

August 10, 2023

**RESCISSION OF VHA DIRECTIVE 1700, VETERANS CHOICE PROGRAM, AND  
VHA DIRECTIVE 1601, NON-VA MEDICAL CARE PROGRAM**

1. By direction of the Office of the Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration (VHA), VHA Directive 1700, Veterans Choice Program, dated October 25, 2016; and VHA Directive 1601, Non-VA Medical Care Program, dated January 23, 2013, are rescinded.
2. VHA Directive 1700 established policy for the implementation of the Veterans Choice Program which was replaced by the Veterans Community Care Program (VCCP) under the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) MISSION Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-182). Veterans are no longer eligible for community care under specific Veterans Choice Program eligibility criteria due to the expiration of the program and must speak with their VA care team or a VA staff member at their local VA medical facility about their eligibility for community care. Further information is available in VHA Notice 2022-19, Veterans Community Care Program, dated December 27, 2022, and at:  
[https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/General\\_Care.asp](https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/General_Care.asp).
3. VHA Directive 1601 provided information regarding eligibility for and operation of the Non-VA Medical Care Program, now VCCP, and described VHA's statutory and regulatory authority under 38 C.F.R. § 17.53, which places general limitations on the use of private hospitals and is consistent with the VA MISSION Act of 2018. The information in this directive is now located in the following resources:
  - a. Talent Management System (VA #38466) – Emergency Care Reimbursement 101 covers emergency care eligibility criteria for 38 U.S.C. §§ 1703, 1728 and 1725.
  - b. Guidance on Veteran eligibility for community care and purchasing authorities can be found in Chapters 2 and 3 of the Office of Integrated Veteran Care Community Care Field Guidebook, available at:  
<https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/VHAOCC/CNM/CI/OCCFGB/SitePages/FGB.aspx>.  
**NOTE:** *This is an internal VA website that is not available to the public.*
4. All inquiries concerning this action should be addressed to the VHA Office of Integrated Veteran Care (16). Questions may be addressed to  
[VHA16IVCAction@va.gov](mailto:VHA16IVCAction@va.gov).
5. This VHA notice will expire and be archived on August 10, 2024. However, the rescission information will remain in effect.

**August 10, 2023**

**VHA NOTICE 2023-06**

**BY DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE  
UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH:**

/s/ Miguel H. LaPuz, M.D.  
Assistant Under Secretary for Health  
for Integrated Veteran Care

**DISTRIBUTION:** Emailed to the VHA Publications Distribution List on August 10, 2023.