

Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance For Family Caregivers

Roles, Responsibilities and Requirements Fact Sheet



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) is a clinical program that focuses on the needs of participating Veterans (including qualifying Service members) and their Primary and/or Secondary Family Caregiver(s). All PCAFC eligibility requirements must be met to be approved for and to continue to participate in PCAFC. This document explains the roles, responsibilities, and requirements of Family Caregivers and Veterans participating in PCAFC as well as the VA Caregiver Support Program (CSP) Teams.



FAMILY CAREGIVER

Role

A Primary Family Caregiver is an individual designated as primary provider of personal care services for the Veteran. This individual has been specified on the joint application as the Primary Family Caregiver and has been approved by VA as the Primary Family Caregiver for the purposes of PCAFC.

A Secondary Family Caregiver is an individual approved as a provider of personal care services for the Veteran and generally serves as a back-up to the Primary Family Caregiver. This individual has been specified on the joint application as a Secondary Family Caregiver and has been approved by VA as a Secondary Family Caregiver for the purposes of PCAFC.

Responsibilities

VA encourages both Primary and Secondary Family Caregivers to do the following:

- Work closely with the Veteran's treatment team to support, promote, and encourage the Veteran in attaining the highest level of independence possible.
- Notify the Caregiver Support Program (CSP) Team if there is any change to a Family Caregiver's address, telephone number or other contact information. VA encourages notification promptly via telephone, in writing or in person, that includes the effective date of the change.
- Notify the CSP Team if a Family Caregiver is no longer willing or able to serve as the Veteran's Family Caregiver for any reason, including a change in physical or mental health conditions, impacting their ability to care for the Veteran.
- Notify the CSP Team and the Veteran's primary care team if a Family Caregiver observes any changes in the Veteran's physical or mental health condition impacting the Veteran's care needs.
- For the Primary Family Caregiver Only: Notify the CSP Team if the Primary Family Caregiver is participating in the Civilian Health and Medical Program of VA (CHAMPVA) under PCAFC and:
 - ◇ Becomes covered under a health-plan contract such as a commercial health insurance plan, Medicare, Medicaid, or a Workers' Compensation law or plan. Note: If the Primary Family Caregiver is covered by a health-plan contract, he or she is not eligible for CHAMPVA under PCAFC.
 - ◇ Becomes eligible for TRICARE. Note: Individuals are not eligible for CHAMPVA if they are also eligible for TRICARE.

Requirements

The following are requirements of both Primary and Secondary Family Caregivers:

- Submit a joint application for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers, VA Form 10-10CG. The Family Caregiver applicant(s) and the identified Veteran (or the Veteran's Representative) must sign and date the application.
- Be at least 18 years of age and agree to perform personal care services for the Veteran.
- Be a member of the Veteran's family, such as a spouse, son, daughter, parent, step-family member, or extended family member; or if not a member of the Veteran's family, the Family Caregiver(s) must live with the Veteran full-time or will do so if designated as a Family Caregiver.
- Complete all necessary eligibility evaluations, caregiver education and training, and the initial home-care assessment so that VA may complete the designation process no later than 90 days after the date the joint application was received by VA.
- Participate in all reassessments by VA. Reassessments generally occur on an annual basis but may occur more or less frequently as determined appropriate by VA. Reassessments include consideration of whether the Veteran is unable to self-sustain in the community for purposes of the monthly stipend rate. Reassessments may include a visit to the Veteran's home.
- Participate in wellness contacts. Ongoing wellness contacts will be conducted to review the Veteran's well-being, the adequacy of the personal care services being provided by the Family Caregiver(s), and the well-being of the Family Caregiver(s). Wellness contacts will occur at a minimum of once every 120 days, and at least one wellness contact must occur in the Veteran's home on an annual basis.

VA must be notified of the following:

- When the Veteran relocates to a new address. Please notify the CSP Team as soon as possible via telephone, in writing, or in person any time the Veteran relocates to a new address and include the new address and the date of the relocation. VA must receive notification no later than 30 days from the date of relocation. If VA does not receive notification within 30 days from the date of relocation, VA will seek to recover overpayments of benefits back to the latest date that the adjustment would have been effective if VA had been notified within 30 days from the date of relocation.
- If the Veteran or a Family Caregiver is institutionalized in a setting outside the home residence to include a hospital, rehabilitation facility, jail, prison, assisted living facility, medical foster home, nursing home, or other similar setting. Please notify the CSP Team as soon as possible via telephone, in writing, or in person any time the Veteran or a Family Caregiver is institutionalized. VA must receive notification, no later than 30 days from the date of institutionalization. This notification must include whether the Veteran or Family Caregiver is expected to be institutionalized for 90 or more days. Delays in notifying VA of the Veteran's or a Family Caregiver's institutionalization, could result in an overpayment of benefits; overpayments are subject to collection action.
- If the Veteran or another Family Caregiver dies. Please notify the CSP Team and the Veteran's primary care team as soon as possible via telephone, in writing, or in person in the event of the Veteran's death or the death of a Family Caregiver. VA must receive notification no later than 30 days from the date of death. Delays in notifying VA of a Veteran's death or the death of a Primary Family Caregiver could result in an overpayment; overpayments are subject to collection action.

VETERAN



Role

For purposes of this document, a Veteran is an individual who has submitted a joint application for PCAFC participation and for whom a Primary and/or Secondary Family Caregiver has been approved and designated by VA. The Veteran receives personal care services from the designated Family Caregiver(s).

Responsibilities

VA encourages the Veteran to do the following:

- Work closely with Family Caregiver(s) and primary care team to attain the highest possible level of independence.
- Notify the Caregiver Support Program (CSP) Team if receiving care from non-VA providers for the purposes of care coordination.
- Notify the CSP Team if any designated Family Caregiver is no longer willing or able to serve as a Family Caregiver for any reason including a physical or mental health condition.

Requirements

The following are the requirements of the Veteran:

- Submit a joint application for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers, VA Form 10-10CG. The Veteran (or the Veteran's Representative) and the Family Caregiver applicant(s) must sign and date the application.
- Complete all necessary eligibility evaluations and the initial home-care assessment so that VA may complete the designation process no later than 90 days after the date the joint application was received by VA.
- Receive ongoing care from a primary care team if VA designates a Family Caregiver. Primary care team means one or more medical professionals who provide care for a patient based on the clinical needs of the patient. Primary care teams must include a VA primary care provider who is a physician, advanced practice nurse, or a physician assistant.
- Receive care at home if VA designates a Family Caregiver.
- Participate in all reassessments. Reassessments generally occur on an annual basis but may occur more or less frequently as determined appropriate by VA. Reassessments include consideration of whether the Veteran is unable to self-sustain in the community for the purposes of the monthly stipend rate. Reassessments may include a visit to the Veteran's home.
- Participate in wellness contacts. Ongoing wellness contacts will be conducted to review the Veteran's well-being, the adequacy of the personal care services being provided by the Family Caregiver(s), and the well-being of the Family Caregiver(s). Wellness contacts will occur at a minimum of once every 120 days, and at least one wellness contact must occur in the Veteran's home on an annual basis.

VA must be notified of the following:

- Relocation of the Veteran to a new address. Please notify the CSP Team as soon as possible via telephone, in writing, or in person any time the Veteran relocates to a new address and include the new address and the date of the relocation. VA must receive notification no later than 30 days from the date of relocation. If VA does not receive notification within 30 days from the date of relocation, VA will seek to recover overpayments of benefits back to the latest date that the adjustment would have been effective if VA had been notified within 30 days from the date of relocation.
- If the Veteran or a Family Caregiver is institutionalized in a setting outside the home residence to include a hospital, rehabilitation facility, jail, prison, assisted living facility, medical foster home, nursing home, or other similar setting. Please notify the CSP Team as soon as possible via telephone, in writing, or in person any time the Veteran or a Family Caregiver is institutionalized. VA must receive notification no later than 30 days from the date of institutionalization. This notification must include whether the Veteran or Family Caregiver is expected to be institutionalized for 90 or more days. Delays in notifying VA of a Veteran's or Family Caregiver's institutionalization, could result in an overpayment of benefits; overpayments are subject to collection action.
- If a Family Caregiver dies. Please notify the CSP Team and the Veteran's primary care team as soon as possible via telephone, in writing, or in person in the event of the death of a Family Caregiver. VA must receive notification no later than 30 days from the date of death. Delays in notifying VA of the death of a Primary Family Caregiver could result in an overpayment; overpayments are subject to collection action.



CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM (CSP) TEAM

Role

The Caregiver Support Program (CSP) Team is made up of individuals at the VA medical center who support Veterans and caregivers applying for or participating in the PCAFC.

Responsibilities

The following are the responsibilities of the CSP Team:

- Serve as an advocate for ensuring the availability of services and benefits for caregivers and Veterans, including referrals to the Program of General Caregiver Support Services, when applicable.
- Provide education and information on PCAFC eligibility requirements, application process, and ongoing participation.
- Inform Family Caregiver applicants of support services and benefits available to them if approved for PCAFC, to include the monthly stipend and CHAMPVA for Primary Family Caregivers, if applicable.
- Engage Veterans and Family Caregiver applicants in active communication throughout the application process and provide clear communication regarding any updates or changes in program status, to include information about revocation and discharge.
- Respond to Veterans' and Family Caregivers' questions and concerns.

Requirements

The following are the requirements of the CSP Team:

- Facilitate the processing of PCAFC applications, VA Form 10-10CG, to include coordination with applicable staff of: all necessary evaluations, collaboration with the primary care team to the maximum extent practicable, caregiver education and training and the initial home-care assessment.
- Coordinate wellness contacts, which include at least one visit in the Veteran's home on an annual basis, to review the well-being of the Veteran, adequacy of personal care services being provided by the Family Caregiver(s) and the well-being of the Family Caregiver(s).
- Coordinate reassessments.
- Provide 60-day advanced notice of a stipend decrease due to reassessment, when applicable.
- Provide 60-day advanced notice in specific instances of discharge and revocation, when applicable.
- Provide written notice of PCAFC decisions, including the right to seek further review or appeal.
- Report any suspicion of abuse or neglect per VA policy.
- Safeguard the confidentiality and protected health information of both the Veteran and Family Caregiver in accordance with VA Policy, including any caregiver electronic health record.

**Responsibilities and requirements contained in the Caregiver Support Program (CSP) Team section of this document do not overcome any conflicting position descriptions, functional statements or qualification standards.*

How to Contact your Caregiver Support Program Team

Veterans and caregivers can find their local Caregiver Support Program Team...



Calling the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274 - Toll free - Expanded Hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. ET; Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET)



Using the Caregiver Support Program Team locator tool at : www.caregiver.va.gov/support/New_CSC_Page.asp

Online application available at: <https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/apply-for-caregiver-assistance-form-10-10cg/introduction>

Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

Eligibility Criteria Fact Sheet



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) offers enhanced clinical support for Family Caregivers of eligible Veterans.



Veteran Eligibility Requirements:

A Veteran or Service member may be eligible for a Family Caregiver if all of the following requirements are met:

- 1** The individual is either:
 - A Veteran; or
 - A member of the Armed Forces undergoing a medical discharge from the Armed Forces.
- 2** The individual has a serious injury (including serious illness) incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service.
 - For purposes of PCAFC, serious injury means any service-connected disability that: (1) Is rated at 70 percent or more by VA; or (2) Is combined with any other service-connected disability or disabilities, and a combined rating of 70 percent or more is assigned by VA.
- 3** The individual is in need of in-person personal care services for a minimum of six (6) continuous months based on any one of the following:
 - An inability to perform an activity of daily living;
 - A need for supervision or protection based on symptoms or residuals of neurological or other impairment or injury; or
 - A need for regular or extensive instruction or supervision without which the ability of the Veteran to function in daily life would be seriously impaired.
- 4** It is in the best interest of the individual to participate in the program.
- 5** Personal care services that would be provided by the Family Caregiver will not be simultaneously and regularly provided by or through another individual or entity.
- 6** The individual receives care at home or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.
- 7** The individual receives ongoing care from a Primary Care Team or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.



To apply online, visit

<https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/comprehensive-assistance-for-family-caregivers>

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Family Caregiver Eligibility Requirements

A Family Caregiver must:

- 1 Be at least 18 years of age.
- 2 Be either:
 - The eligible Veteran's spouse, son, daughter, parent, stepfamily member, or extended family member; or
 - Someone who lives with the eligible Veteran full-time or will do so if designated as a Family Caregiver.
- 3 Be initially assessed by VA as being able to complete caregiver education and training.
- 4 Complete caregiver training and demonstrate the ability to carry out the specific personal care services, core competencies, and additional care requirements.

In addition, there must be no determination by VA of abuse or neglect of the eligible Veteran by the caregiver.



Stipend Levels:

The amount of the monthly stipend the Primary Family Caregiver is eligible to receive, is determined based on information gathered during VA's evaluation of the Veteran's personal care needs.

Level One: The Primary Family Caregiver's monthly stipend is calculated by multiplying the monthly stipend rate [Office of Personnel Management (OPM) General Schedule (GS) Annual Rate for grade 4, step 1, based on the locality pay area in which the eligible Veteran resides] divided by 12 multiplied by 0.625.

- For example, the GS rate at grade 4, step 1, in Dallas, Texas, for 2022 was \$34,916 annually.
- Thus, the monthly stipend amount for a Primary Family Caregiver of an eligible Veteran in Dallas, Texas, at this rate (\$34,916, divided by 12 multiplied by 0.625) was approximately \$1,818.54 in 2022.

Level Two: If VA determines the eligible Veteran meets the definition of "unable to self-sustain in the community" for the purposes of PCAFC, the designated Primary Family Caregiver's monthly stipend is calculated by multiplying the monthly stipend rate (OPM GS Annual Rate for grade 4, step 1, based on the locality pay area in which the eligible Veteran resides) divided by 12 multiplied by 1.00.

- For example, the GS rate at grade 4, step 1, in Dallas, Texas, for 2022 was \$34,916 annually.
- The 2022 monthly stipend amount for a Primary Family Caregiver of an eligible Veteran in Dallas, Texas, at this rate (\$34,916, divided by 12 multiplied by 1.00) was approximately \$2,909.67

Veterans and caregivers can find their local CSP Team by:



Calling the VA Caregiver Support Line **1-855-260-3274**



Using the CSP Teams locator at
www.caregiver.va.gov/support/New_CSC_Page.asp

Definitions

Unable to Self-sustain in the Community

For purposes of PCAFC, “unable to self-sustain in the community” means that an eligible Veteran either:

- Requires personal care services each time he or she completes three or more of the seven activities of daily living (ADL) listed in the definition of an inability to perform an activity of daily living in this section, and is fully dependent on a caregiver to complete such ADLs; or
- Has a need for supervision or protection based on symptoms or residuals of neurological or other impairment or injury on a continuous basis; or
- Has a need for regular or extensive instruction or supervision without which the ability of the Veteran to function in daily life would be seriously impaired on a continuous basis.

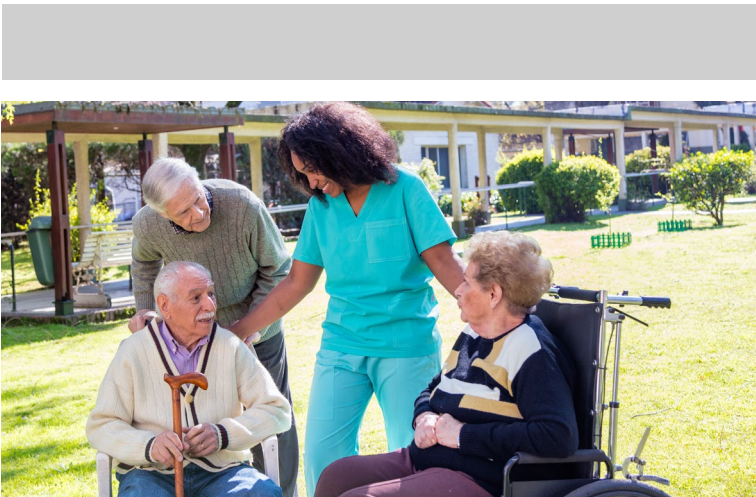


Inability to Perform Activity of Daily Living (ADL)

For purposes of PCAFC, the “inability to perform an ADL” means the Veteran or Service member requires personal care services each time he or she completes one or more of the ADLs listed below.

- Dressing or undressing oneself
- Bathing
- Grooming oneself in order to keep oneself clean and presentable
- Adjusting any special prosthetic or orthopedic appliance, that by reason of the particular disability cannot be done without assistance (this does not include the adjustment of appliances that nondisabled persons would be unable to adjust without aid, such as supports, belts, lacing at the back, etc.)
- Toileting or attending to toileting
- Feeding oneself due to loss of coordination of upper extremities, extreme weakness, inability to swallow, or the need for a non-oral means of nutrition
- Mobility (walking, going up stairs, transferring from bed to chair, etc.)

Requiring assistance with an ADL only some of the time does not meet the definition of an “inability to perform an ADL.”



Updated: October 2022

To apply online, visit

<https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/comprehensive-assistance-for-family-caregivers>

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Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Application Process

Fact Sheet



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) provides enhanced clinical support for caregivers of eligible Veterans and Service members. A Veteran or Service member may be eligible for a Family Caregiver if all the following requirements are met.

1. The individual is either:

- A Veteran; or
- A member of the Armed Forces undergoing a medical discharge from the Armed Forces.

2. The individual has a serious injury (including serious illness) incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service. For purposes of PCAFC, serious injury means any service-connected disability that: (1) Is rated at 70 percent or more by VA; or (2) Is combined with any other service-connected disability or disabilities, and a combined rating of 70 percent or more is assigned by VA.

3. The individual is in need of in-person personal care services for a minimum of six (6) continuous months based on any one of the following:

- An inability to perform an activity of daily living;
- A need for supervision or protection based on symptoms or residuals of neurological or other impairment or injury; or
- A need for regular or extensive instruction or supervision without which the ability of the Veteran to function in daily life would be seriously impaired.

4. It is in the best interest of the individual to participate in the program.

5. Personal care services that would be provided by the Family Caregiver will not be simultaneously and regularly provided by or through another individual or entity.

6. The individual receives care at home or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.

7. The individual receives ongoing care from a Primary Care Team or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.

Every VA facility has a CSP team who assists with information and referrals. To learn more about services available, visit us online:

www.caregiver.va.gov

VA Caregiver Support Line
☎ 1-855-260-3274 toll-free

PCAFC Application Process

The local Caregiver Support Program (CSP) Team coordinates and communicates with the Veteran and each Family Caregiver Applicant applying for PCAFC throughout the application process outlined below.

1. Application Submission

Who: Veteran and Family Caregiver Applicant complete the application

What: Application for PCAFC – VA Form 10-10CG

How: Fill out and submit application using **one** of the following methods:

- **Access and apply online** using this link: https://www.caregiver.va.gov/support/support_benefits.asp
- **Apply by mail** by downloading the application using this link:
<https://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/VA%20Form%2010-10CG.pdf#>

Mail the form and supporting documents to:

**Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers
Health Eligibility Center
2957 Clairmont Road NE, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30329-1647**

• **Apply in person.** Bring your completed VA Form 10-10CG to your local VA facility's CSP Team. To find your local CSP Team:

- Go to the CSP Team locator tool using this link:
https://www.caregiver.va.gov/support/New_CSC_Page.asp or
- Contact the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274,

2. Application Intake

Who: Local CSP Team member conducts an application intake with the Veteran and/or Family Caregiver Applicant

What: Review completed application – VA Form 10-10CG

How: In person, by telephone, or via VA Video Connect



Every VA facility has a CSP team who assists with information and referrals. To learn more about services available, visit us online:

www.caregiver.va.gov

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Note: If the Veteran and at least one Family Caregiver Applicant meet the specific eligibility requirements during the Application Intake, the following steps will occur:

3. Veteran Assessment

Who: Local CSP Team member conducts a clinical assessment with the Veteran

What: An assessment to collect clinical information about the Veteran, including the caregiver's input on care needs

How: In person, by telephone, or via VA Video Connect

4. Caregiver Assessment

Who: Local CSP Team member conducts a clinical assessment with each Family Caregiver Applicant

What: An assessment to collect specific information about each Family Caregiver Applicant

How: In person, by telephone, or via VA Video Connect

5. Veteran Functional Assessment

Who: CSP Clinical Assessor completes a Functional Assessment with the Veteran

What: Veteran Functional Assessment Instrument (which assesses the Veteran's functional abilities)

How: In person or via VA Video Connect

6. Initial Application Review

Who: CSP Centralized Eligibility and Appeals Team (CEAT) reviews the Veteran's medical record (including completed PCAFC assessments)

What: A review of assessments and medical records

Where: Internal to VA

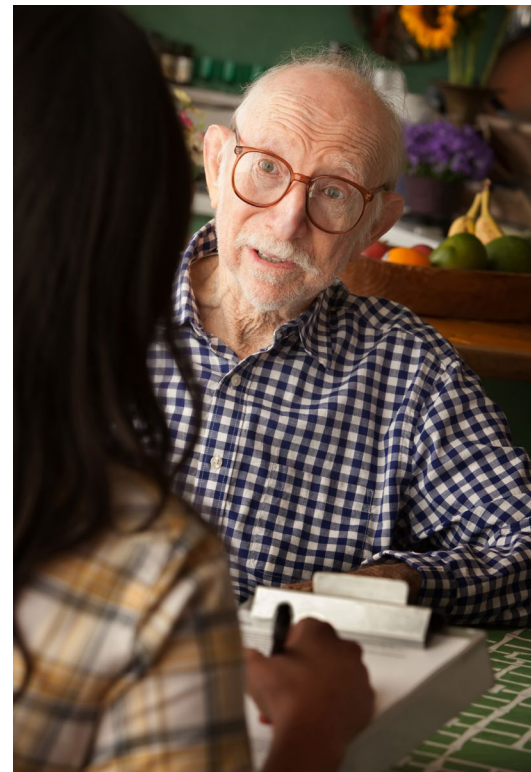
Steps 7 through 10 are completed only when CEAT determines that the Veteran and at least one Family Caregiver Applicant will continue with the application process.

7. Caregiver Training

Who: Each Family Caregiver Applicant completes caregiver training

What: Caregiver *Core Curriculum* training

How: Caregiver training completed online or via DVD/workbook



Every VA facility has a CSP team who assists with information and referrals. To learn more about services available, visit us online:

www.caregiver.va.gov

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8. Home-Care Assessment

Who: CSP Clinical Assessor conducts a Home-Care Assessment with the Veteran and each Family Caregiver Applicant

What: An assessment to determine the well-being of the Veteran and Family Caregiver Applicant(s), as well as the competence of each Family Caregiver Applicant to provide personal care services at the Veteran's home

Where: In the Veteran's home

9. Final Application Review

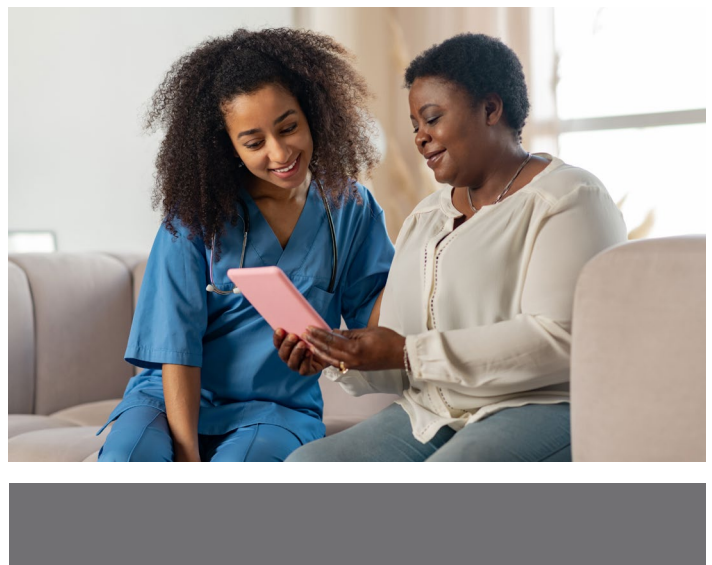
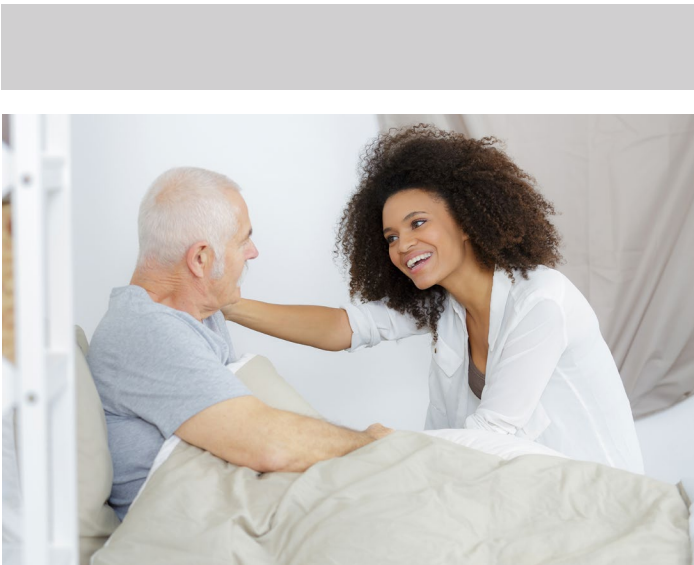
Who: CEAT

What: A final review to determine eligibility for PCAFC

Where: Internal to VA


10. Notification of Approval

The Veteran and each Family Caregiver Applicant receives written notification of the determination.



How to Contact your Caregiver Support Program Team

Veterans and caregivers can find their local Caregiver Support Program team by

 Calling the Caregiver Support Line at **1-855-260-3274** - Toll free

 Using the Caregiver Support Program Team locator tool at :
www.caregiver.va.gov/support/New_CSC_Page.asp

Online application is available at

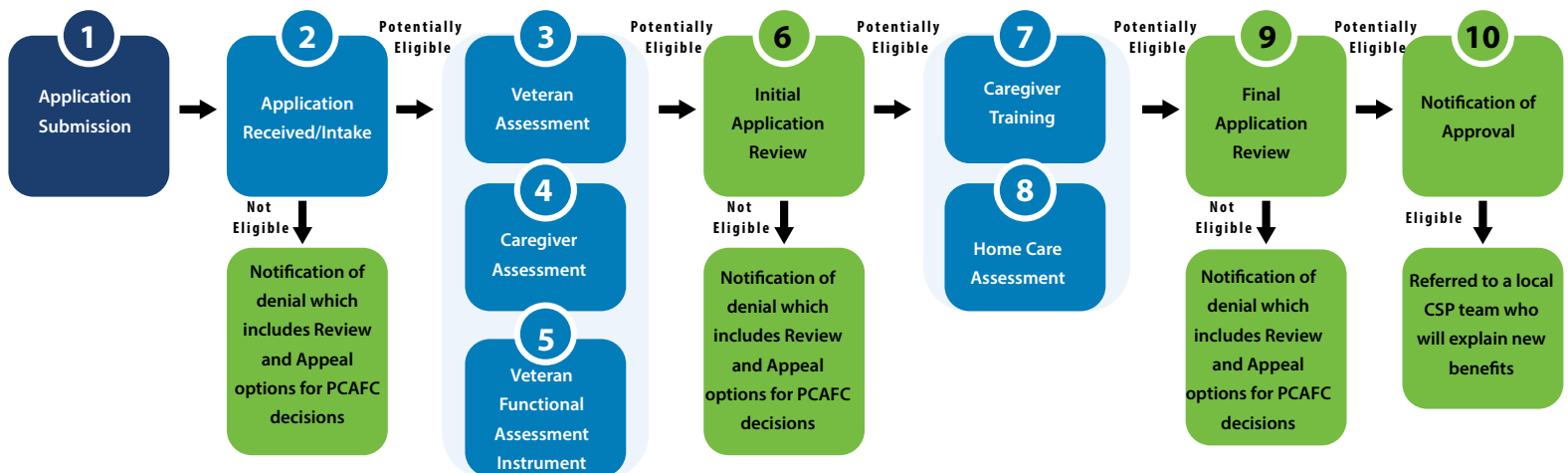
https://www.caregiver.va.gov/support/support_benefits.asp

Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

Application Process



Eligibility Decision Within 90 Days of Application Receipt



Primary Care Collaboration, to the extent practicable, will also occur during this time period

*Caregivers can be enrolled in the Program of General Caregiver Support Services (PGCSS) at any point in the application process. PGCSS is available to Veterans who are enrolled in VA health care and receiving care from a caregiver. Caregivers who are caring for a Veteran who is enrolled in VA health care may be eligible to participate in PGCSS.

PGCSS provides:

- Caregiver skills training and education, both online and in-person
- Coaching, supportive counseling and support groups
- Peer Support Mentoring
- Information on and referrals to VA and community resources

- Color Key**
- Veteran Action
 - Veteran & VA Action
 - VA Action

There is no application needed for PGCSS. For more information about PGCSS, please visit the VA Caregiver Support Program's website at www.caregiver.va.gov or contact your local Caregiver Support Program (CSP) Team.

Every VA Facility has a CSP Team who assists with information and referrals. To learn more about services available, visit us online:
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Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

Monthly Stipend for Primary Family Caregivers

Fact Sheet



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) provides a monthly stipend to Primary Family Caregivers of eligible Veterans.

Who qualifies: A Veteran or Service member may be eligible for a Family Caregiver if all of the following requirements are met:

1. The individual is either:
 - o A Veteran; or
 - o A member of the Armed Forces undergoing a medical discharge from the Armed Forces.
2. The individual has a serious injury (including serious illness) incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service.
 - o For purposes of PCAFC, serious injury means any service-connected disability that: (1) Is rated at 70 percent or more by VA; or (2) Is combined with any other service-connected disability or disabilities, and a combined rating of 70 percent or more is assigned by VA.
3. The individual is in need of in-person personal care services for a minimum of six (6) continuous months based on any one of the following:
 - o An inability to perform an activity of daily living;
 - o A need for supervision or protection based on symptoms or residuals of neurological or other impairment or injury; or
 - o A need for regular or extensive instruction or supervision without which the ability of the Veteran to function in daily life would be seriously impaired.
4. It is in the best interest of the individual to participate in the program.
5. Personal care services that would be provided by the Family Caregiver will not be simultaneously and regularly provided by or through another individual or entity.
6. The individual receives care at home or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.
7. The individual receives ongoing care from a Primary Care Team or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.

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PCAFC Monthly Stipend

VA offers a number of benefits through PCAFC to support Family Caregivers, including a monthly stipend to Primary Family Caregivers. Primary Family Caregivers will receive a monthly stipend for each month's participation as a Primary Family Caregiver.

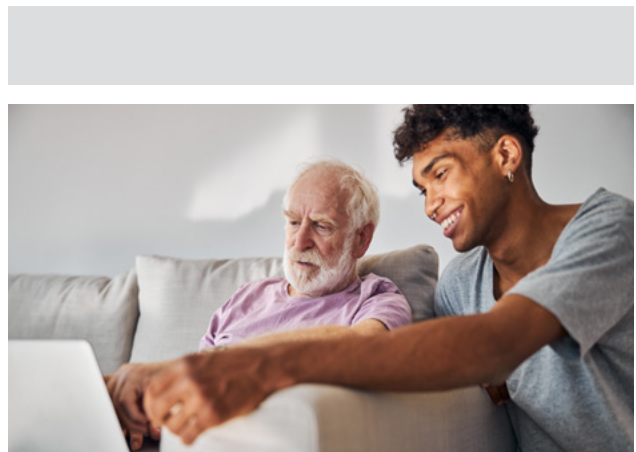
Monthly Stipend Rate

VA bases stipend payments on the definition of "monthly stipend rate," which means the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) General Schedule (GS) Annual Rate for grade 4, step 1, based on the locality pay area in which the eligible Veteran resides, divided by 12.

Stipend Payment: Two Levels

The amount of the monthly stipend the Primary Family Caregiver is eligible to receive, is determined based on information gathered during VA's evaluation of the Veteran's personal care needs.

- **Level One:** The Primary Family Caregiver's monthly stipend is calculated by multiplying the monthly stipend rate (OPM GS Annual Rate for grade 4, step 1, based on the locality pay area in which the eligible Veteran resides) divided by 12, multiplied by 0.625.
 - For example, the GS rate at grade 4, step 1, in Dallas, Texas, for 2022 was \$34,916 annually.
 - Thus, the monthly stipend amount for a Primary Family Caregiver of an eligible Veteran in Dallas, Texas, at this rate (\$34,916, divided by 12 multiplied by 0.625) was approximately \$1,818.54 in 2022.
- **Level Two:** If VA determines the eligible Veteran meets the definition of "unable to self-sustain in the community" for the purposes of PCAFC, the designated Primary Family Caregiver's monthly stipend is calculated by multiplying the monthly stipend rate (OPM GS Annual Rate for grade 4, step 1, based on the locality pay area in which the eligible Veteran resides) divided by 12 multiplied by 1.00.
 - For example, the GS rate at grade 4, step 1, in Dallas, Texas, for 2022 was \$34,916 annually.
 - The 2022 monthly stipend amount for a Primary Family Caregiver of an eligible Veteran in Dallas, Texas, at this rate (\$34,916 divided by 12 multiplied by 1.00) was approximately \$2,909.67.



Every VA facility has a CSP team who assists with information and referrals. To learn more about services available, visit us online:

www.caregiver.va.gov

VA Caregiver Support Line
☎ 1-855-260-3274 toll-free



Annual Updates to the Monthly Stipend Rate

While not guaranteed, OPM may make annual updates to the GS pay tables. In the event OPM makes updates to the GS Annual Rate for grade 4, step 1, the monthly stipend rates paid to Primary Family Caregivers will be adjusted to reflect these updates. Adjustments to stipend payments that result from OPM's updates to the GS Annual Rate for grade 4, step 1 will take effect the first of the month following the month that OPM announces an update to the GS rates, but no earlier than the date OPM's update becomes effective.

For example:

- This means that in years that OPM announces the update in Dec. (with a Jan. 1 effective date), the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) would update the PCAFC monthly stipend rate effective Jan. 1.
- If OPM announces the update on April 15 (with a Jan. 1 effective date), VHA would update the PCAFC monthly stipend rate effective May 1.

The increase would be reflected in the stipend issued at the end of the month in which it is updated by VHA or the first of the following month since the stipend is paid for the prior month.

The VHA Caregiver Stipend Team (CST) issues the recurring stipend payments and processes all updates related to the stipend. You may contact VHA CST for information on the processing activities for the monthly stipend payment via:

- **Phone:** Call Office of Community Care toll free at 1-877-733-7927 Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET
- **Web:** Visit <https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/caregiver/index.asp>

Collection of Overpayments

For the purposes of PCAFC, an overpayment means **a payment made by VA to an individual in excess of the amount due, to which the individual was not eligible, or otherwise made in error.** An overpayment is subject to collection action, even if the overpayment is the result of VA error.

- When VA seeks to collect an overpayment, the Primary Family Caregiver will receive a letter from VA's Financial Services Center. This letter will provide the amount due and the reason(s) for the overpayment. The letter will include instructions on how to dispute the overpayment, how to request a waiver, and a Notice of Rights and Obligations and VA contacts. Overpayment resolution can be addressed more efficiently by Primary Family Caregivers providing an email address and opting to receive electronic communications.

Primary Family Caregivers for Legacy Participants and Legacy Applicants:

If you are a Primary Family Caregiver of a legacy participant or legacy applicant, different rules regarding stipend payments will apply. **You may contact your local CSP Team or the VA Caregiver Support Line for more information regarding legacy participants or legacy applicants.**

Every VA facility has a CSP team who assists with information and referrals. To learn more about services available, visit us online:

www.caregiver.va.gov

VA Caregiver Support Line
☎ 1-855-260-3274 toll-free



Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance For Family Caregivers

Revocation and Discharge Fact Sheet



There are multiple reasons for which an eligible Veteran and/or Family Caregiver(s) may be revoked or discharged from the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC). These reasons are explained in this fact sheet. Based on the reason for the revocation or discharge, PCAFC participants may receive 60-day advanced notice and/or a period of extended benefits.



REVOCATION:

For Cause

A Family Caregiver's designation will be revoked For Cause by VA if any of the following are determined:

- Family Caregiver or Veteran committed fraud.
- Family Caregiver neglected, abused or exploited the Veteran.
- Personal safety issues exist for the Veteran that the Family Caregiver is unable or unwilling to mitigate.
- Family Caregiver is unwilling to provide personal care services to the Veteran or in the case of the Family Caregiver's temporary absence or incapacitation, fails to ensure (if able) the provision of personal care services to the Veteran.

Effective Date – The effective date of a revocation For Cause is the date upon which the revocation criteria is known to have been met. A revocation For Cause takes effect immediately, and advanced notice is not provided.

In the case of revocation due to fraud, the effective date of the revocation is the date the fraud began. If VA cannot identify when the fraud began, the date of revocation will be the earliest date that the fraud is known by VA to have been committed, and no later than the date on which VA identifies that fraud was committed. If VA determines that fraud was committed as part of the joint application, then the effective date would be the date the joint application was submitted.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver's designation is revoked For Cause, there are no extended benefits.

Non-Compliance

A Family Caregiver's designation will be revoked when the eligible Veteran or the Family Caregiver are non-compliant with program requirements. Non-compliance means:

- Personal care services are being simultaneously and regularly provided to the Veteran by or through others.
- Veteran is not receiving care at home.
- Veteran is not receiving ongoing care from a primary care team.
- Veteran or Family Caregiver are not participating in wellness contacts.
- Veteran or Family Caregiver are not participating in reassessments.
- Family Caregiver is not a family member and does not live with Veteran.
- Veteran no longer lives in a State.
- Family Caregiver is incapable of providing personal care services.

Effective Date – A Veteran and Family Caregiver are provided 60-day advanced notice prior to the revocation taking effect. During the 60-day advanced notice, a Veteran and Family Caregiver can take the necessary steps or corrective action and become compliant prior to revocation. When such corrective action takes place, the decision to revoke is reversed.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver's designation is revoked due to non-compliance, there are no extended benefits.

VA Error

A Family Caregiver's designation will be revoked if the Family Caregiver's approval and designations were the result of an erroneous eligibility determination by VA.

Effective Date – In the case of revocation for VA error, the revocation takes effect as of the date the error was made. If VA cannot identify when the error was made, the date of revocation will be the earliest date the error is known by VA to have occurred, and no later than the date on which VA identifies that the error occurred.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver's designation is revoked for VA error, benefits continue for 60 days after the date of revocation, and such benefits will be considered an overpayment. VA will seek to recover overpayment of benefits. A Family Caregiver may opt-out of extended benefits and should contact a member of the Caregiver Support Program (CSP) Team for more information.

DISCHARGE:

Request of the Veteran or Family Caregiver.

A Family Caregiver may be discharged upon their own request or at the request of the Veteran.

Effective Date – A Veteran or Family Caregiver may request this discharge verbally or in writing and must include the effective discharge date. This may be a present or future date provided by the Family Caregiver or Veteran. If the request does not provide a present or future date of discharge, VA will ask the Family Caregiver or Veteran to provide it and if unable to obtain this date, discharge will be effective as of the date of the request.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver is discharged at the request of the Veteran or Family Caregiver, caregiver benefits continue for 30 days after the date of discharge.

Request of the Family Caregiver due to Domestic Violence or Intimate Partner Violence

A Family Caregiver may be discharged upon their own request, due to Domestic Violence or Intimate Partner Violence (DV/IPV) perpetrated by the Veteran against the Family Caregiver.

Effective Date – A Family Caregiver may request this discharge verbally or in writing and must include the effective discharge date. This may be a present or future date provided by the Family Caregiver. If the request does not provide a present or future date of discharge, VA will ask the Family Caregiver to provide it and if unable to obtain this date, discharge will be effective as of the date of the request.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver requests discharge due to Domestic Violence or Intimate Partner Violence, caregiver benefits continue for 90 days after the date of discharge when any of the following can be established: (1) The issuance of a protective order, to include interim, temporary or final protective orders, to protect the Family Caregiver from DV or IPV perpetrated by the eligible Veteran; (2) A police report indicating DV or IPV perpetrated by the eligible Veteran against the Family Caregiver or a record of an arrest related to DV or IPV perpetrated by the eligible Veteran against the Family Caregiver; or (3) Documentation of disclosure of DV or IPV perpetrated by the eligible Veteran against the Family Caregiver to a treating provider (e.g., physician, dentist,

psychologist, rehabilitation therapist) of the eligible Veteran or Family Caregiver, Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP) Coordinator, therapist or counselor.

Institutionalization of the Veteran

A Family Caregiver is discharged when a Veteran is institutionalized in a setting outside the home residence to include a hospital, rehabilitation facility, jail, prison, assisted living facility, medical foster home, nursing home or other similar setting for a period of 90 days or more or is expected to be institutionalized for 90 days or more.

Effective Date – In the case of discharge due to institutionalization of the Veteran, the effective date is the date institutionalization begins, if it is determined that the Veteran is expected to be institutionalized for a period of 90 days or more, or the 90th day of institutionalization, whichever is the earliest.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver is discharged due to the Veteran's institutionalization, caregiver benefits continue for 90 days after the date of discharge.

Institutionalization of the Family Caregiver

A Family Caregiver is discharged when the Family Caregiver is institutionalized in a setting outside the home residence to include a hospital, rehabilitation facility, jail, prison, assisted living facility, medical foster home, nursing home or other similar setting for a period of 90 days or more, or is expected to be institutionalized for 90 days or more.

Effective Date – In the case of discharge due to institutionalization of the Family Caregiver, the effective date is the date institutionalization begins, if it is determined that the Family Caregiver is expected to be institutionalized 90 days or more, or on the 90th day of institutionalization, whichever is earlier.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver is discharged due to institutionalization, caregiver benefits continue for 90 days after the date of discharge.

Death of Veteran

A Family Caregiver is discharged when the Veteran participating in the PCAFC dies. VA must receive notification of the Veteran's death as soon as possible, but not later than 30 days following the death of a Veteran.

Effective Date – The discharge is effective on the date of the Veteran's death.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver is discharged due to the Veteran's death, caregiver benefits continue for 90 days after the date of discharge.

Death of Family Caregiver

A Family Caregiver is discharged in the event of their death. VA must receive notification of the Family Caregiver's death as soon as possible, but not later than 30 days following the death of a Family Caregiver.

Effective Date – The discharge is effective on the date of the Family Caregiver's death.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver is discharged due to death, there are no extended benefits.

Based on Assessment of the Eligible Veteran

A Family Caregiver is discharged when the Veteran no longer meets the requirements of the PCAFC because of improvements in the eligible Veteran's condition or otherwise. This can be due to one or more of the following:

- There is a change in the eligible Veteran's Service Connection rating such that he/she no longer meets criteria for a serious injury.

- Participation is determined to no longer be in the Veteran's best interest.
- The Veteran is determined to no longer need personal care services.

Effective Date – The Veteran and Family Caregiver are provided a 60-day advanced notice prior to the discharge taking effect.

Benefit End Date – When a Family Caregiver is discharged based on the Veteran no longer meeting the requirements of the PCAFC, caregiver benefits continue for 90 days.

Overpayments

Overpayment occurs when a payment is made by VA to a Primary Family Caregiver for more than the amount due, to which the Primary Family Caregiver was not entitled to, or when the payment was made in error. An overpayment is subject to collection action pursuant to the Federal Claims Collection Standards.

If an overpayment is made, there are several options available for the return of this overpayment. In the event of an overpayment, a representative from VA will notify the Primary Family Caregiver with the various options and instructions on how to proceed.

Right to Appeal

Individuals who disagree with a PCAFC decision, including a revocation or discharge determination, have the right to request further review or appeal of the decision. For more information about available options, please contact the Caregiver Support Line at (855) 260-3274 or visit www.caregiver.va.gov.


Additional Services and Supports That May be Available

PCAFC is just one way that VA supports caregivers of Veterans. Caregivers may be able to participate in the Program of General Caregiver Support Services (PGCSS) which includes online and in-person training and education, coaching, skills training, peer support, resources and referrals, and telephone support through VA's Caregiver Support Line. An application is not required.

For additional information or questions regarding information in this fact sheet, please contact the facility Caregiver Support Program Team, visit www.caregiver.va.gov or contact the Caregiver Support Line at (855) 260-3274.

How to Contact your Caregiver Support Program Team

Veterans and caregivers can find their local Caregiver Support Team...

 Calling the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274 - Toll free

 Using the Caregiver Support Program Team locator tool at :
www.caregiver.va.gov/support/New_CSC_Page.asp

Online application available at: <https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/apply-for-caregiver-assistance-form-10-10cg/introduction>



Caregiver Resources

Respite Care

Caregiver Sheet

Respite is a period of rest or a break from caregiving. Whether it's for a few hours or a few days, respite can help caregivers take time for themselves. The Caregiver Support Program (CSP) encourages every caregiver to incorporate respite into their lives.

Types of Respite

There are three types of respite: self-guided, informal and formal

Self-guided respite includes:

Self-guided respite is the practice of building a self-focused activity into your normal day. An example of this could be waking up early or staying up later to engage in an activity that nurtures your spiritual, emotional or physical health. It could be as simple as taking a few moments to meditate or pray, take a walk, journal, or read a book.

Informal respite includes:

Informal respite is help from friends or loved ones. It can include direct assistance with caring for your Veteran or it could be assistance with other daily tasks. For example:

- Your Veteran's longtime friend might visit once or twice a week to talk or play games with them.
- An adult family member might provide care for your Veteran while you attend your own medical appointment.
- A neighbor might help you with grocery shopping, folding laundry, or mowing the lawn.

Formal respite care:

Formal respite care is short-term paid assistance from a professional. Formal respite care can be used to take a break, run errands, or take a vacation.

How Formal Respite Care Works: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) offers caregivers three formal respite options through the Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care (GEC).

- In-Home Respite: a Home Health agency employee comes to a Veteran's home to provide care.

- Adult Day Health Respite: a Veteran attends an adult day health care program within their community.
- Nursing Home Respite: a Veteran goes to a VA Community Living Center or a community nursing home.

Benefits of Respite

- Helps to prevent burn-out by providing time for self-care.
- Promotes taking a break to rest and recharge.
- Assists in providing time for you to see your own doctors and to take care of your own healthcare needs.
- Reassurance that your Veteran's care needs are taken care of while you need to be away.
- An opportunity for your Veteran to socialize with others.

Additional Respite Resources and Information:

Watch these informative videos to learn more about respite and its benefits:

<https://youtu.be/iZcmDRcxu6o>

[Respite for Military & Veteran Caregivers \(psycharmor.org\)](https://www.psycharmor.org/)

Explore your respite goals and establish a personalized respite plan using these tools:

[Caregiver Respite - Toolkit](#)

[Caregiver Respite - Veterans Toolkit](#)

Complete a caregiver self-assessment to explore your supportive care needs:

[va.gov/GERIATRICS/docs/Caregiver_Self_Assessment.pdf](https://www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/docs/Caregiver_Self_Assessment.pdf)

Visit GEC's website for more information on VA's formal respite care options:

https://www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/pages/Respite_Care.asp

Respite Care in any of its forms can be helpful for both caregivers and the Veterans they care for. CSP is here to support you on your respite journey. To obtain contact information for your local CSP Team please use our [locator tool](#).

You can also call the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274 for additional help connecting to respite and other available resources.





Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers – CHAMPVA Health Care Benefits for the Primary Family Caregiver

What is CHAMPVA?

CHAMPVA stands for the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA). Primary Family Caregivers participating in Veterans Affairs' (VA) Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) may be eligible for healthcare through this program if not otherwise entitled to care or services under another health-plan contract, including but not limited to TRICARE, Medicare, or Medicaid. Through this program, the cost of some of your health care services and supplies are covered. This is called cost-sharing.

CHAMPVA is managed by the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Office of Community Care (OCC), located in Denver, Colorado. The VHA OCC processes all claims submitted for reimbursing medical services and supplies rendered by authorized providers in the community.

If I am enrolled in CHAMPVA because I am a Primary Family Caregiver in VA's PCAFC, do I meet the requirement for health care coverage under the Affordable Care Act?

Yes. If you are enrolled in CHAMPVA, you meet the minimum essential coverage. However, if you choose to sign up for another health insurance through the Health Insurance Marketplace, or if your designation as a Primary Family Caregiver in PCAFC is revoked or you are discharged, you will no longer be eligible for CHAMPVA through PCAFC. services and supplies rendered by authorized providers in the community.

When do I contact CHAMPVA if some of my circumstances change?

If a Primary Family Caregiver is receiving CHAMPVA through PCAFC and obtains other health insurance, CHAMPVA must be notified as soon as possible, using the contact information below. Please always be sure to contact your local Caregiver Support Program staff to inform them of any other updates, such as changes to your address.

Every VA Facility has a CSP Team who assists with information and referrals. To learn more about PGCSS and caregiver services offered, visit us online:

www.caregiver.va.gov

VA Caregiver Support Line
☎ 1-855-260-3274 toll-free

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Are all caregivers eligible for CHAMPVA medical benefits?

No. Only the designated and approved Primary Family Caregiver for PCAFC, who is without health insurance coverage, is eligible for CHAMPVA benefits. Health plans that would make a Primary Family Caregiver ineligible for CHAMPVA benefits include TRICARE, Medicare, Medicaid, commercial health plans through employment, and individual plans. When CHAMPVA is provided as a PCAFC benefit, family members are also not covered. Only the designated and approved Primary Family Caregiver is eligible for CHAMPVA health care benefits.

Can I discontinue my other health insurance (OHI) to receive health benefits through CHAMPVA?

You should strongly consider the following tips before you decide to discontinue your OHI:

- Some health plan contracts may have a comprehensive medical benefits package, and CHAMPVA might not cover some services. For example, CHAMPVA does not cover dental, chiropractic services, routine eye exams or corrective lenses.
- It is possible that Medicaid recipients could have less of a financial burden if covered by Medicaid than under CHAMPVA program. Many state Medicaid plans do not require the participant to pay co-payments, cost shares, or deductibles. CHAMPVA has an outpatient deductible of \$50 per calendar year and a cost-share of 25% of the CHAMPVA allowable charge, up to the catastrophic cap, which is \$3,000 per calendar year.

CHAMPVA benefits are discontinued when the Primary Family Caregiver's designation is revoked, or the Family Caregiver is discharged from PCAFC.

What benefits are covered under CHAMPVA?

The following are some of the common types of services that CHAMPVA covers. (This list is not inclusive and could change.):

- Mental health care: 23 outpatient visits per year before preauthorization is needed
- Prescriptions
- Doctor's office visits
- Hospital services, both inpatient and outpatient settings, including emergency room visits
- Lab and radiology services
- Durable medical equipment

What services are not covered under CHAMPVA?

The following is a list of services that are not covered under CHAMPVA. (This list is not inclusive and could change.):

- Acupuncture
- Chiropractic services
- Most dental care, including dentures or partial dentures
- Non-Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved drugs
- Routine hearing exams
- Routine eye exams and glasses
- Laser eye surgery
- Experimental and investigational procedures
- Health club membership



Do I have to use a CHAMPVA network provider to see a doctor?

Unlike other health insurance plans, CHAMPVA does not have a network of medical providers. However, it is recommended that the Primary Family Caregiver ask the provider if they accept CHAMPVA. If the provider accepts CHAMPVA, the provider will then bill CHAMPVA directly. Most Medicare and TRICARE providers will accept CHAMPVA patients.

The following websites can be used to help a Primary Family Caregiver locate a medical provider:

- Medicare website: <http://www.medicare.gov> - Use "Search Tools" at the bottom of the page to locate a Medicare provider.
- TRICARE providers can be found at <https://tricare.mil/FindDoctor>

How much does CHAMPVA pay?

In most cases, CHAMPVA pays a similar amount as Medicare/TRICARE rates for covered benefits. The Primary Family Caregiver cost-share responsibilities include an outpatient deductible of \$50 per calendar year and a cost-share of 25% of the CHAMPVA allowable charge. Additionally, CHAMPVA has a catastrophic cap, which is \$3,000 per calendar year.

The Primary Family Caregiver is also eligible to receive health care at a VA facility through CHAMPVA In-house Treatment Initiative (CITI) Program, if the VA facility has the capacity to provide care. Medical care and supplies received through a participating VA facility are not subject to cost shares or deductibles. (NOTE: Not all VA facilities participate in the CITI Program.)

Every VA Facility has a CSP Team who assists with information and referrals. To learn more about PGCSS and caregiver services offered, visit us online:

www.caregiver.va.gov

VA Caregiver Support Line
☎ 1-855-260-3274 toll-free

How do I contact someone about CHAMPVA?

If you have questions that are specifically about CHAMPVA health care, VA has customer service representatives available to answer questions about services covered by CHAMPVA. You may contact a representative by mail, phone, or email.

- **Mail:** VHA Office of Community Care
CHAMPVA
PO Box 469064
Denver, CO 80246-9064
- **Phone:** CHAMPVA 1-800-733-8387
Monday-Friday 8:05 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. EST



You may also visit VA's Office of Community Care website at:

<https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/caregiver/index.asp>

How do I get more information about PCAFC?

PCAFC is just one-way VA supports caregivers of Veterans. The Caregiver Support Line (CSL) can provide information on an array of supports and services available to support caregivers through VA's PCAFC as well as through the Program of General Caregiver Support Services (PGCSS).

The CSL is available by calling Toll Free 1-855-260-3274

To learn more, please also visit VA's CSP website at: <http://www.caregiver.va.gov>

Updated 7/11/2022

Every VA Facility has a CSP Team who assists with information and referrals. To learn more about PGCSS and caregiver services offered, visit us online:

www.caregiver.va.gov

VA Caregiver Support Line
☎ 1-855-260-3274 toll-free



Please Read Before You Start...
What is VA Form 10-10CG used for?

This form is used to apply for VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC). VA will use the information on this form to assist in determining your eligibility. A Veteran, as defined herein, may appoint one (1) Primary Family Caregiver applicant and up to two (2) Secondary Family Caregiver applicants. On average, it will take 15 minutes to complete the application, including the time it will take you to read the instructions, gather the necessary facts and fill out the form. Each time a new Primary or Secondary Family Caregiver is requested, a new Form 10-10CG is required.

Where can I get help filling out the form and answers to questions?

You may use ANY of the following to request assistance:

- Ask VA to help you fill out the form by calling us at 1-855-488-8440.
- Access VA's website at <http://www.va.gov> and select "Contact Us".
- Locate and contact the Caregiver Support Coordinator at your nearest VA health care facility. A Caregiver Support Coordinator locator is available at <http://www.caregiver.va.gov/>.
- Contact the National Caregiver Support Line by calling 1-855-260-3274.
- Contact a Veterans Service Organization.

Definitions - For purposes of this form, the following apply:
Caregiver Support Coordinator (CSC):

A VA clinical professional who connects caregivers of Veterans with VA and community resources offering supportive programs and services. Caregiver Support Coordinators are located at every VA medical center and are designated specialists in caregiving issues.

Eligible Veteran:

Means a Veteran, as defined herein, who is found eligible under 38 CFR 71.20.

Family Caregiver:

An individual who is approved and designated by VA as a Primary Family Caregiver or Secondary Family Caregiver.

Personal Care Services:

Care or assistance of another person necessary in order to support the eligible Veteran's health and well-being, and perform personal functions required in everyday living ensuring the eligible Veteran remains safe from hazards or dangers incident to his or her daily environment.

Representative:

A person who, under applicable law, has authority to act on behalf of the Veteran or who is legally vested with the responsibility or care of the Veteran. Evidence must be submitted with this form to establish a person's legal status as Representative. Such evidence may be a valid power of attorney, legal guardianship order, or similar legal documentation or certification issued by an appropriate authority, including a Federal, State, local, or tribal law that establishes such authority. (Next-of-kin is therefore not automatically the Representative of the Veteran as this must be established under applicable law.)

Veteran:

An individual who meets the definition of Veteran in 38 U.S.C. 101(2), or a qualifying service member undergoing medical discharge from the Armed Forces for whom a date of medical discharge has been issued, who applies for or participates in PCAFC.

Who should apply for VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers?

IF THE INDIVIDUAL IS A:	AND	AND	THEN
Veteran	Has a disability rating from VA of 70% or more (single or combined) for a service-connected disability (or disabilities), incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, on, before, or after a qualifying date, as set forth in 38 U.S.C. 1720G(a)(2)(B) and 38 C.F.R. 71.20(a)(2).	Requires at least 6 continuous months of personal care services that are provided by a family member of the Veteran or by a person who lives with the Veteran (or will do so if designated as a Family Caregiver).	The Veteran may meet the criteria for VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. Complete this form to apply.

This table does not represent all of the requirements for PCAFC eligibility. Your local Caregiver Support Coordinator is available to provide additional information on eligibility.

Veterans who do not meet the requirements for PCAFC may be eligible for other VA health benefits and other caregiver support services. To learn about other caregiver support services, contact the Caregiver Support Coordinator (CSC) at your local VA health care facility. To contact your local CSC, call the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274 or go to <http://www.caregiver.va.gov/> and use the Find Your Caregiver Support Coordinator option.

Getting Started:

Complete the fields on the form. Fields designated with an asterisk (*) must be completed or the application will be considered incomplete. If the Veteran applicant is not enrolled in VA's health care system or is currently a service member undergoing medical discharge, the Veteran can submit VA Form 10-10EZ "Application for Health Benefits" with this form. Enrolled Veterans may submit VA Form 10-10EZR "Health Benefits Update Form" with this form to provide information updates. Do NOT exceed the designated spaces (e.g., do NOT extend Last Name into First Name area). The Veteran's Representative may complete this application; however, supporting documentation must be provided with this application reflecting the Representative's authority to complete this form on behalf of the Veteran.

SECTION I – VETERAN

Directions for Section I - Veteran, or his/her Representative, please complete all fields (those designated with an asterisk (*) are required), **sign and date**.

SECTION II – PRIMARY FAMILY CAREGIVER APPLICANT

Directions for Section II - Primary Family Caregiver applicant, please complete all fields (those designated with an asterisk (*) are required) including health care coverage information, **sign and date**. A Veteran or his/her Representative may appoint one Primary Family Caregiver applicant, but this is not required. If a Veteran or his/her Representative elects to only appoint a Primary Family Caregiver, only Sections I and II must be completed.

SECTION III – SECONDARY FAMILY CAREGIVER APPLICANT(S)

Directions for Section III - Secondary Family Caregiver applicant(s), please complete all fields (those designated with an asterisk (*) are required), **sign and date**. A Veteran or his/her Representative may appoint up to two Secondary Family Caregiver applicants, but this is not required. If a Veteran or his/her Representative elects to only appoint a Secondary Family Caregiver(s), only Sections I and III must be completed.

Submitting your application:

1. Read the Paperwork Reduction Act and Privacy Act Information.
2. Ensure all required fields are completed (those designated with an asterisk (*) are required), including signatures and dates.
3. Submit the completed form to the Health Eligibility Center using the address below or submit the form to your local VA Medical Center Caregiver Support Coordinator (CSC). To contact your local CSC, you can call the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274 or go to <https://www.caregiver.va.gov> and use the Find Your Caregiver Support Coordinator feature. Individuals may also apply online at <https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/comprehensive-assistance-for-family-caregivers>.
4. Supporting documentation reflecting the Representative's authority to complete this form on behalf of the Veteran, if applicable, must be provided. VA Form 10-10EZ "Application for Health Benefits" or VA Form 10-10EZR "Health Benefits Update Form" can also be submitted with this form, if applicable.

Submit application to:

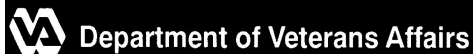
**Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers
Health Eligibility Center
2957 Clairmont Road NE, Ste 200
Atlanta, GA 30329-1647**

THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

This information collection is in accordance with the clearance requirements of section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time to read instructions, gather necessary data, and fill out the form. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. Completion of this form is mandatory for individuals who wish to participate in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers.

PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION

VA is asking you to provide the information on this form under 38 U.S.C. Sections 101, 5303A, 1705, 1710, 1720B, 1720G, 1725 and 1781 in order for VA to determine your eligibility for medical benefits. Information you supply may be verified through a computer-matching program. VA may disclose the information that you put on the form as permitted by law. VA may make a "routine use" disclosure of the information as outlined in the Privacy Act systems of records, "Patient Medical Records --VA" (24VA10P2), "Enrollment and Eligibility Records --VA" (147VA10NF1), and "Veterans and Beneficiaries Purchased Care Community Health Care Claims, Correspondence, Eligibility, Inquiry and Payment Files - VA" (54VA10NB3) and in accordance with the VHA Notice of Privacy Practices. Providing the requested information, including Social Security Number, is voluntary, but if any or all of the requested information is not provided, it may delay or result in denial of your request for health care benefits. Failure to furnish the information will not have any effect on any other benefits to which you may be entitled. If you provide VA your Social Security Number, VA will use it to administer your VA benefits. VA may also use this information to identify Veterans and persons claiming or receiving VA benefits, and their records, and for other purposes authorized or required by law.



APPLICATION FOR THE PROGRAM OF COMPREHENSIVE ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Attention: Complete the application and mail it to **Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers, Health Eligibility Center, 2957 Clairmont Road NE, Ste 200, Atlanta, GA 30329-1647**. You may also mail or hand carry it to your local VA Medical Center Caregiver Support Coordinator (CSC) for processing. Individuals may apply online at <https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/comprehensive-assistance-for-family-caregivers>. VA does not provide the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers to individuals residing outside the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Territories.

SECTION I - VETERAN

*Last Name	*First Name	Middle Name
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Social Security Number/Tax Identification Number	*Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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*Current Street Address

*City	*State	*Zip Code
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*Primary Telephone Number (Including Area Code)	Alternate Telephone Number (Including Area Code)
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Email Address

*Name of VA medical center or clinic where you receive or plan to receive health care services:

Name of facility where you last received medical treatment: Hospital Clinic

Federal Laws (18 U.S.C. 287 and 1001) provide for criminal penalties for knowingly submitting false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or claims.

I certify that I give consent to the individual(s) named in this application to perform personal care services for me (or if the Veteran's Representative, the Veteran) upon being approved as a Primary and/or Secondary Family Caregiver(s) in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. I certify that the information provided in this form is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*Veteran or Representative Signature	*Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
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SECTION II - PRIMARY FAMILY CAREGIVER APPLICANT

*Last Name	*First Name	Middle Name
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Social Security Number/Tax Identification Number	*Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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*Current Street Address

*City	*State	*Zip Code
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*Primary Telephone Number (Including Area Code)	Alternate Telephone Number (Including Area Code)
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Email Address	*Relationship to Veteran (e.g., Spouse, Parent, Son, Daughter, Grandchild, Other)
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*Do you have health care coverage (e.g., private insurance, CHAMPVA, Medicare, Medicaid or Tricare)? Yes No

Federal Laws (18 U.S.C. 287 and 1001) provide for criminal penalties for knowingly submitting false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or claims.

SECTION II - PRIMARY FAMILY CAREGIVER APPLICANT (Continued)

I certify that I am at least 18 years of age.

I certify that either: (1) I am a member of the Veteran's family (including a parent, spouse, a son or daughter, a step-family member, or an extended family member) **OR** (2) I am not a member of the Veteran's family, and I reside with the Veteran full-time or will do so upon designation as the Veteran's Primary Family Caregiver.

I agree to perform personal care services as the Primary Family Caregiver for the Veteran named on this application.

I understand that the Veteran or the Veteran's surrogate may request my discharge from the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) at any time and that my designation as a Primary Family Caregiver may be revoked or I may be discharged from PCAFC by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (or designee) as set forth in 38 CFR 71.45.

I understand that participation in the PCAFC does not create an employment relationship between me and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

I certify that the information provided in this form is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*Primary Family Caregiver Applicant Signature

*Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

**SECTION III - SECONDARY FAMILY CAREGIVER APPLICANT
(Complete if appointing a Secondary Family Caregiver Applicant)**

*Last Name

*First Name

Middle Name

Social Security Number/Tax Identification Number

*Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

Sex

Male Female

*Current Street Address

*City

*State

*Zip Code

*Primary Telephone Number (Including Area Code)

Alternate Telephone Number (Including Area Code)

Email Address

*Relationship to Veteran (e.g., Spouse, Parent, Son, Daughter, Grandchild, Other)

Federal Laws (18 U.S.C. 287 and 1001) provide for criminal penalties for knowingly submitting false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or claims.

I certify that I am at least 18 years of age.

I certify that either: (1) I am a member of the Veteran's family (including a parent, spouse, a son or daughter, a step-family member, or an extended family member) **OR** (2) I am not a member of the Veteran's family, and I reside with the Veteran full-time or will do so upon designation as the Veteran's Secondary Family Caregiver.

I agree to perform personal care services as the Secondary Family Caregiver for the Veteran named on this application.

I understand that the Veteran or the Veteran's surrogate may request my discharge from the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) at any time and that my designation as a Secondary Family Caregiver may be revoked or I may be discharged from PCAFC by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (or designee) as set forth in 38 CFR 71.45.

I understand that participation in the PCAFC does not create an employment relationship between me and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

I certify that the information provided in this form is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*Secondary Family Caregiver Applicant Signature

*Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

SECTION III - SECONDARY FAMILY CAREGIVER APPLICANT (Continued)
(Complete if appointing more than one Secondary Family Caregiver Applicant)

*Last Name		*First Name	Middle Name
Social Security Number/Tax Identification Number	*Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
*Current Street Address			
*City	*State	*Zip Code	
*Primary Telephone Number (Including Area Code)		Alternate Telephone Number (Including Area Code)	
Email Address		*Relationship to Veteran (e.g., Spouse, Parent, Son, Daughter, Grandchild, Other)	
<p>Federal Laws (18 U.S.C. 287 and 1001) provide for criminal penalties for knowingly submitting false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or claims.</p> <p>I certify that I am at least 18 years of age.</p> <p>I certify that either: (1) I am a member of the Veteran's family (including a parent, spouse, a son or daughter, a step-family member, or an extended family member) OR (2) I am not a member of the Veteran's family, and I reside with the Veteran full-time or will do so upon designation as the Veteran's Secondary Family Caregiver.</p> <p>I agree to perform personal care services as the Secondary Family Caregiver for the Veteran named on this application.</p> <p>I understand that the Veteran or the Veteran's surrogate may request my discharge from the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) at any time and that my designation as a Secondary Family Caregiver may be revoked or I may be discharged from PCAFC by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (or designee) as set forth in 38 CFR 71.45.</p> <p>I understand that participation in the PCAFC does not create an employment relationship between me and the Department of Veterans Affairs.</p> <p>I certify that the information provided in this form is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.</p>			
*Secondary Family Caregiver Applicant Signature		*Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	