

# AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE - EXTERNAL CHECKLIST

---

**Purpose:** Use this checklist to assist in determining eligibility for enhanced enrollment priority group placement (e.g. no lower than Priority Group 6) for VA health care enrollment purposes.

**Who:** Veterans who served in Republic of Vietnam (boots on the ground or in the Brown Waters) beginning January 9, 1962 and ending May 7, 1975.

**What:** VA provides cost-free treatment (hospital care, medical services and nursing home) for any disability possibly related to their military service, and assignment to Priority Group 6 (i.e., may meet criteria for a higher priority group).

## **To Confirm Agent Orange Veteran Status from a DD-214:**

**Step 1:** Confirm active military service within dates of January 9, 1962 – May 7, 1975 and 'foreign service in the Republic of Vietnam (RVN)' (DD 214, Record of Service, 12f).

**Step 2:** Confirm active military service within dates of January 9, 1962 – May 7, 1975 and medals awarded to Veterans who serviced in Vietnam. For the Army and Marines, when Vietnam is not documented on the DD214, if one of the medals below are documented as being awarded the Veteran, service in Vietnam is confirmed. For the Navy and Air Force additional information to confirm active military service Vietnam's Brown Waters requires documentation of two or more medals.

- "Brown Water Veterans" who served aboard river patrol and swift boats that operated on inland waterways anytime between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975.
- A resource used by the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) for determining whether a particular US Navy or Coast Guard Veteran of the Vietnam era is eligible for the presumption of AO exposure based on operations of the Veteran's ship – Navy and Coast Guard Ships Associated with Service in Vietnam and Exposure to Herbicide Agents is located at:

<http://vbaw.vba.va.gov/bl/21/rating/VENavyShip.htm>

## AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE - EXTERNAL CHECKLIST

---

Medals (non-exclusive list)	Date Medal Established	Military Branches to Consider	Stand Alone	Exposure AO Eligibility
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM)	12/4/1961	Army, Marine	YES	YES
Vietnam Service Medal (VSM)	7/8/1965	All Branches	NO	An additional Medal or information is required to prove service in RVN.
Vietnam Campaign Medal (VCM)	3/24/1966	Army, Marine	YES	YES
Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal	3/19/1974	All Branches	YES	YES
TET Offensive Ribbon	1/1/1968	Army, Marine	YES	YES

**Step 3:** Confirm Active military service within dates of January 9, 1962 – May 7, 1975 and statement of service in Vietnam is found within the narrative or remarks.

1. USARPAC (United States Army Pacific Command)
2. APO/FPO Address (Army or Fleet Post Office)

**If unable to Confirm from DD-214 or VIS,**

**Step 1:** Contact the Enrollment Eligibility Division of the Health Eligibility Center by 1 or 2 below

1. Online at <https://vhahecweb2.vha.med.va.gov/hecalert>
2. Call 404-828-5257 (for urgent situations)

**Sample DD214's**

- [Sample 1](#)
- [Sample 2](#)
- [Sample 3](#)
- [Sample 4](#)