



Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 (VEA)
Conflicts and Operational Service

Peacekeeping Service – Australian Federal Police

Overview

This Factsheet provides a brief description of disability compensation available to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (VEA). Members of a Peacekeeping Force or an Australian contingent of a Peacekeeping Force designated by the Minister are eligible to claim disability compensation pensions under the VEA. This includes those members of the AFP serving with the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

What are Ministerial Instruments relating to AFP service?

Three Ministerial Instruments relate to AFP service in East Timor commencing on 11 June 1999.

- The first instrument covers the period 11 June 1999 to 25 October 1999 for AFP members who actually served in East Timor in the United Nations Assistance Mission in East Timor (UNAMET).
- The second instrument covers the period 25 October 1999 to 19 May 2002 for AFP members who actually served in East Timor in the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET). East Timor became an independent country on 20 May 2002.
- The third instrument covers the period from 20 May 2002 and is currently ongoing. It is for AFP members who actually served in East Timor in the United Nations Mission in Support of East Timor (UNMISSET).

Another Ministerial Instrument relates to AFP service in the Solomon Islands commencing on 24 July 2003 and is currently ongoing. It is for AFP members who actually served in the Solomon Islands in the Regional Assistance Mission Solomon Islands (RAMSI).

A fifth Ministerial Instrument relates to AFP service in Sudan commencing on 1 January 2006 and is currently ongoing. It is for AFP members who actually served in Sudan in the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS).

All instruments classify AFP members as Peacekeepers who are eligible under Part IV of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*.

Peacekeeping Service – Australian Federal Police, *continued*

What are Schedule 3 Operations?

The Peacekeeping Forces currently covered by the VEA up to 1994 are listed in Schedule 3 of the Act. The peacekeeping operations in this schedule which members of the AFP may have eligibility under are outlined below.

Peacekeeping Force	Start Date
United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)	14 May 1964
United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC)	18 May 1992
United Nations Operation in Mozambique (UNOMOZ)	27 March 1994
Multi-National Force in Haiti	10 October 1994

What am I eligible for?

If you were a member of the AFP who served in a Peacekeeping Force covered by a Ministerial Instrument you are able to claim disability compensation pension and treatment for any injury or disease accepted as being caused by your peacekeeping service. You also have access to the Veterans' Vocational Rehabilitation Scheme. Peacekeeping service does not give eligibility for qualifying service.

Treatment under the VEA is provided through a White or a Gold Card. A White Card allows you to receive treatment for all of your accepted disabilities. If you are in receipt of a disability pension at 100% or more of the general rate, you would also be eligible for a Gold Card which provides treatment for all medical conditions, whether or not they are service related.

You may also be able to claim compensation from Comcare for the same injury. However, you cannot be compensated twice for the same loss, so that benefits paid by Comcare will affect any pension that might be paid under the VEA.

Records

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) will seek confirmation of your service from AFP Headquarters in Canberra. However, copies of material that supports your application should be submitted with your claim form.

Oral advice

While we make every effort to ensure that you are given accurate information, it is important that you seek written confirmation of oral information or advice before making any major decisions based on that information.

We continually strive to improve the level of service you receive and make this request as an added safeguard for you.

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Other Factsheets

Other Factsheets related to this topic include:

How to Claim Disability Pensions: DP 18

Peacekeeping Service: DP 10

More information

All DVA Factsheets are available from DVA offices, and on the DVA website at www.dva.gov.au.

You can phone DVA for the cost of a local call on:

133 254, or 1800 555 254, if you are outside a major city

Use a normal landline phone if you can. Mobile phone calls may cost you more

You can send an email to DVA at: generalenquiries@dva.gov.au

You can get more help from any DVA office.