

CHAMPVA



What is the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA)?

CHAMPVA is a health benefits program in which the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) shares the cost of certain health care services and supplies with eligible beneficiaries (see *Who is Eligible*). CHAMPVA is managed by the VA's Health Administration Center (HAC) in Denver, Colorado. We process CHAMPVA applications, determine eligibility, authorize benefits, and process medical claims. We strongly recommend that all your inquiries about CHAMPVA be made directly to us.

What is the relationship between CHAMPVA and TRICARE?

Both are federal programs, however, an individual who is eligible for TRICARE is not eligible for CHAMPVA. Although similar, TRICARE (which is administered by the Department of Defense) should not be confused with CHAMPVA.

Benefits

In general, CHAMPVA covers most health care services and supplies that are medically necessary. Special rules and/or limitations do apply to certain services. Some services (even when prescribed by a physician) are not covered under CHAMPVA. Clarification of covered/noncovered services, as well as

limitations, can be obtained by calling us at 1-800-733-8387. You may also e-mail us at HAC.INQ@MED.VA.GOV or visit our website at WWW.VA.GOV/HAC.

Who is Eligible?

CHAMPVA provides coverage to the spouse or widow(er) and to the children of a veteran who:

- is rated permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability, or
- was rated permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected condition at the time of death, or
- died of a service-connected disability, or
- died on active duty and the dependents are not otherwise eligible for DoD TRICARE benefits.

Spouse: Eligibility ends if the marriage to the veteran is terminated by divorce or annulment.

Widow(er): Eligibility ends if the widow(er) remarries prior to age 55.

Termination of Remarriage: A widow(er) of a veteran who remarries and the remarriage is later terminated by death, divorce, or annulment may establish CHAMPVA eligibility. The beginning date of eligibility is the first day of the month after termination of the remarriage or December 1, 1999, whichever date is later.

Child: Eligibility for CHAMPVA ends when:

- a child turns 18 unless enrolled in an accredited school as a full-time student,
- a child, who has been a full-time student, turns 23,
- a child marries (as of midnight on the date of marriage), or
- a stepchild no longer lives in the household of the veteran.

Medicare Entitlement and CHAMPVA Eligibility

CHAMPVA is the last payer after Medicare and other health insurance plans.

If you are eligible for Medicare Part A and under age 65, you must have Medicare Part B to be covered by CHAMPVA.

Effective October 1, 2001, CHAMPVA benefits were extended to beneficiaries age 65 and older. If you are eligible for Medicare Part A and age 65 or older, you may also be required to have Medicare Part B to be covered by CHAMPVA. See the following chart.

If your 65 th birthday was/is	Is Medicare Part B required?
Before June 5th, 2001	Only if you were enrolled in Part B before June 5th, 2001
On or after June 5th, 2001	Yes

For More Information

- Call: 1-800-733-8387



Telephone assistance is available (toll free) by calling us between the hours of 8:15 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Eastern Time), Monday through Friday (holidays excluded). You may also use our automated menu which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to request applications, claim forms, and other CHAMPVA material.

- E-mail:



HAC.INQ@MED.VA.GOV

Information regarding CHAMPVA benefits can be obtained from fact sheets available at WWW.VA.GOV/HAC. You may also call 1-800-733-8387 or e-mail us with your request.

- Write:



VA Health Administration
Center
CHAMPVA
PO Box 65023
Denver CO 80206-9023

How to Apply

To apply for benefits, send the following information to CHAMPVA-Eligibility, PO Box 469028, Denver, CO 80246-9028.

- VA Form 10-10d, Application for CHAMPVA Benefits
- VA Form 10-7959c, CHAMPVA Other Health Insurance Certification
- A copy of your Medicare card if you are also eligible for Medicare
- A copy of the veteran's DD 214 Form, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (or Report of Separation for WWII and Korean era veterans). If you cannot find this form, send in your application without it. We will obtain one from the VA Regional Office.

Forms are available from the voice mail menu at 1-800-733-8387, 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. Please consider placing calls for an application form during evening or weekend hours. You may also obtain the necessary forms from our website at WWW.VA.GOV/HAC by selecting FORMS from the left panel. To reduce the time it takes to process your application, we recommend you also send a copy (never the original) of the following documents that are applicable to you with your application. These documents do not need to be notarized. If the documents are included with your application and the forms are filled out correctly, it normally takes 45 days to process your application from the date it is received.

Documentation	When Needed
The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) rating decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Veteran is permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability• Veteran died as a result of a service-connected condition
The casualty report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Veteran died on active duty
Marriage license/certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spouse/widow(er) applications
Birth certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dependent children applications (birth, adopted, stepchildren)
Adoption court order	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adopted children
School certification letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dependent children between the ages of 18 and 23



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Health Administration Center
CHAMPVA
PO Box 65023
Denver CO 80206-9023**

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Penalty for private use \$300