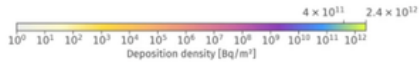


RADIOACTIVE EXPOSURE COMPENSATION ACT

Helpful Tips In Applying As A DOWNWINDER In Utah

WHAT IS RECA?



www.nature.com/articles/s41598-026-62206-x

- Passed in 1990, RECA provides one-time lump-sum compensation to people harmed by nuclear testing and uranium work.
- **RECA was expanded in July 2025 to include all of Utah** and other impacted communities and increased the compensation amount (a one-time, lump sum payment of \$100,000 USD).
- Eligible groups:
 - Uranium workers (miners, millers, transporters)
 - Onsite participants (test site workers)
 - Downwinders (residents exposed to fallout)
- Compensation recognizes diseases linked to radiation exposure, including multiple cancers.
- **Deadline to File: All claims must be filed by December 31, 2027.**

Check what you qualify for:

- **Downwinders are individuals who developed certain cancers after presumed exposure to radiation released during the atmospheric nuclear tests conducted within the United States.**
- Onsite participants are defined as individuals who participated in a test involving the atmospheric detonation of a nuclear device conducted by the United States prior to January 1, 1963 and remediators who worked at a test site within six months of a test, even if they weren't present during the test.
- Uranium workers are defined as individuals who worked in covered occupations relating to uranium mining during the period from January 1, 1942, through December 31, 1990. Please see Check out the DOJ RECA website for details: www.justice.gov/civil/reca for more information.
- RECA was recently expanded to include individuals who developed a covered illness after living, working, or attending school in areas affected by Manhattan Project waste contamination. Please see <https://www.justice.gov/civil/reca> for more information.

**Department of Justice, Civil Division,
Radiation Exposure Compensation Act:**
<https://www.justice.gov/civil/reca>

Phone: 1-800-729-7327

Email: Civil.RECA@usdoj.gov

Mail: U.S. Department of Justice
Radiation Exposure Compensation
Program

P.O. Box 146

Ben Franklin Station

Washington, DC 20044-0146

**Check out The Radiation Exposure
Screening and Education Program
clinic from Intermountain Health's St.
George Regional Hospital - 435-251-
4760 for assistance in applying, please
note that RECA is free to apply for
- beware of scams**

Check if you qualify as a Downwinder in Utah:

- Physically present in an affected area: All of Utah and several other states in the Southwest, check out the DOJ website for details.
- For at least one of the designated timeframes:
 - At least 12 months between January 21, 1951 and November 6, 1962; or
 - In any affected area for 1 year between January 21, 1951, and November 6, 1962; or
 - The entire period from June 30, 1962 to July 31, 1962.
- **Qualifying diseases: Leukemia (other than chronic lymphocytic leukemia), multiple myeloma, lymphomas (other than Hodgkin's disease), and primary cancers of the: thyroid, male or female breast, esophagus, stomach, pharynx, small intestine, pancreas, bile ducts, gall bladder, salivary gland, urinary bladder, brain, colon, ovary, liver (except if cirrhosis or Hepatitis B is indicated), or lung.**

What you will need to send with your application:

- Documents that prove you are a person.
 - Examples: Birth certificates, marriage certificates, all name change documents, death certificates, divorce decrees, adoption papers.
- Documents that prove you were in a qualifying area during the right timeframe. You will need at least 2 documents that are no more than 3 years apart but more than 12 months apart.
 - Examples: School documents, yearbooks, diplomas, utility records, bills with name and address, church documents, immunization cards, dated letters with postmark, authentic receipts with address and date, certified phone book records, certified school records, property tax records, college transcripts,
- Documents that prove you were diagnosed with a qualifying disease.

HOW TO APPLY FOR RECA

- Download the correct claim form for your category from the DOJ website - **www.justice.gov/civil/reca**
 - Downwinder Claim Form
 - You may also request that a claim form be mailed from the website
- Gather original or certified copies of supporting documents, such as:
 - Proof of residence or employment during a qualifying period
 - Medical records documenting your diagnosis of a compensable disease
 - Identification documentation described on the claim form
- Submit your completed claim form and documents by mail to:
U.S. Department of Justice
Radiation Exposure Compensation Program
P.O. Box 146, Ben Franklin Station
Washington, DC 20044-0146
 - An online portal has recently been opened for electronic filing. Please check out the DOJ website for details. You still need to gather original or certified copies for electronic submission - **reca.justice.gov**
- Keep copies of all submitted materials for your records.

The resource page is specific to Downwinders, but the general information can be applied to onsite participants, uranium works, and those exposed to Manhattan Project waste contamination. Contact the RECA program for details.

Please note that HEAL is not an attorney or allowed to file your application for you. We can guide you to some resources and answer simple questions, but we will recommend that you contact the DOJ RECA hotline, the RESEP clinic for Downwinders, and trusted legal services. Please note that RECA is FREE to apply for and if you seek legal assistance that fees are capped at 2% of your award per the RECA law. Please contact the DOJ for any suspicious business practices you may come across.