

# Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's (LLNL) Special Cohort Class Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What is the Special Exposure Cohort?**

**A:** The Special Exposure Cohort is a category of employees established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA). The Special Exposure Cohort allows eligible claims to be compensated without the completion of a radiation dose reconstruction or determination of the probability of causation. A group of employees may be added to the cohort because the Department of Health and Human Services could not do dose reconstructions with sufficient accuracy and the exposure could have harmed the class.

**Q: How was the LLNL Special Exposure Cohort revised in 2010?**

**A:** The LLNL Special Exposure Cohort became effective on April 2, 2008 and was only eligible to employees who were monitored by dosimeter badges. This class was expanded on May 5, 2010 to include all employees in the laboratory during the SEC period. If you're previously ineligible for the SEC (because you were not issued a dosimeter badge) and have been denied benefits from EEOICPA, you can now re-apply under the revised SEC. Eligibility for the SEC allows you to avoid having to establish "causation" (which includes the dose reconstruction process).

**Q: What are the requirements for one to receive compensation?**

**A:** To qualify for compensation, one must be either a Department of Energy employee (or an employee of its predecessor agencies) or a Department of Energy contractor or subcontractor who worked at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory from January 1, 1950 through December 31, 1973 for at least 250 work days who has developed one of the 22 eligible cancers.

**Q: Are survivors of a deceased employee eligible to receive compensation?**

**A:** Yes, both a surviving spouse and an employee's children are eligible to receive compensation in the event that the employee passes away due to their illness. An employee's children will receive compensation if there is no surviving spouse, and if at the time of the employee's death the child was:

- Under the age of 18
- Under the age of 23 and a full-time student, continuously enrolled in an educational institution since the age of 18
- Any age if incapable of self-support

**Q: How does the Department of Labor verify one's employment at Lawrence Livermore?**

**A:** The Department of Labor verifies employment at Lawrence Livermore through the following: Department of Energy corporate records (employment/medical); Social Security Administration earnings statements; The Center to Protect Workers' Rights Union record search; and Subcontractor database.

**Q: How much money can I receive if I am a member of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Special Exposure Cohort?**

**A:** \$150,000 per qualified energy employee and, in some cases, certain medical expenses.

**Q: What are the 22 eligible cancers?**

**A:** The 22 eligible cancers are as follows:

- Bone Cancer (includes myelodysplastic syndrome, myelofibrosis with myeloid metaplasia, essential thrombocytosis or essential thrombocytemia, primary polycythemia vera, and chondrosarcoma of the cricoid (cartilage of the larynx))
- Renal Cancers
- Lung Cancer (other than in-situ lung cancer that is discovered during or after a post mortem exam)

If the onset of the disease was at least 2 years after first exposure:

- Leukemia (other than chronic lymphocytic leukemia)

If the onset of the disease was at least 5 years after first exposure:

- Multiple myeloma - a malignant tumor formed by the cells of bone marrow
- Lymphomas (other than Hodgkin's disease)
- Primary cancer of the

Bile ducts	Liver (except if cirrhosis or hepatitis B is indicated)	Stomach
Brain	Ovary	Thyroid
Breast (female and male)	Pancreas	Urinary bladder
Colon	Pharynx	
Esophagus	Salivary Gland	
Gall Bladder	Small intestine	

**Please contact us if you have any questions:**

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