

Gulf War Registry

The Gulf War Registry is a helpful tool for Veterans and researchers. Veteran participants each receive a personalized free health exam. This is one way to learn about possible long-term health effects related to environmental exposures during military service. Veterans discuss their symptoms, diagnoses, and Gulf War hazardous exposures. Veterans in need of treatment may be encouraged to receive free or low-cost, specialized medical care for those conditions from VA.

The data collected will help VA understand and respond to the Veteran's health problems more effectively. The Registry also helps VA researchers collect information on health concerns that can aid VA in improving and refining its health care policies.

Most Veterans who deployed after 1990 can join the Registry. Veterans who served in the Gulf during Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn are eligible based on their recollection of service, not military records. The Veteran does not need to be enrolled in VA health care to receive an exam. If further care is needed, the Veteran may decide to enroll in VA or consult a private medical provider.

The Gulf War Registry is uniquely focused on the range of hazardous natural and man-made environmental exposures that may have occurred during military service, including depleted uranium, chemical and biological warfare agents, medical prophylaxis, pesticides, fuels, oil well fire smoke, infectious agents, and deployment-related stress.

Participation in the Registry does not result in a disability claim. The Registry and disability claim processes are entirely separate.

QUICK FACTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Free to eligible Veterans and no co-payment ✓ Not a disability compensation exam or required for other VA benefits ✓ Enrollment in VA's health care system not necessary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Based on Veterans' recollection of service, not on their military records ✓ Veterans can receive additional registry exams, if new problems develop ✓ Veterans' family members are not eligible for registry exams |
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Sources:

<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/benefits/registry-exam.asp>

