





PACT ACT & GULF WAR, POST-9/11 ERA VETERANS




The **PACT Act**, signed into law August 10, 2022, **expands health care eligibility to several groups of Veterans** who may not have been eligible before.


 Veterans who participated in a **toxic exposure risk activity** (as defined by law) while serving on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training.

 Veterans assigned to a duty station in (including airspace above) certain locations during specific periods of time on or after:


August 2, 1990, in Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, or United Arab Emirates

September 11, 2001, in Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Uzbekistan, or Yemen, or any other country determined relevant by VA

 Veterans who deployed in support of:
Operation Enduring Freedom Operation Iraqi Freedom
Operation Freedom's Sentinel Operation New Dawn
Operation Inherent Resolve Resolute Support Mission


 **SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD:**
Veterans who served on active duty in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War or in combat against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998, and who were discharged or released between September 11, 2001, and October 1, 2013, may enroll in VA health care **between October 1, 2022 and October 1, 2023.**



 **Toxic Exposure Screenings**
As a general matter, there are several types of possible exposures or hazards Veterans may have experienced during their military service, including:

- Air Pollutants • Radiation • Occupational Hazards
- Chemicals • Warfare Agents


ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022: VA will begin incorporating toxic exposure screenings. Every Veteran enrolled for VA health care will receive an initial toxic exposure screening and a follow-up screening at least every five years. Eligible Veterans who have not enrolled will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.


 The PACT Act adds **20+ new presumptive conditions.** Learn more online at VA.gov/PACT.


Participate in the [VA Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry](#) to help VA better understand potential health effects of exposures and proactively identify health concerns Veterans can discuss with their health care providers for follow-up care.


Family members or dependents of a deceased Veteran may qualify for various VA benefits due to the additional disabilities defined in the PACT Act if they meet eligibility requirements. More information for survivors is available online at VA.gov/PACT.

4 EASY WAYS TO APPLY FOR VA HEALTH CARE


 **Apply online** at VA.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction


 **Call the toll-free hotline** at 877-222-8387 Mon – Fri, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. ET


 **Mail** a completed, signed Application for Health Benefits [VA Form 10-10EZ](#)


 **Bring** a completed, signed [VA Form 10-10EZ](#) to the nearest VA Medical Center or clinic.

4 EASY WAYS TO GET STARTED WITH CLAIMS

 **Learn more** at VA.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/

 **Visit a VBA Regional Office** VA.gov/benefits/offices.asp

 **Call the Benefits hotline** (for specific questions) at 1-800-827-1000

 **Work with an accredited VSO** VA.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation/index.asp



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Learn more and sign up at VA.gov/PACT
Download the **VA Health and Benefits App**
Call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)
Find a VA at VA.gov/find-locations/