

TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR
I RAQ
C A M P A I G N
 M E D A L

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

To be eligible for the Iraq Campaign Medal, veterans must have served in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on or after March 19, 2003. The area includes Iraq, 12 miles offshore and the air space above both. Veterans must have served in the area 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.

The campaign medal replaced the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOTEM), which expired Feb. 28, 2005, for the Iraq War.

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



The war in Iraq has created a new generation of veterans. Along with those Americans who served in Afghanistan and other countries tied to the campaign against terrorism, they have performed a duty for which relatively few citizens are willing to volunteer. Whether still on active duty, in the National Guard or Reserves, or discharged from the service, anyone who earned this campaign medal is eligible for and welcome into the VFW. Recognition and respect should automatically be bestowed upon all who wear the Iraq Campaign Medal.

Iraq Campaign Medal	March 19, 2003 - December 31, 2011
Liberation of Iraq	March 19 to May 1, 2003
Transition of Iraq	May 2, 2003 to June 28, 2004
Iraqi Governance	June 29, 2004 to December 15, 2005
National Resolution	December 16, 2005 to January 9, 2007
Iraqi Surge	January 10, 2007 to December 31, 2008
Iraqi Sovereignty	January 1, 2009 to August 31, 2010
New Dawn	September 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011



Membership Department • 1.888.JOIN.VFW • 406 West 34th Street • Kansas City, MO 64111