<https://www.va.gov/health-care/eligibility/>

[Alert] We’ve expanded VA health care to millions of Veterans

All Veterans who meet basic service and discharge requirements and who were exposed to toxins and other hazards while serving our country—at home or abroad—are now eligible for VA health care. This includes all Veterans who served in the Vietnam War, Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, or any other combat zone after 9/11. Apply today.

**H2: Is there anything that will make me more likely to get these benefits?**

Yes. You may qualify for enhanced eligibility status if you meet the minimum active-duty service and discharge requirements and at least one of these descriptions is true for you. Enhanced eligibility means that we’ll place you in a higher priority group. This makes you more likely to get benefits.

**At least one of these must be true:**

* You receive financial compensation (payments) from VA for a service-connected disability.
* You were discharged for a disability resulting from something that happened to you in the line of duty.
* You were discharged for a disability that got worse in the line of duty.
* You’re a combat Veteran discharged or released on or after September 11, 2001.   
  Learn more about eligibility for transitioning active-duty service members and returning combat Veterans
* You get a VA pension.
* You’re a former prisoner of war (POW).
* You have received a Purple Heart.
* You have received a Medal of Honor.
* You get (or qualify for) Medicaid benefits.
* You were exposed to toxins or hazards by working with chemicals, pesticides, lead, asbestos, certain paints, nuclear weapons, X-rays, or other toxins. This exposure could have happened while training or serving on active duty, even if you were never deployed.
* You served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War between August 2, 1990, and November 11, 1998.
* You served at least 30 days at Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953, and December 31, 1987.

**Or, you must have served in any of these locations during the Vietnam War era:**

* Any U.S. or Royal Thai military base in Thailand from January 9, 1962, through June 30, 1976
* Laos from December 1, 1965, through September 30, 1969
* Cambodia at Mimot or Krek, Kampong Cham Province from April 16, 1969, through April 30, 1969
* Guam or American Samoa or in the territorial waters off Guam or American Samoa from January 9, 1962, through July 31, 1980
* Johnston Atoll or on a ship that called at Johnston Atoll from January 1, 1972, through September 30, 1977
* Republic of Vietnam from January 9, 1962 through May 7, 1975

**If none of these descriptions apply to you**, you may still qualify for health care based on your income. Find out if you may be eligible for free or reduced cost health care based on your income.

Learn more about income limits and your VA health care