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[Veterans-For-Change](#)

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## Compensation for Diseases Associated with Agent Orange Exposure

VA pays monthly disability compensation to veterans for injuries or diseases that happened while on active duty, or were made worse by active military service. These injuries or diseases are called "service-related" or "service-connected."

Also, Vietnam veterans' children with spina bifida or certain birth defects may be eligible for compensation and other benefits.

Learn about:

- Eligibility for Disability Compensation
  - Vietnam Veterans
  - Veterans Exposed to Herbicides Outside Vietnam
  - Apply for Disability Compensation
  - Contact VA about Disability Compensation
  - Additional Benefits for Veterans
- Eligibility for Disability Compensation

Veterans may be eligible for disability compensation if they have a service-related disability and were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

There are different eligibility requirements for Vietnam veterans and veterans who were exposed to herbicides outside of Vietnam.

### Vietnam Veterans

Veterans who served in-country Vietnam between 1962 and 1975 (including those who visited Vietnam even briefly) and who have a disease that VA recognizes as associated with Agent Orange exposure are presumed to have been exposed to Agent Orange. Vietnam veterans with these specific diseases do not have to show that their diseases are related to their military service to get disability compensation.

Vietnam veterans who believe they have a disease caused by herbicide exposure, but that disease is not on VA's list of diseases associated with Agent Orange exposure, may be eligible for service-connection on a "direct" basis. These veterans must show that their diseases are related to their military service to get disability compensation.

### Veterans Exposed to Herbicides Outside Vietnam

Agent Orange and other herbicides were tested and stored outside of Vietnam. Veterans who did not serve in-country Vietnam and were exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides may be eligible for service-connection on a "direct" basis as explained above. Additionally, these veterans must show that they were exposed to herbicides during military service.

Visit VA's Guide to Agent Orange Claims to learn more about how to establish eligibility to disability compensation and how much VA pays.

### Apply for Disability Compensation

Veterans can apply for disability compensation online.

Contact VA about Disability Compensation By Telephone

- Benefits: 1-800-827-1000
- Toll-free Helpline (General Info): 1-800-749-8387
- TDD (for hearing impaired): 1-800-829-4833

In Person

Go to your nearest VA regional office.

## Additional Benefits for Veterans

### ■Health Care Benefits

### ■Non-Health Care Benefits: Home Loans, Vocational Rehabilitation, Education, and More

## More Information on Agent Orange

[Agent Orange Basics](#)

[Diseases Associated with Agent Orange Exposure](#)

[Agent Orange Registry Health Examination for Veterans](#)

[Health Care Benefits for Diseases Associated with Agent Orange Exposure](#)

[Research on Health Effects of Agent Orange Exposure](#)

[Resources for Treating and Diagnosing Health Effects of Agent Orange Exposure](#)

[Educating Veteran Patients](#)

[Updates on Agent Orange Research and What VA Is Doing](#)

## Veterans' Diseases Associated with Agent Orange Exposure

Veterans may be eligible for [disability compensation](#) and [health care benefits](#) for diseases that VA has recognized as associated with exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides:

### [Acute and Subacute Peripheral Neuropathy](#)

A nervous system condition that causes numbness, tingling, and motor weakness. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of exposure to Agent Orange and resolve within 2 years after the date it began.

### [AL Amyloidosis](#)

A rare disease caused when an abnormal protein, amyloid, enters tissues or organs.

### **B Cell Leukemias**

Cancers which affect B cells, such as hairy cell leukemia.

### [Chloracne \(or Similar Acneform Disease\)](#)

A skin condition that occurs soon after dioxin exposure and looks like common forms of acne seen in teenagers. Under VA's rating regulations, chloracne (or other acneform disease similar to chloracne) must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of exposure to Agent Orange.

### [Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia](#)

A disease that progresses slowly with increasing production of excessive numbers of white blood cells.

### [Diabetes Mellitus \(Type 2\)](#)

A disease characterized by high blood sugar levels resulting from the body's inability to respond properly to the hormone insulin.

### [Hodgkin's Disease](#)

A malignant lymphoma (cancer) characterized by progressive enlargement of the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen, and by progressive anemia.

**Ischemic Heart Disease**

A disease characterized by a reduced supply of blood to the heart.

**[Multiple Myeloma](#)**

A cancer of specific bone marrow cells that is characterized by bone marrow tumors in various bones of the body.

**[Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma](#)**

A group of cancers that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue.

**Parkinson's Disease**

A motor system condition with symptoms that include trembling of the limbs and face and impaired balance.

**[Porphyria Cutanea Tarda](#)**

A disorder characterized by liver dysfunction and by thinning and blistering of the skin in sun-exposed areas. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of exposure to Agent Orange.

**[Prostate Cancer](#)**

Cancer of the prostate; one of the most common cancers among men.

**[Respiratory Cancers](#)**

Cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus.

**[Soft Tissue Sarcoma \(other than Osteosarcoma, Chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or Mesothelioma\)](#)**

A group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissues.