



October 3, 2013 VCF Registration Deadline **Frequently Asked Questions**

The September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) is approaching an important deadline. Anyone who knew or had reason to know of physical harm or illness resulting from the 9/11 attacks before October 3, 2011 is required to register with the VCF by October 3, 2013.

1. Who must register by October 3, 2013?

Anyone who knew or had reason to know of physical harm or illness resulting from the 9/11 attacks **before** October 3, 2011.

Registration preserves your right to file a claim in the future (before the Fund ends on October 3, 2016). Registration is **not** the same as filing a claim and does not commit you to file a claim even if you have registered. If you are uncertain about when your illness began, register by the October 3, 2013 deadline to preserve your right to file a claim.

2. Will the Fund accept registrations after October 3, 2013?

Yes. Registrations will be accepted from October 3, 2013 **until October 3, 2016**. You can register after October 3, 2013 if:

- *You learned of your 9/11-related physical harm or illness after October 3, 2011.* If so, you have two (2) years from the date you learned (or reasonably should have known) of the harm to register. For example, if you learn of a 9/11-related physical harm or illness on June 1, 2013, you must register by June 1, 2015. If you learn of a condition on or after October 3, 2014, you must register by October 3, 2016.
- *You were diagnosed on or before October 12, 2012 with one of the cancers that was made eligible on October 12, 2012.* If so, you have until October 12, 2014 to register. If you are diagnosed with such a cancer after October 12, 2012, then you have two (2) years from the diagnosis date to register.
- *The condition you are claiming was added to the list of eligible conditions after October 12, 2012.* You have two years from the date the condition was added to the list of qualified injuries to register (if you learned of your condition before it was added to the list), but no later than October 3, 2016.

Please note that no matter when you register, ***your completed Eligibility and Compensation Forms must be submitted by October 3, 2016.***

3. If I knew of my 9/11-related illness prior to October 3, 2011 but my condition was not on the original list of eligible Fund conditions, what is my registration deadline?

You have ***two (2) years from the date the condition was added to the list of qualified injuries.*** However, because all claims must be filed by October 3, 2016, you must register and submit your Eligibility and Compensation Forms by this date even if it is less than two (2) years from the date the condition was added to the list.

4. If I found out about my 9/11-related illness after October 3, 2011, what is my registration deadline?

You have two (2) years from the date you learned (or reasonably should have known) of the illness to register. However, because all claims must be filed with the Fund by October 3, 2016, you must register and submit your Eligibility and Compensation Forms by this date even if it is less than two (2) years from the date you learned of your illness.



5. If I have been diagnosed with a 9/11-related illness but my condition is not on the list of eligible conditions, should I apply just in case the condition is added in the future?

To preserve your right to file a claim, ***you should register within two (2) years of the date you learned of the illness, but no later than October 3, 2016.*** However, if the condition is added to the list of eligible conditions in the future, you will have two (2) years from the date the condition was added to the list to register. It is important to note that because all claims must be filed with the Fund by October 3, 2016, you must register and submit your Eligibility and Compensation Forms by this date even if it is less than two (2) years from the date the illness was added to the list of eligible conditions.

6. If I have not yet been diagnosed with or treated for a 9/11-related condition, should I still register by October 3, 2013?

No. You do not have to register by the October 3, 2013 deadline if you do not know of any 9/11-related physical harm or illness. However, because registration is simple and does not obligate you to file a claim, you may register now to preserve your right to file a claim in the future if you would like to do so.

You are only required to register with the Fund if you have already learned of a 9/11-related physical injury or illness. If you learn of an eligible condition in the future, you will have two (2) years from the date you learn of the condition to register. However, because all claims must be filed with the Fund by October 3, 2016, you must register and submit your Eligibility and Compensation Forms by this date even if it is less than two (2) years from the date you learned of your 9/11-related illness.

7. How do I Register?

To register online, visit www.vcf.gov. Click on "[How to File a Claim](#)" and then on "Register or File Claim Now". You will be guided through a series of steps to set up an online account and complete the registration information. You will also receive your VCF Claim Number during the Registration process.

If you are not able to register online, you can register by completing Part I of the hardcopy Eligibility Form and mailing it to the Fund. Once your registration is received and processed, you will receive a letter notifying you of your VCF Claim Number. If you decide to file a claim, you can complete the remaining parts of the Eligibility Form at a later date.

Please note that registration **cannot** be completed by calling the VCF toll-free Helpline. The Helpline staff can answer questions about registration and filing deadlines but cannot accept registrations over the phone.

Once you register, you have until October 3, 2016 to complete and submit your Eligibility and Compensation Forms. You may submit the forms at any point after you register; however, ***the VCF cannot begin any review of your claim until the Eligibility Form and the required supporting documents have been submitted.***

8. If I am being treated by the WTC Health Program am I automatically registered with the Victim Compensation Fund?

No. The WTC Health Program and the Fund are separate. You must register for each of these programs separately. Although the WTC Health Program and the Victim Compensation Fund were both established as a result of the Zadroga Act, your registration and/or treatment under the WTC Health Program does not register you with the Fund.