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Gagetown Training Registry

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the purpose of the Gagetown Training Registry?

- The Gagetown Training Registry is a voluntary initiative administered by the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services (MBVS). It collects information from veterans and service members who trained at Base Gagetown and may have been exposed to harmful chemicals during their military service.

Why is the registry being established?

- During the 132nd Legislature, LD 1640, *An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission and to Reestablish the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission*, was introduced and subsequently enacted into law in April 2026 as Public Law 2025, Chapter 763.

  This legislation directed MBVS to establish the Gagetown Training Registry and reestablished the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission to continue examining potential chemical exposure and related health concerns.

Who is eligible to participate?

- The registry is open to eligible individuals who trained at Base Gagetown as members of the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserve components, or National Guard and who currently reside in Maine or were Maine residents at the time of their training.

  Next of kin may also submit information on behalf of deceased service members.

Why should I participate in the registry?

- Participation will help MBVS better understand who may have been affected by potential chemical exposure at Base Gagetown. The information collected will support outreach and education efforts, contribute to research into potential health effects, and help document the scope of the issue.

  The registry and the Commission's continued work will also provide policymakers with information that may help inform future efforts to address these concerns.

What if I have a diagnosis that is not listed on the form?

- Please enter any additional diagnoses in the **Other Diagnosis** field. Including this information helps provide a more complete picture of your health history.

Can I complete the web form on behalf of someone else?

- Yes. You may complete the form on behalf of another individual.

  Enter the service member's information in the main section of the form. Then, provide your own information in the **Information– If Other Than Veteran** section.

What if I do not know my exact training dates?

- That is okay. Please provide your best estimate or a general timeframe for when you trained at Base Gagetown. Exact dates are not required if they are unknown.

What does the registry mean for Maine National Guard members?

- Participation in the registry does not establish eligibility for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability compensation, health care, or other benefits. The registry is not a benefits program and does not establish a presumption that health condition is connected to chemical exposure at Base Gagetown.

  However, Maine National Guard members who believe they developed health conditions related to their military or state service may be eligible for certain VA benefits. Eligibility depends on individual circumstances, including service history, duty status, medical evidence, and applicable VA requirements.

  Veterans and service members with questions about potential benefits are encouraged to contact MBVS for assistance with filing a claim.

What if I need help completing the web form?

- We are here to help. If you trained at Base Gagetown and have questions or concerns about your health or potential benefits, MBVS can assist you.

  You can register or request assistance in one of the following ways:

  - Online: Visit www.maine.gov/veterans/gagetown.
  - By phone: Call MBVS at 207-287-7020.
  - In person: Visit one of our MBVS offices.

  Our Veterans' Services Officers can help you review your circumstances, understand potential benefit eligibility, and navigate the VA claims process.