

FIREFIGHTER CANCER PRESUMPTIVE LAWS

United States Coverage by Jurisdiction — Source: IAFF.org/presumptive-health (Updated 2026)

51
US JURISDICTIONS
W/ CANCER LAW

15
BROAD / ALL
CANCER COVERAGE

36
SPECIFIC CANCER
TYPE LISTS

Presumptive disability laws acknowledge that **firefighters face elevated cancer risk** due to occupational exposure to carcinogens, smoke, and toxic substances. Under these laws, a covered cancer diagnosis is *presumed* to be work-related — shifting the burden of proof from the firefighter to the employer. Coverage varies widely: some states list **specific cancer types**, while others broadly cover **any IARC-classified carcinogen-linked cancer**. **15 US jurisdictions** provide notably broad or all-inclusive coverage, more than many realize — highlighted throughout.

COVERAGE SCOPE — US STATES & DC

Any/All Cancer (Broad)		15
20+ Specific Types		6
10–19 Specific Types		21
Under 10 Types		9

US Jurisdictions with Broad / "All Cancer" Presumptive Coverage

15 These jurisdictions cover any cancer linked to occupational carcinogen exposure (IARC-defined), any cancer from heat/smoke/radiation, or all cancers conclusively — the strongest protections available.

Alabama · California · Illinois · Indiana · Kansas · Minnesota · New Hampshire · New Jersey · North Dakota · Ohio · Oklahoma · Pennsylvania · Rhode Island · South Dakota · Wyoming

UNITED STATES & DC — CANCER COVERAGE BY JURISDICTION (50 STATES + DC + FEDERAL)

☒ Broad / All-Cancer Coverage ☐ Specific Cancer Types Listed

▲ Alabama Any cancer linked to known carcinogen exposure	US Federal Bladder, brain, COPD, colorectal, esophageal, kidney, leukemia, lung, mesothelioma, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, prostate, melanoma, testicular, thyroid	Idaho Multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma; lung, brain, stomach, esophagus, intestines, rectum, kidney, bladder, prostate, testes	Nevada Bladder, brain, breast, colon, esophageal, Hodgkin lymphoma, kidney, leukemia, liver, lung, lymphatic/haematopoietic, skin (basal/squamous/melanoma), multiple myeloma, nasopharyngeal, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, ovarian, pancreatic, prostate, rectal, sarcoma, stomach, testicular, thyroid, urinary tract, uterine
▲ California Any cancer — IARC known carcinogen exposure; skin cancer	Alaska Brain, melanoma, leukemia, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, bladder, ureter, kidney, prostate, breast	Iowa Prostate, brain, breast, ovarian, cervical, uterine, melanoma, leukemia, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, bladder, colorectal, multiple myeloma, testicular, kidney	New Mexico Brain, bladder, kidney, colorectal, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, leukemia, ureter, testicular, breast, esophageal, multiple myeloma
▲ Illinois Any cancer caused by heat, radiation, or IARC carcinogen	Arizona Brain, bladder, rectal, colon, lymphoma, leukemia, mesothelioma, esophagus, lung, kidney, prostate, skin, stomach, testicular, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, multiple myeloma, melanoma, buccal cavity/pharynx	Kentucky Bladder, brain, colon, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, kidney, liver, lymphatic/haematopoietic, prostate, testicular, skin, cervical, breast	New York Lymphatic, digestive, hematological, urinary, neurological, breast, reproductive, prostate systems
▲ Indiana Any cancer from known occupational carcinogen exposure	Arkansas Leukemia, lymphoma, mesothelioma, multiple myeloma; brain, digestive tract, urinary tract, liver, skin, breast, cervical, thyroid, prostate, testicle	Louisiana Bladder, brain, colon, liver, pancreas, skin, kidney, GI tract, reproductive tract, leukemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma, prostate, testicular; plus any with statistically significant elevated risk	North Carolina Mesothelioma, testicular, intestinal, esophageal
▲ Minnesota Any cancer from heat, radiation, or IARC known/suspected carcinogen	Colorado Brain, skin, digestive system, hematological system, genitourinary system	Maine Kidney, prostate, breast, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, testicular, colon, brain, bladder, leukemia, multiple myeloma, gynecologic	Oregon Brain, colon, stomach, testicular, prostate, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, throat/mouth, rectal, breast, leukemia, bladder, gynecologic (uterus, fallopian, ovaries, cervix, vagina, vulva)
▲ New Hampshire Any cancer from heat, radiation, or IARC known/suspected carcinogen	Connecticut Kahler's disease, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, prostate, testicular, brain; skeletal, digestive, endocrine, respiratory, lymphatic, reproductive, urinary, hematological systems	Maryland Leukemia, prostate, rectal, throat, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, brain, testicular, breast	South Carolina Central/peripheral nervous system, oropharyngeal, respiratory, GI tract, hepatobiliary, solid organ/endocrine, genitourinary/male reproductive, GYN, skin, soft tissue, breast, bone, blood
▲ New Jersey Any cancer — direct exposure to known carcinogen or radiation	Delaware Bladder, blood, brain, breast, cervical, esophageal, intestinal, kidney, lymphatic, lung, prostate, rectal, skin, testicular, thyroid; leukemia, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma	Massachusetts Skin, central nervous system, lymphatic, digestive, hematological, urinary, skeletal, oral, prostate, lung/respiratory tract	Tennessee Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, colon, skin, leukemia, testicular, multiple myeloma, prostate*, breast*, pancreatic* (*post-entry screening required)
▲ North Dakota Any cancer from smoke, fumes, or carcinogenic/chemical substances	District of Columbia Leukemia, breast, ovarian, pancreatic, prostate, rectal, colon, liver, testicular, respiratory, multiple myeloma, brain, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, throat, kidney, thyroid, bladder	Mississippi Bladder, brain, colon, liver, pancreas, skin, kidney, GI tract, reproductive tract, leukemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma, prostate, testicles, breast	Texas Stomach, colon, rectum, skin, prostate, testicular, brain, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, multiple myeloma, melanoma, renal cell carcinoma; tuberculosis/lung
▲ Ohio Any IARC Group 1 or 2A carcinogen-linked cancer	Florida Bladder, brain, breast, cervical, colon, esophageal, invasive skin, kidney, large intestinal, lung, melanoma, mesothelioma, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, oral/pharynx, ovarian, prostate, rectal, stomach, testicular, thyroid	Missouri Skin, central nervous system, lymphatic, digestive, hematological, urinary, skeletal, oral, breast, testicular, genitourinary, liver, prostate; plus IARC carcinogens	Utah Pharynx, esophagus, lung, mesothelioma
▲ Oklahoma Any cancer not revealed in entry physical examination	Georgia Bladder, blood, brain, breast, cervical, esophageal, intestinal, kidney, lymphatic, lung, prostate, rectum, skin, testicular, thyroid; leukemia, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma	Montana Bladder, brain, breast, colorectal, esophageal, kidney, leukemia, mesothelioma, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, lung	Vermont Leukemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma; bladder, brain, colon, GI tract, kidney, liver, pancreas, skin, testicles
▲ Pennsylvania Any cancer — firefighter establishes direct carcinogen exposure	Hawaii Leukemia, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma; lung, brain, stomach, esophagus, intestines, rectum, kidney, bladder, prostate, testes	Nebraska Skin, central nervous system, lymphatic, digestive, hematological, urinary, skeletal, oral, prostate	Virginia Leukemia, pancreatic, prostate, rectal, throat, ovarian, breast, colon, brain, testicular
▲ Rhode Island ANY type of cancer — conclusively presumed occupational			Washington Prostate (under 50), brain, melanoma, leukemia, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, bladder, ureter, colorectal, multiple myeloma, testicular, kidney, mesothelioma, stomach, non-melanoma skin, breast (women), cervical
▲ South Dakota Any impairment of health caused by cancer			West Virginia Leukemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma, bladder, mesothelioma, testicular
▲ Wyoming Any cancer/lymphoma/leukemia from heat, smoke, radiation, or carcinogen			Wisconsin Skin, breast, central nervous system, lymphatic, digestive, hematological, urinary, skeletal, oral, reproductive

* "Broad/All Cancer" includes states covering any IARC-defined carcinogen-linked cancer, any cancer from occupational exposure, or all cancers conclusively. State laws include eligibility requirements (minimum years of service, clean pre-entry physical) and may include rebuttable clauses. Consult your local union and legal counsel for benefit eligibility.