CAMP LEJEUNE

Veteran and family health & disability benefits

In the 1980s, contaminants were found in several wells that provided drinking water at Camp Lejeune, N.C. The contaminants included the volatile organic compounds trichloroethylene (TCE), perchloroethylene (PCE), vinyl chloride, benzene, and other compounds. The primary sources of this contamination were on-base leaking storage tanks and industrial activities, and an off-base dry cleaner. It is estimated that the contaminants were in the water supply from the mid-1950s until February 1985, when the wells were shut down.

Benefits for Camp Lejeune Veterans and family members include health care for 15 conditions listed in the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012. In addition, Veterans can receive disability and health care benefits for eight presumptive disease conditions associated with contaminants in the water at Camp Lejeune.

Eligibility timeframe

Veterans, National Guard and reserve members, and family members who lived on the base for at least 30 days (cumulative), between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987 are eligible.

What areas are included?

The benefit area includes all areas within the Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) New River boundaries, as shown in red on the map on page 4.

Health care for Veterans and family members

The Camp Lejeune Act of 2012 provides health care and health care funding assistance to Veterans and family members who lived on Camp Lejeune, meet the time-on-station and service date requirements, and have one of the covered conditions.

Qualifying health conditions include:

- 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

Veterans eligible for health care under the *Camp Lejeune Act of 2012* may enroll in VA health care and receive medical services for any of the 15 covered health conditions, and eight disability conditions at no cost.

To enroll in VA health care, apply at www.va.gov/healthbenefits/apply/ or call 1-877-222-8387 for help. Inform VA staff that you served on active duty at Camp Lejeune for at least 30 days during the covered time period.

Family member health care reimbursement

Dependent family members of Veterans who also resided at Camp Lejeune during the qualifying period are eligible for reimbursement of out-of-pocket medical expenses related to any of the 15 covered health conditions. VA can only pay for treatment costs that remain after payment from your other health plans.

Apply online for reimbursement at www.clfamilymembers.fsc.va.gov/ or call 1-866-372-1144 for help.

What type of evidence can I submit with my application?

- Documentation showing a dependent relationship to a Veteran who served at Camp Lejeune, such as a marriage license or birth certificate.
- Documentation showing you lived on the base for 30 days or more between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987, such as copies of orders. VA has the base housing records, but additional evidence is welcome.
- Documentation showing you paid health care expenses for a covered condition respective to the following date ranges:
  - If you lived on Camp Lejeune between January 1, 1957 and December 31, 1987, then you can be reimbursed for care that you received on or after August 6, 2012.
  - If you lived on Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1956, then you can be reimbursed for care that you received on or after December 16, 2014.

Reimbursement for medical claims can be paid for care up to two years prior to the date of application for benefits.

For information call

VA Health Care **1-877-222-8387**
VA Benefits **1-800-827-1000**
CL Family Health Care **1-866-372-1144**

Veterans disability compensation

The Department of Veterans Affairs has established a presumption of service connection for eight conditions associated with exposure to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune, N.C. These conditions were determined after a review of scientific and medical literature on health effects related to the contaminants of concern at Camp Lejeune.

The presumption applies to active duty, reserve, and National Guard members exposed to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune for at least 30 days between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987, and who later developed one or more of the following eight conditions:

- Adult leukemia
- Aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes
- Bladder cancer
- Kidney cancer
- Liver cancer
- Multiple myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Parkinson's disease

Presently, these are the conditions for which VA has determined there is sufficient scientific and medical evidence to support presumptive service connection; however, VA will continue to review relevant information on other conditions as it becomes available.

If a Veteran is diagnosed with one of these conditions, VA presumes that his/her Camp Lejeune service caused the condition, and disability compensation can be awarded.

Evidence requirements

Veterans must submit records that show you served at Camp Lejeune or MCAS New River for at least 30 days (cumulative), between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987, in an active duty, reserve, or National Guard capacity.

The medical evidence must show you have a current disease on the list of presumptive conditions related to Camp Lejeune.

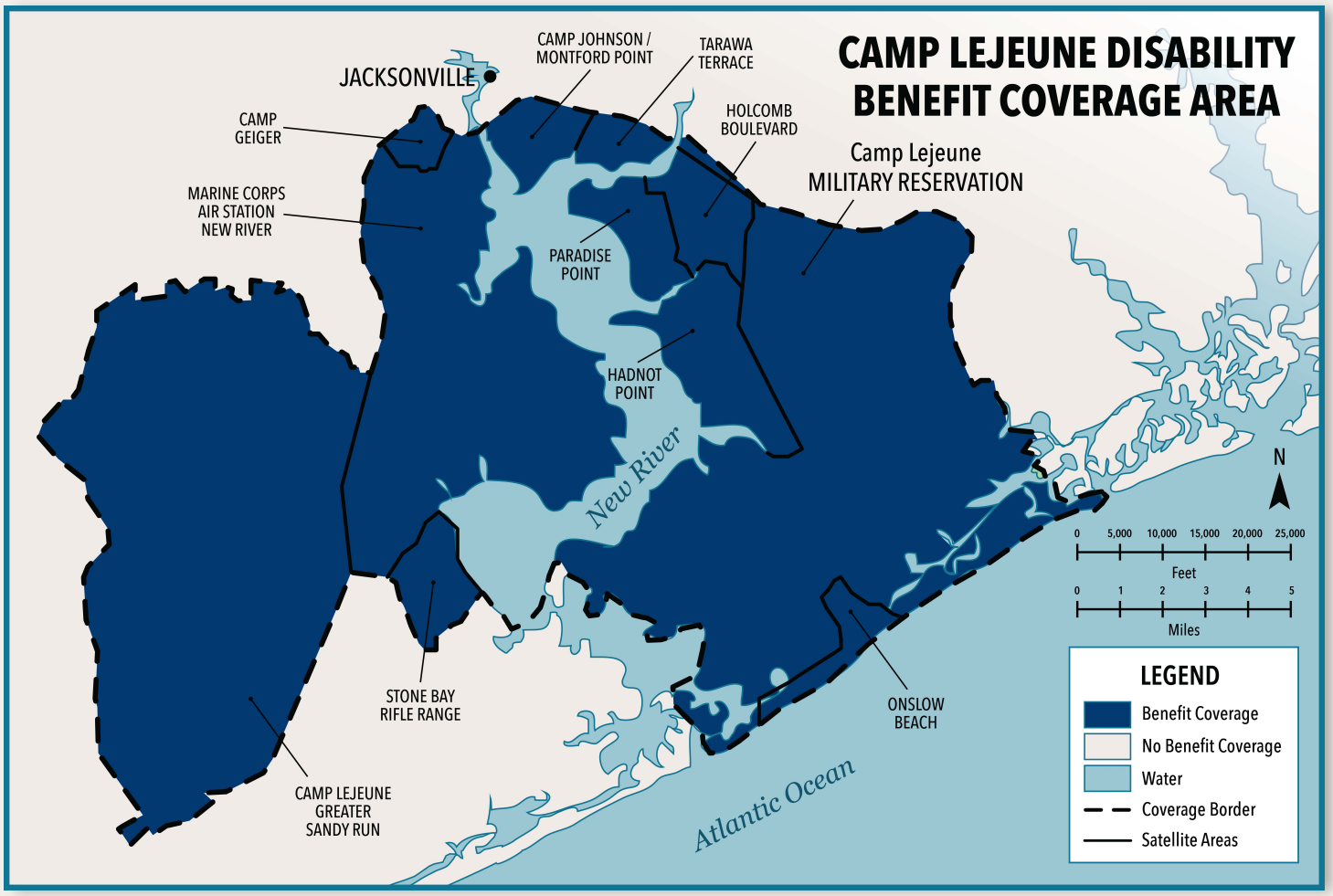
How to apply for disability benefits

Apply online using eBenefits. State on your application that you are filing for one of the presumed Camp Lejeune illnesses.

- Include evidence of service at Camp Lejeune during the required timeframe.
- Provide medical evidence showing your diagnosis.

For additional assistance you can work with an accredited representative or agent or, go to a VA regional office and talk to a VA employee. You can find your nearest regional office on our Facility Locator page at http://benefits.va.gov/benefits/offices.asp.

For more information on how to apply and for tips on making sure your claim is ready to be processed by VA, visit our How to Apply page at https://explore.va.gov/disability-compensation.



Camp Lejeune Historic Drinking Water Database

The Marine Corps maintains an information database for those who may have been exposed to contaminants in the drinking water at Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987.

To be added to the Camp Lejeune Historic Drinking Water Notification Database, or for more information, please visit: http://www.marines.mil/clwater/. You can also contact the Camp Lejeune Historic Drinking Water Call Center at (877) 261-9782 or e-mail clwater@ usmc.mil.

The Marine Corps continues to work diligently to both identify and communicate with registrants by sending them the latest information via mail and email. Please share information about the registry with anyone who may have been at Camp Lejeune between the dates noted above and encourage them to participate.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs