

Recognized Periods of Wartime

Under the law, VA recognizes these periods of war:

- ☐ **Mexican Border War: May 9, 1916 to April 5, 1917.** Veterans who served in Mexico, on its borders, or in adjacent waters.
- ☐ **World War I: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918.** This period was extended to April 1, 1920 for those who served in the Soviet Union. Service after November 11, 1918, through July 2, 1921, qualifies for benefits if active duty was performed for any period during the basic World War I period.
- ☐ **World War II: December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946.** This period was extended to July 25, 1947, where continuous with active duty on or before December 31, 1946.
- ☐ **Korean Conflict: June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955.**
- ☐ **Vietnam War Era: August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975** for Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period. **August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975,** for Veterans who served outside the Republic of Vietnam.
- ☐ **Gulf War (August 2, 1990, through a future date to be set by law or presidential proclamation)**

Note: Congress has not established formal periods of war for participation in U.S. operations in Lebanon, Grenada or Panama. Service in these theaters alone does not qualify as wartime service. A veteran who did not serve during one of these designated periods is considered to have had peacetime service.