

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL (KWSM)
INFORMATION & FACT SHEET**

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- To receive the KWSM, military veterans must have served in the country of Korea, its territorial waters, or airspace between 25 June 1950 to 27 July 1953. Service must have been performed while on permanent assignment in Korea, or while on temporary duty in Korea for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days, or while as a crew member of aircraft in aerial flight over Korea participating in actual combat operations, or in support of combat operations.

Note: Veterans who served in Japan, Guam, Okinawa, the Philippines or other countries are not eligible.

- If the veteran is deceased, his/her primary next-of-kin (PNOK) may apply for the KWSM. If the veteran was married, the primary next- of-kin is the veteran's spouse, children, or siblings, in that order of precedence. If the spouse is living, he/she must apply before the veteran's eldest son or daughter. If the veteran's eldest son or daughter applies, the request must explain that the spouse is deceased. If the veteran was not married, the PNOK is the veteran's father/mother, or brothers/sisters, in that order of precedence. If the veteran's parents are living, they must apply before the veteran's eldest brother or sister applies. If the veteran's eldest brother or sister applies, the request must explain that the parents are deceased.

- **The KWSM is free. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.**

3 STEPS TO REQUEST THE KWSM:

1. The veteran, or his/her PNOK, if the veteran is deceased/incapacitated, completes and **signs** the request form on the back of this information & fact sheet. **Note: Use this form to request the KWSM only; requests for other medals, aside from the KWSM, will not be honored or answered by HQ AFPC/DPPPRK because those requests must be sent to the National Personnel Records Center only.** (For group requests, please call the 800 number below for instructions)

2. **Veterans must:** submit legible **copies** of one of these documents,

- a. 50's era DD Form 214, Certificate of Release/Discharge from Active Duty (The one issued for service in Korea and showing the Korean Service Medal and United Nations Service Medal. If DD Form 214/215 only shows Korean Service Medal with Bronze Service Stars, that is acceptable)
- b. DD Form 215, Correction to Certificate of Release/Discharge from Active Duty (showing the Korean Service Medal and United Nations Service Medal).
- c. NGB Form 22, Release from Duty

(Additional documents that may be submitted to help prove eligibility to the KWSM)

- a. Assignment Orders to and from the Area of Eligibility
- b. Temporary Duty (TDY) Orders and Travel Vouchers
- c. Citations for Decorations (ex: Purple Heart and Bronze Star Medal citations, showing service in Korea)

PNOK must: submit at least one, or more, of the following supporting documents,

- a. DD Form 214, Certificate of Release/Discharge from Active Duty (The one issued to the veteran for his/her service in Korea and showing the Korean Service Medal and United Nations Service Medal. If DD Form 214/215 only shows Korean Service Medal with Bronze Service Stars, that is acceptable)
 - b. DD Form 215, Correction to Certificate of Release/Discharge from Active Duty (showing the Korean Service Medal and United Nations Service Medal)
 - c. For a veteran Killed in Action, any official military or civilian document reflecting the death of the veteran (ex: death certificate, report of casualty, official death notification telegrams and/or letters, etc..)
3. Mail the request form and legible **copies (DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS)** of the mandatory/supporting documents to the address on the request form. . **If request is approved, allow 4 - 6 weeks to receive medal from date the request form arrives at HQ AFPC/DPPPRK.**