

RESOURCES

The Veterans Health Council is a network of professional organizations invested in the health of America's veterans. Please go to the VHC website at: www.veteranshealth.org for the list of VHC partners and how to reach them.



Caution: Military Service May Pose Increased Risks to Your Health

Veterans Health CouncilSM
improving veterans health through information and education

The VHC is a program of
Vietnam Veterans of America.

If you wish to file a VA claim for compensation and/or health care benefits, contact an accredited veterans service officer for further information at:
www.va.gov/logc/apps/accreditation or go to www.vva.org and click on "Benefits" for a list of VVA-accredited service officers.



In Service to America

www.veteranshealth.org

1-800-882-1316

Vietnam Veterans of America
8719 Colesville Road
Suite 100
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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Did You Serve in the U.S. Military?

The Department of Veterans Affairs has determined that certain illnesses and health concerns have been associated with military service.

PLEASE GO TO
www.veteranshealth.org

to see lists of illnesses and health concerns that have been identified with service during the wartime periods listed in this brochure. If you served during one or more of these periods of war and have any of the diseases listed, you may be eligible for benefits, compensation, and health care.

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Some injuries are common to all wars—examples include amputations, traumatic mental health disorders such as TBI, PTSD (including Military Sexual Trauma), and vision and hearing loss. The VA can make monthly monetary payments, or “service-connected disability compensation” for these and other illnesses and diseases directly related to the unique circumstances of your military service.

In addition, many veterans suffer from chronic diseases later in life as the result of exposure to toxic chemicals and biologics used during their wartime service.

In **Vietnam**, veterans (Feb 28, 1961-May 7, 1975) were exposed to Agent Orange and other toxic herbicides and pesticides. Many who now suffer from various cancers and other maladies, such as Type II diabetes, ischemic heart disease, and Parkinson’s Disease, can file for compensation benefits and health care with the VA. Children born with birth defects to a veteran parent exposed to AO may also be eligible for certain VA benefits and healthcare.

The same is true for any **Persian Gulf** veterans (Aug 2, 1990, to present) and **OIF/OEF** vets (Sept 11, 2001, to present) exposed to depleted uranium munitions, or the toxic fumes and chemical smoke released from oil well fires and “burn pits,” and who now suffer from debilitating illnesses such as Lou Gehrig’s Disease (ALS), fibromyalgia, and other neurological disorders.

The amount of the compensation depends on the severity of a veteran’s service-connected disability, and in some cases, the number of qualifying family members.

To learn more details about the diseases, health concerns, and benefits associated with your military service, go to:

www.veteranshealth.org



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Family Benefits

If a veteran dies of a medical condition considered to be service-connected by the VA, the spouse (and their children) may be eligible for monthly compensation payments through the VA’s Dependency and Indemnity Compensation program (DIC).

How do I file a DIC claim?

The procedures for this type of claim are generally the same as those used for any veterans’ claims.

In addition, the children of veterans who die of a medical condition considered to be service-connected by the VA may be eligible for other education benefits under U.S.C. Title 35.

If you wish to file a claim, go to:

www.veteranshealth.org