

VetGuide Appendix A: Wars, Campaigns and Expeditions of the Armed Forces Since WW II Which Qualify for Veterans Preference

War Service Creditable for Veterans Preference

In the absence of statutory definition for "war" and "campaign or expedition," OPM considers to be "wars" only those armed conflicts for which a declaration of war was issued by Congress. The title 38, U.S.C., definition of "period of war," which is used in determining benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs, includes the Vietnam Era and other armed conflicts. That title 38 definition is **NOT** applicable for civil service purposes.

Thus the last "war" for which active duty is qualifying for Veterans preference is World War II. The inclusive dates for World War II service are December 7, 1941, through April 28, 1952.

Non-combat operations that are not qualifying for Veterans preference

Many medals are awarded for non-combat operations. These medals are not a basis for preference and include the following:

- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal for service from September 11, 2001, to date to be determined.
- The Medal of Merit for meritorious service in World War II.
- The Medal of Freedom for meritorious achievements or meritorious service to the United States on or after December 7, 1941, in the war against an enemy outside the continental limits of the United States.
- The Antarctica Service Medal for participating in a scientific, direct support, or exploratory operation on the Antarctic Continent.
- The National Defense Service Medal for honorable service between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 or January 1, 1961 and August 14, 1974; or for the period between August 2, 1990, and November 30, 1995.
- The Armed Forces Service Medal for participation in a United States military operation deemed to be a significant activity for which there was no threat of encounter of foreign armed opposition or imminent threat of hostile action.

http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/vso/veterans_preference_and_wartime_service.html#VetGuideAppendixA

- The Armed Forces Reserve Medal for 10 years of honorable service in a Reserve component; or active duty service in a Reserve component on or after August 1, 1990; or volunteer service for active duty on or after August 1, 1990.

Military Operations Since 1937 for Which a Campaign or Expeditionary Medal Has Been Awarded, Except for Operations Occurring During a Declared War

.....

Military personnel receive many awards and decorations. To help agencies make decisions concerning entitlement to Veterans preference and other benefits, the following list identifies those awards that are campaign and expeditionary medals. **Any Armed Forces expeditionary Medal, whether listed here or not, is qualifying for Veterans preference.** The Department of Defense, not OPM, determines who is entitled to receive a medal, and under what circumstances. The list below is derived from DoD 1348.33-M, Manual of Military Decorations and Awards.

DD 214, Certificate of Discharge or Separation from Active Duty, or other official documents issued by the branch of service are required as verification of eligibility for Veterans preference.

Campaigns and Expeditions Which Qualify For Veterans Preference	
Campaign or Expedition	Inclusive dates
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) A veteran's DD Form 214 showing the award of any Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal is acceptable proof. The DD form 214 does not have to show the name of the theater or country of service for which that medal was awarded.	
Afghanistan (Operations Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Iraqi Freedom (OIF))	OEF September 11, 2001, to present; OIF March 19, 2003, to present
Berlin	August 14, 1961, to June 1, 1963
Bosnia (Operations Joint Endeavor, Joint Guard, and Joint Forge)	November 20, 1995 to December 20, 1996; December 20, 1996 to June 20, 1998; June 21, 1998 to present
Cambodia	March 29, 1973, to August 15, 1973

Cambodia Evacuation (Operation Eagle Pull)	April 11 - 13, 1975
Congo	July 14, 1960, to September 1, 1962, and November 23, to 27, 1964
Cuba	October 24, 1962, to June 1, 1963
Dominican Republic	April 28, 1965, to September 21, 1966
El Salvador	January 1, 1981, to February 1, 1992
Global War on Terrorism	September 11, 2001 to present
Grenada (Operation Urgent Fury)	October 23, 1983, to November 21, 1983
Haiti Operation Uphold Democracy)	September 16, 1994, to March 31, 1995
Iraq (Operations Northern Watch, Desert Spring, Enduring Freedom (OEF), and Iraqi Freedom (OIF))	January 1, 1997 to present; December 31, 1998 to December 31, 2002 (projected); OEF September 11, 2001, to present; OIF March 19, 2003, to present
Korea	October 1, 1966, to June 30, 1974
Kosovo	March 24, 1999 to present
Laos	April 19, 1961, to October 7, 1962
Lebanon	July 1, 1958, to November 1, 1958, and June 1, 1983, to December 1, 1987
Mayaguez Operation	May 15, 1975 to May 15, 1975
Operations in the Libyan Area (Operation Eldorado Canyon)	April 12, 1986 to April 17, 1986

Panama (Operation Just Cause)	December 20, 1989, to January 31, 1990
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Earnest Will)	July 24, 1987, to August 1, 1990
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Southern Watch)	December 1, 1995, to present
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Vigilant Sentinel)	December 1, 1995 to February 1, 1997
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Desert Thunder)	November 11, 1998 to December 22, 1998
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Desert Fox)	December 16, 1998 to December 22, 1998
Persian Gulf Intercept Operation	December 1, 1995, to present
Quemoy and Matsu Islands	August 23, 1958, to June 1, 1963
Somalia (Operations Restore Hope and United Shield)	December 5, 1992, to March 31, 1995
Taiwan Straits	August 23, 1958, to January 1, 1959
Thailand	May 16, 1962, to August 10, 1962
Vietnam Evacuation (Operation Frequent Wind)	April 29, 1975, to April 30, 1975
Vietnam (including Thailand)	July 1, 1958, to July 3, 1965

Note:

.....

Section 572 of Subtitle G of the Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law 105-85), signed into law on November 18, 1997, allows the Secretary of the military department concerned to determine whether individual members who participated in Operation Joint Endeavor or Operation Joint Guard in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and in such other areas in the region as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate, meet the individual service requirements for award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM). Generally, service members will be considered eligible if they:

http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/vso/veterans_preference_and_wartime_service.html#VetGuideAppendixA

- deployed to Bosnia and Herzegovina (or other area that the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate) in direct support of one or both of the operations;
- served on board a ship in the Adriatic in direct support of one or both of the operations; or
- operated in airspace above Bosnia, Herzegovina (or other area that the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate) while the operations were in effect.

Navy Expeditionary Medal and Marine Corps Medal for These Operations	
Campaign or Expedition	Inclusive dates
Cuba	January 3, 1961 to October 23, 1962
Indian Ocean/Iran	November 21, 1979, to October 20, 1981
Iranian/Yemen/Indian Ocean	December 8, 1978 to June 6, 1979
Lebanon	August 20, 1982 to May 31, 1983
Liberia (Operation Sharp Edge)	August 5, 1990 to February 21, 1991
Libyan Area	January 20, 1986 to June 27, 1986
Panama	April 1, 1980 to December 19, 1986 and February 1, 1990 to June 13, 1990
Persian Gulf	February 1, 1987 to July 23, 1987
Rwanda (Operation Distant runner)	April 7 - 18, 1994
Thailand	May 16 - August 10, 1962

Vet Guide	
Campaign or Expedition	Inclusive dates
Army Occupation of Austria	May 9, 1945 to July 27, 1955
Army Occupation of Berlin	May 9, 1945 to October 2, 1990
Army Occupation of Germany (exclusive of Berlin)	May 9, 1945 to May 5, 1955
Army Occupation of Japan	September 3, 1945 to April 27, 1952

Chinese Service Medal (Extended)	September 2, 1945 to April 1, 1957
Korea Defense Service Medal	July 28, 1954 to (date to be determined)
Korean Service	June 27, 1950 to July 27, 1954
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) & Operation Allied Force	March 24, 1999 to June 10, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) & Operation Joint Guardian	June 11, 1999 to (date to be determined)
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) & Operation Allied Harbor	April 4, 1999 to September 1, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) & Operation Sustain Hope/Shining Hope	April 4, 1999 to July 10, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) & Operation Noble Anvil	March 24, 1999 to July 20, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) & Task Force Hawk	April 5, 1999 to June 24, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) & Task Force Saber	March 31, 1999 to July 8, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) & Task Force Falcon	June 11, 1999 to (date to be determined)
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) & Task Force Hunter	April 1, 1999 to November 1, 1999
Navy Occupation of Austria	May 8, 1945 to October 25, 1954
Navy Occupation of Trieste	May 8, 1945 to October 25, 1954
Southwest Asia Service Medal (SWASM) (Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm)	August 2, 1990 to November 30, 1995
Units of the Sixth Fleet (Navy)	May 9, 1945 to October 25, 1955
Vietnam Service Medal (VSM)	July 4, 1965 to March 28, 1973
Rwanda (Operation Distant runner)	April 7 - 18, 1994
Thailand	May 16 - August 10, 1962

VetGuide Appendix B: Uniformed Service Qualifying for Veterans Preference Purposes

Appendix B	
Capacity or Organization in Which Service is Performed	Qualify for Preference?
Air Force Service:	
Air Force Nurse Corps	YES
Air Force Reserve, service on active duty	YES
Air Force Reserve Officer's Training Corps	NO
Air Force Service Air National Guard of the United States (including all Federally Recognized Units, Organizations, and members of the Air National Guard of the several States, Territories and the District of Columbia), when mustered or called into service	YES
Cadets of the Air Force	YES
Regular Air Force	YES
Women in the Air Force	YES
Air lines under contract	NO
Air Transport Field Service	NO
American Field Service	NO
American Volunteer Guard	NO
Army Service:	
Army field clerks	YES
Army Nurse Corps	YES
Army Reserve (formerly Organized Reserve Corps) service on active duty	YES
Army Specialist Corps	NO
Army Transport Service: (Commissioned officers of the Army assigned as transport quartermasters in the Army Transport Service)	YES
Army Transport Service: (Other personnel)	NO

Cadets of the United States Military Academy	YES
Contract Surgeons, service since June 3, 1916	YES
Female Dietetic and physical therapy personnel service since April 1, 1943 (exclusive of students and apprentices)	YES
Licensed female physicians and surgeons, service since April 16, 1943	YES
National Guard of the United States (including all Federally recognized units, organizations and members of the National Guard of the several States, Territories and the District of Columbia) when called or mustered into active <i>Federal Service</i>	YES
Philippine Army (organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, including recognized guerrilla units) {see note 4 below}	NO
Philippine Scouts	YES
Regular Army	YES
Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)	NO
Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAACS) {see note 5 below}	NO
Women's Army Corps (WACS)	YES
Women's Medical Specialist Corps	YES
Auxiliary Military Police	NO
Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation	NO
Cadet Nurse Corps	NO
Chaplains:	
Army	YES
Knights of Columbus	NO
Navy	YES
Y.M.C.A.	NO
Chemical Warfare Service:	
Civilian and Contract employees	NO

Military personnel on active duty	YES
Citizens Military Training Camps	NO
Civil Aeronautics Administration Pilot Training:	
Prior to September 1, 1943	NO
After September 1, 1943	YES
Civil Air Patrol	NO
Civilian Conservation Corps (reserve Officers of the Army called to active duty with the Civilian Conservation Corps):	
Service for at least 30 days before July 25, 1939	YES
Other personnel	NO
Coast and Geodetic Survey Personnel { see note 3 below }:	
Service under transfer by the President in time of natural emergency to the service and jurisdiction of the Armed Forces with proper military status (section 16 of the Act of May 22, 1917; 40 Stat. 87, as amended; 33 U.S.C. 855)	YES
Service of commissioned officers of the Coast Guard and Geodetic Survey assigned to duty on projects of immediate military hazard under the provisions of Section 2, of the Act of December 2, 1942, 56 Sta. 1038, as amended (68 Stat. 730)	NO
Coast Guard Service in or in connection with:	
Cadets of the United States Coast Guard Academy	YES
Coast Guard Auxiliary	YES
Coast Guard Reserve Service (temporary): Members enrolled for full-time duty with military pay and allowances other than for uniforms	YES
Coast Guard Reserve Service (temporary): Members enrolled for part-time or intermittent duty without pay and allowances for uniforms	NO
Coast Guard Reserve Service (temporary): Pilots without pay and allowances other than for uniforms	NO
Coast Guard Reserve Service (temporary):	NO

Officers of Great Lakes vessels without pay and allowances other than for uniforms	
Coast Guard Reserve Service (temporary): Coast Guard police without pay and allowances	NO
Coast Guard Reserve Service (temporary): Civil Service employees of the Coast Guard without pay other than compensation of their civilian positions	NO
Regular Coast Guard	YES
Women's Reserve (SPARS), service on active duty	YES
Marine Corps:	
Aviation Cadets Enlisted aviation cadet under 10 U.S.C. 6911, service after August 4, 1942	YES
Aviation Cadets Aviation cadet (appointive grade), service while undergoing flight training	NO
Marine Corps Reserve including: Fleet marine reserve; Organized Marine Corps Reserve; Women's Reserve; provided service is on active duty	YES
Regular Marine Corps	YES
Merchant Marine	NO
Merchant Marine Cadet Corps	NO
Military Sea Transportation Service (MSTS)	NO
Navy, service in connection with:	
Aviation Cadets: Enlisted aviation cadet under 10 U.S.C. 6911, service after August 4, 1942	YES
Aviation Cadets: Aviation cadet (appointive grade), service while undergoing flight training	NO
Licensed female physicians and surgeons, service since April 16, 1943	YES
Midshipmen: Midshipmen (Regular) of the United States naval Academy	YES
Midshipmen:	YES

Midshipmen (Reserve), service between September 8, 1939 and 1946 while attending Midshipmen schools	
Naval Reserve Including: Fleet Reserve; Merchant marine Reserve {see note 7 below}; Volunteer Reserve; Women's Reserve (WAVES); provided service is on active duty	YES
Naval Reserve Officer's Training Corps Students Service before July 1, 1943	NO
Naval Reserve Officer's Training Corps Students Service between July 1, 1943 and June 30, 1946 	YES
Naval Reserve Officer's Training Corps Students Service after June 30, 1946 	NO
Navy College Program personnel, service between July 1, 1943 and June 30,1946	YES
Navy Nurse Corps	YES
Regular Navy	YES
Office of Strategic Services	YES
Public Health Service:	
Officers and employees detailed to duty with the Army or Navy by Executive Order 2571, during World War I	YES
Commissioned officers performing active service: Under individual detail for duty with the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard;	YES
Commissioned officers performing active service: In the Public Health Service while the service is part of the Armed Forces of the United States pursuant to Executive Order {see Note 8 below};	YES
Commissioned officers performing active service: In the Public Health Service in time of war: whether or not the individual detail to the Army, Navy, or Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard and whether or not the Public Health Service was at that time a part of the Armed Forces	YES
Red Cross	NO
State Guards	NO

State Maritime Academy	NO
State or Territorial police or Constabularies	NO
Volunteer Defense Force Units, Territory of Hawaii (1942 to 1945)	NO
War correspondents	NO
Women's Air Service Pilots (WASPS)	NO

Notes:

Military service under the Veterans preference laws is:

1. Active duty in the Armed forces of the United States
2. Active service in the Public Health Service which is a basis for entitlement to "full military benefits" under the Public Health Service Act of July 1, 1944
3. Active service in the Coast and Geodetic Survey and successor organizations (NASA, NOAA) under transfer to the jurisdiction of the Armed Forces under 33 U.S.C. 855
4. Service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines (including recognized guerrilla units) between July 26, 1941 and June 30, 1946 when the forces were in the service of the Armed Forces of the United States, is not service in the military or naval forces of the United States for preference.
5. Members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps served *with* but not *in* the Army. This organization was abolished on September 30, 1943.
6. Coverage applies also to successor organizations, i.e. Environment Science Service Administration and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
7. Service of Merchant Marine Reservists (U.S. Naval Reserve) called to active duty in the Navy, even though assigned to duty on merchant vessels or at shore establishments of the U.S. Maritime Service, is considered active duty for preference purposes.
8. The Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service was declared to be a military service branch of the land and naval forces of the United States beginning July 29, 1945, and continuing through July 3, 1952. (Executive Orders 9575, 10349, 10356, 10362, and 10367.)