

COMBAT VETERAN ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION TABLE

COMBAT ZONES, HOSTILITIES and MEDALS

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) must use and refer to the Department of Defense (DOD) website <http://www.defenselink.mil/comptroller> to maintain the listing of designated hostile fire or imminent danger pay areas. Although DOD Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger pay existed prior to November 11, 1998, only proof of such pay on or after November 11, 1998, is acceptable. NOTE: The DOD website, the definitions, and the table provided in this Attachment should assist in the determination of combat veteran eligibility.

1. Definitions

a. **Combat Service.** Veterans who served in combat during a period of war after the Gulf War, or against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998, qualify, and are eligible for hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care for 2 years after discharge from the military for any illness.

(1) **Co-payments** may be charged for those conditions which the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) finds resulted from a cause other than such combat service.

(2) **Combat zones** are designated by an Executive Order from the President as areas in which the United States (U.S.) Armed Forces are engaging or have engaged in combat. An area usually becomes a combat zone and ceases to be a combat zone on the dates the President designates by Executive Order.

b. **Hostilities or Imminent Danger Pay.** Hostile fire pay is defined as pay to anyone exposed to hostile fire or mine explosion, while imminent danger pay is paid to anyone on duty outside the United States area who is subject to physical harm or imminent danger due to wartime conditions, terrorism, civil insurrection, or civil war.

c. **Medals.** Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (does not include Global War on Terrorism Medal); Kosovo Campaign Medal; Southwest Asia Campaign Medal; and other DOD authorized combat related medals.

NOTE: 1. This listing is current as of the date of publication of this directive. For the most current listing see <http://www.defenselink.mil/comptroller/fmr/07a/07A10.pdf>

2. Table Designating Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger Pay Areas after November 11, 1998

AREA	INCLUDES	EFFECTIVE	TERMINATED
Adriatic Sea	Sea area and airspace	April 12, 1999	September 15, 1999
Afghanistan	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Albania	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	March 31, 2002
Algeria	Land area		November 11, 1998
Angola	Land area		November 11, 1998
Arabian Peninsula *	Locations and airspace above: Persian Gulf and land area of Saudi Arabia	November 11, 1998	
Arabian Peninsula *	Surface area of the following sea boundaries: Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman and Arabian Sea	September 19, 2001	
Azerbaijan	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Bahrain	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Burundi	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Cambodia	Land area	November 11, 1998	October 31, 2001
Colombia	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Cote D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	Land area	February 27, 2003	
Croatia	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Djibouti	Land area	July 31, 2002	
East Timor	Land area	September 30, 1999	October 28, 1999
	Land area and airspace	October 29, 1999	October 31, 2001
	Land area	November 1, 2001	
Egypt	Land area	November 11, 1998	
El Salvador	Land area	November 11, 1998	May 31, 2001
Eritrea	Land	July 31, 2002	
Ethiopia	Land area	September 13, 1999	
Georgia, Republic of	Land area	July 31, 2002	
Greece **	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Haiti	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Hungary **	Land area	May 31, 1999	September 15, 1999
Indonesia	Land area	October 31, 2001	
Ionian Sea **	Sea area and airspace	April 12, 1999	September 15, 1999
Iran	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Iraq	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	

*Arabian Peninsula and adjacent sea areas that include Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

**For detailed specific information regarding designated hostile fire or imminent danger pay areas for these countries, refer to the website citation.

AREA	INCLUDES	EFFECTIVE	TERMINATED
Israel	Land area	January 31, 2002	
Italy **	Land area	May 31, 1999	September 15, 1999
Jordan	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Kenya	Land area	July 31, 2002	
Kuwait	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Kyrgyz tan	Land area	September 19, 2001	
Lebanon	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Liberia	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Macedonia	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Malaysia	Land area	October 31, 2001	
Mediterranean Sea	Sea area	April 11, 2003	July 31, 2003
Montenegro	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Oman	Land area	September 19, 2001	
Pakistan	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Peru	Land area	November 11, 1998	December 31, 2001
Philippines	Land area	October 31, 2001	
Qatar	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Rwanda	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Saudi Arabia	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Serbia	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Sierra Leone	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Somalia	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Sudan	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Syria	Land area	July 31, 2003	
Tajikistan	Land area	November 11, 1998	
Turkey **	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Uganda	Land area	January 19, 2000	
United Arab Emirates	Land area	September 19, 2001	
Uzbekistan	Land area	September 19, 2001	
Yemen	Land area	May 25, 1999	
Yugoslavia	Land area and airspace	November 11, 1998	
Zaire	Land area	November 11, 1998	

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