event of a mental health crisis, Veterans and their loved ones should do the following:

- ★ Call 911 for all emergencies; or
- ★ Present to the nearest VA or non-VA emergency room; or
- ★ Call the Veterans Crisis Line at 988 option 1, text 838255, or start a confidential chat at <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/chat>

2. Notify the VA within 72-hours of receiving emergent suicidal care to start the claim for payment and care coordination.

Veterans, loved ones, or community providers can make the call to start a claim.

Only one notification is needed:

- ★ **Online Portal:**
emergencycarereporting.communitycare.va.gov
- ★ **Phone:**
1 (844) 724-7842

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I know if an individual is an eligible Veteran?

Ask the individual if they have served in the military. If yes, contact VA eligibility to confirm whether COMPACT Act benefits are available.

What happens if an eligible Veteran has an additional suicidal crisis?

A new and separate 30/90 day period for providing medical and mental health care begins with each new suicidal crisis.

What happens if an eligible Veteran continues to require care beyond the 30/90 days?

Either period of care can be extended in increments of 30 days by the local VA medical center.

Who can I speak to about COMPACT Act benefits?

Each Health Care System has a COMPACT Act Coordinator. Contact the local VA facility and ask to speak with this individual for assistance.

Can a Veteran appeal bills they believe should have been covered by the COMPACT Act?

Billing disputes can be initiated by contacting the local VA medical center patient advocate.

What if I didn't notify the VA within 72 hours?

Claims can be submitted up to 180 days following the suicidal crisis.