

# The PACT Act Fact Sheet

- The PACT Act added more than 20 new presumptive conditions with 2 (Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) and Hypertension) being designed for Vietnam veterans and others exposed to tactical herbicides.
- Please be advised that there is an offset of VA disability benefits with any settlement Regarding the Camp LeJeune Provision Section 804. Veterans are encouraged NOT to sign any contracts to participate in lawsuits until VA clarifies how the settlements will affect service-connected benefits and care. VA regulations on this are expected in the coming months
- Veterans are encouraged to file for service connection for the new presumptive conditions outlined in PACT ACT **NOW** as VA is accepting claims for these conditions. VA Will not start processing these claims until January 2023.
- If a veteran applies for one of the Presumptive conditions at any time in the next year and VA grants service connection, they may assign the effective date of the claim to August 10, 2022 the date the law went into effect.
- If there is a current claim pending for a PACT Act presumptive, no action is required. VA “Should” consider the new presumptives as a pathway. Please be sure to track PACT Act Claims to ensure that they are being rated in accordance with the new law.
- If previously denied service connection for one of the new presumptive conditions, you will need to submit BOTH a 21-0995 and a 21-4138 which states the appeal is due to the PACT Act Presumptive.
- Prior to submitting a claim for DIC, first Verify the veteran’s cause of death is due to the presumptive condition and that support medical documentation (Death Certificate) is available. Additionally Direct and Secondary Service-connection can be considered to qualify for DIC/accrued benefits
- The veteran need not have filled for the condition in the past. Entitle to benefits can be established for survivors after veteran’s death and is considered as if the veteran had service-connection
- The application process has not changed to submit a DIC claim and applicable retroactive payments may be authorized for PACT Act related DIC claims. These payments can be paid dating back to the date of the veteran’s death

