



**VHA Camp Lejeune Program
ATSDR Community Assistance Panel Briefing
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VHA Camp Lejeune Program Overview

The “Honoring America’s Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012” (P.L.112-154) was enacted on August 6, 2012. Section 102 of this law requires VA to provide **health care** to Veterans who served on active duty at Camp Lejeune and **reimbursement of medical care** to eligible family members for one or more of 15 specified illnesses or conditions:

Cancers

- Bladder
- Breast
- Esophageal
- Kidney
- Leukemia
- Lung
- Multiple myeloma
- Myelodysplastic syndromes
- Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma

Other Conditions

- Female infertility
- Hepatic steatosis
- Miscarriage
- Neurobehavioral effects
- Renal toxicity
- Scleroderma

Camp Lejeune Veteran Eligibility

- To be eligible for VA healthcare, a Veteran must have served on active duty at Camp Lejeune for at least 30 days between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987.
- The Veteran does **NOT** need to have one of the 15 health conditions to be eligible to receive VA healthcare.
- Veterans do **NOT** need a service connected disability to be eligible as a Camp Lejeune Veteran for VA healthcare.
- VA healthcare related to any of the 15 qualifying health conditions is at no cost to the Veteran (including copayments).
- Camp Lejeune Veterans are enrolled in VA healthcare in Priority Group 6, unless they qualify for a higher priority group.

Camp Lejeune Family Member Eligibility

To receive reimbursement of medical expenses under the provisions of this law, a CL family member:

- Must have had a dependent relationship to an eligible Veteran during the covered time frame.
- Have resided (including in-utero) on Camp Lejeune for at least 30 days between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987.
- **AND** have one or more of 15 qualifying health conditions.

Camp Lejeune Veteran Program

- In response to the law, VA began providing care to Camp Lejeune Veterans on the day the law was enacted, August 6, 2012.
- To support implementation of this statutory requirement, the final regulation for Camp Lejeune Veterans was published on September 24, 2014.
- As of September 30, 2015:
 - VA has provided health care to 16,466 Camp Lejeune Veterans
 - 2,292 of which were treated specifically for one or more of the 15 specified Camp Lejeune-related medical conditions.
 - Of these Veterans, 619 Veterans received this care during fiscal year (FY) 2015.
- Camp Lejeune Veterans interested in enrolling in this program: Call 1-877-222-8387.

Camp Lejeune Veteran Program

- The table below displays the number of Veterans who were treated for each of the 15 Camp Lejeune medical conditions between October 1, 2012, and September 30, 2015.

Veteran Condition /Illness	Totals
Bladder cancer	290
Breast cancer	58
Esophageal cancer	115
Female infertility	1
Hepatic steatosis	287
Kidney cancer	190
Leukemia	155
Lung cancer	303
Multiple myeloma	74
Miscarriage	0
Myelodysplastic syndrome	24
Neurobehavioral effects	110
Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	141
Renal toxicity	523
Scleroderma	21
Total	2292

Camp Lejeune Family Member Program

- Camp Lejeune Family Member Program launched on October 24, 2014, the day that VA's Camp Lejeune family member regulation became effective.
- Family members receive care by civilian providers and VA reimburses, as the last payer, out-of-pocket medical costs associated with the 15 conditions.
- Family members may request reimbursement for expenses incurred on or after March 26, 2013, which is the date when Congress began to fund this program.
- As of September 30, 2015:
 - VA provided reimbursement to 71 family members for claims related to treatment of one or more of the 15 specified Camp Lejeune-related medical conditions.
- Camp Lejeune family members interested in enrolling in this program:
 - Call: 1-866-372-1144
 - Or Visit: <https://www.clfamilymembers.fsc.va.gov>

Camp Lejeune Family Member Program

Family Member Condition /Illness	Totals
Bladder cancer	7
Breast cancer	119
Esophageal cancer	2
Female infertility	2
Hepatic steatosis	1
Kidney cancer	8
Leukemia	9
Lung cancer	6
Miscarriage	2
Multiple myeloma	10
Myelodysplastic syndrome	4
Neurobehavioral effects	2
Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	11
Renal toxicity	2
Scleroderma	7
Total	192

Eligibility Denials

- Veterans: Of the 22,676 Veterans who applied for care and services under the Camp Lejeune Program between October 1, 2012, and September 30, 2015, 103 Veterans were ineligible because they did not meet the statutory requirements for Veteran status.
- Family members: Of the 1,010 family members who applied for medical benefits in the Camp Lejeune Family Member Program between October 24, 2014, and September 30, 2015, 349 were ineligible due to:
 - Camp Lejeune Residency (for 30+ days) Criteria = 166
 - Dependent's Relationship to Eligible Veteran Requirement = 135
 - Veteran's Eligibility Criteria = 48

Top Five Reasons Family Member Out-of-Pocket Medical Expenses Were Not Reimbursed

1. The medical bill was previously paid by Other Health Insurance (OHI), so there was no patient responsibility for the charge(s).
2. The family member did not submit an OHI Explanation of Benefits.
3. Diagnosis code(s) on the medical bill is not covered for the approved condition (bill was sent for clinical review and it was determined the medical procedure(s) were not related to the approved condition).
4. The charge was previously submitted (a duplicate bill was filed).
5. No eligibility for service dates (date of service was before family member was eligible or before the date congress appropriated funds for program).

Communications

Internal Communications

- Nationwide informational call to VA Staff, including
 - Medical Center Directors Call
 - VBA Calls
 - Chiefs of Staff Call
 - Social Workers Call
 - Environmental Exposures Call
 - CBO National Call
- Camp Lejeune Email Group
 - This email group allows VA staff throughout the country to reach out to the program with questions or concerns

External Communications

- USMC Mailing
 - Mailings to over 500,000 individuals on the USMC Camp Lejeune mailing list to inform them of program benefits
 - Website to help inform Veterans and family members of their benefits under the CL law, as well as help them contact the program for enrollment and reimbursement
- VSO Toolkit & Briefings
 - Toolkit included Camp Lejeune web badges, fact sheet and program information
 - Provided program briefings on national VSO calls

Program Enrollment Enhancements

Since the May 2015 CAP meeting, we have addressed concerns about VAMC staff awareness of enrollment processes for Camp Lejeune Veterans and their family members by:

- Web based training has been developed and is available 24/7 to all VA enrollment staff and physicians. This training instructs VA staff on the correct way to determine eligibility and enroll Camp Lejeune Veterans into the program.
- Several live trainings have been conducted to inform VAMC Enrollment Coordinators and their staff on the correct way to enroll Camp Lejeune Veterans.
- IT system enhancements are underway to automate this process.
- Staff that are dedicated to the Camp Lejeune Family Member call center, eligibility and enrollment, and medical claims processing.

Family Member Program Accomplishments

- Deployed a web portal to make it easy for family members to apply to the Camp Lejeune Program.
- Deployed additional IT systems to process and track Camp Lejeune family member's program enrollment, eligibility and claims processing.
- Hired and trained physicians to conduct clinical analysis of Camp Lejeune family member eligibility.
- Enhanced coverage for family members undergoing active cancer treatment.
- Expanded data sources for verifying family member residency at Camp Lejeune with the Marine Corps housing database.
- Rollout of Pharmacy Benefits Manager.

Camp Lejeune Co-Pays Summary

- Camp Lejeune Veterans do not pay a co-pay for CL related care. However, they pay normal VA co-pays for care not related to one of the 15 conditions:
 - Inpatient Care
 - (\$10 per day + \$1,260 for first 90 days and \$630 after 90 days – based on 365-day period).
 - Outpatient Care
 - (\$15 Primary Care; \$50 Specialty Care; \$0 for x-rays, lab, immunizations, etc.)
 - Outpatient Medication
 - (\$8 per 30-day supply PG 2-6 Calendar Year cap - \$960) (\$9 per 30-day supply PG 7-8 No Calendar Year cap)