

Overview

On August 6, 2012, President Obama signed legislation (H.R. 1627, now Public Law 112-154 - Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012) which requires VA to provide health care to Veterans and to eligible family members for one or more of 15 specified illnesses or conditions.

To be eligible for care under the provisions of this bill, the Veteran or Family Member must have served on active duty or resided at Camp Lejeune (North Carolina) for not fewer than 30 days between January 1, 1957 and December 31, 1987.

Illnesses or Conditions

The following is a list of the illnesses and conditions associated with Camp Lejeune for which treatment may be provided.

- Bladder cancer
 - Breast cancer
 - Esophageal cancer
 - Female infertility
 - Hepatic steatosis
 - Kidney cancer
 - Leukemia
 - Lung cancer
 - Miscarriage
 - Multiple myeloma
 - Myelodysplastic syndromes
 - Neurobehavioral effects
 - Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
 - Renal toxicity
 - Scleroderma
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Veteran Copayment

If you are currently enrolled with the VA, you will not be charged a copayment for treatment associated with the 15 illnesses/conditions nor will your third party insurance company be billed for these services. If you are later determined not eligible under the Camp Lejeune authority, you will be charged a copayment for the care provided for these conditions (unless you are copayment exempt) and your third party insurance will be billed.

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Veterans currently not enrolled who request care under this authority and who are later found ineligible for health care under this provision will be responsible for the cost of the care provided. The Veteran must agree to pay the Humanitarian Rate for any services provided.

Family Members

At this time, treatment cannot be provided to Family Members until Congress has appropriated funds for family care and regulations are published. Family members can get prepared by locating documentation of your relationship to the Veteran who served at Camp Lejeune (i.e., marriage license or birth certificate) and proof of residency for a period of not less than 30 days at Camp Lejeune (i.e., copies of orders, base housing records, etc.).

VA cannot accept documents from Family Members at this time. You should keep any documents in a safe place in anticipation of receiving care under this authority.

Family Members are advised not to terminate or alter existing health insurance or health care arrangements in anticipation of receiving care under this authority.

VA Enrollment / Compensation

If you have not already enrolled in the VA health care system, you are encouraged to apply for VA health care benefits.

If you believe you have an injury/illness related to your military service, you may file a claim for disability (adjudication) of your condition by the VA Regional Office. This new law does not provide new authorities for compensation for Camp Lejeune claims.

Additional Information

If you would like more information, VHA Office of Public Health has a website on Camp Lejeune historical water contamination which may be helpful. The Web address for this site is:
<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune/index.asp>.