

TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR  
**AFGHANISTAN  
 CAMPAIGN  
 MEDAL**

Afghanistan War veterans wear an award specific to that theater. Nearly a year after it was enacted, the law establishing a separate campaign medal for service in Afghanistan was implemented on April 7, 2005.

To receive the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, U.S. troops must have served in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom on or after Oct. 24, 2001. The area of eligibility encompasses all of Afghanistan and its air space. Five service stars are authorized. Veterans must have served in the theater of operations for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days.

Time limits are waived if a veteran engaged in combat or was wounded and evacuated. For air crews, each day of operations counts as one day of eligibility. The medal may be issued posthumously.

This campaign medal replaced the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOTEM), which expired April 30, 2005, for the Afghanistan War.



Veterans who served in Afghanistan before the GWOTEM expired can choose to wear either the GWOTEM or the Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

The war in Afghanistan had claimed more than 2000 American lives in combat by September 2012. Though not nearly as often publicized as Iraq, the fighting in Afghanistan remains intense for those involved. For the U.S. troops still serving there today, the war in this zone is as real as ever. Anyone who has performed duty in this hostile land can take pride in performing a mission of utmost importance.

<b>Afghanistan Campaign Medal</b> .....	Sept. 11, 2001 - Open Liberation of Afghanistan September 11, 2001 to November 30, 2001
Consolidation I .....	December 1, 2001 to September 30, 2006
Consolidation II .....	October 1, 2006 to November 30, 2009
Consolidation III .....	December 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011
Transition I .....	July 1, 2011 to December 31, 2014
Transition II .....	January 1, 2015 to a date to be determined



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