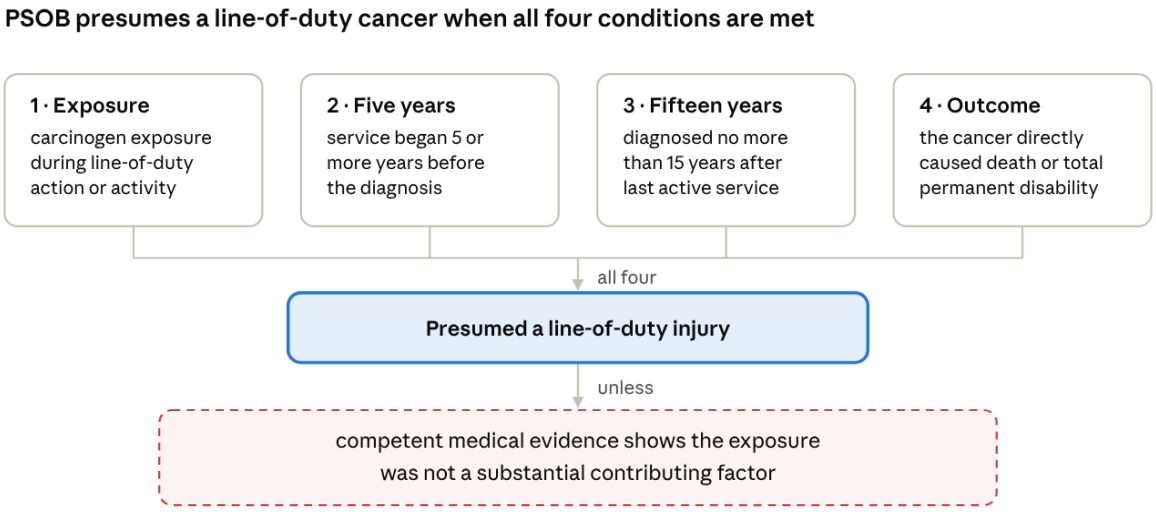
The National Cancer Protection Gap

Attendee Resource Guide

The Federal Layer: PSOB Cancer Presumption

Since December 18, 2025, the federal Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) program presumes that listed cancers are line-of-duty injuries when four conditions are met, and volunteer firefighters are eligible. The source is Public Law 119-60, Sec. 8205, which added 34 U.S.C. 10281(q).



34 U.S.C. 10281(q)(2), added by P.L. 119-60 Sec. 8205

A carcinogen means an agent classified by IARC as Group 1 or 2A and reasonably linked to a listed cancer.

Listed cancers: bladder, brain, breast, cervical, colon, colorectal, esophageal, kidney, leukemia, lung, malignant melanoma, mesothelioma, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, ovarian, prostate, skin, stomach, testicular and thyroid; any WTC-related cancer; and any cancer BJA adds. BJA reviews the list at least every 3 years, and anyone can petition to add a cancer.

What chiefs need to know

- Federal law defines a firefighter to include a member of a legally organized volunteer fire department (34 U.S.C. 10284).
- The department completes Part B of the claim from its own records (BJA).
- The death and disability benefit is $477,336 for deaths or disabilities on or after October 1, 2026 (BJA).
- Coverage reaches back: deaths on or after January 1, 2020, and disability claims filed on or after January 1, 2020.
- The law says claimants are not precluded from filing within 3 years of enactment, which works out to December 18, 2028. Confirm with PSOB before giving a family a hard date.

Contact PSOB: 1-888-744-6513 or AskPSOB@usdoj.gov (BJA PSOB program).