

### CHAMPVA eligibility

To be eligible for CHAMPVA, the beneficiary cannot be eligible for TRICARE (formerly CHAMPUS). CHAMPVA provides coverage to the spouse or widow(er) and to the children of a Veteran who:

- is permanently and totally disabled (P&T) because of an adjudicated service-connected disability, *or*
- died as a result of an adjudicated service-connected disability or who at the time of death was rated P&T due to a service-connected disability, *or*
- died while in an active duty status and in the line of duty, not due to misconduct. The term “active duty” may include periods of inactive duty for training.

### Eligibility for those age 65 and older

Effective October 1, 2001, CHAMPVA benefits were extended to beneficiaries age 65 and older. To be eligible, you must also meet the following conditions:

- Veteran sponsor is not a retired military member (Family members are normally eligible for TRICARE for Life).
- If the beneficiary was 65 or older prior to June 5, 2001, and was otherwise eligible for CHAMPVA, and was entitled to Medicare Part A coverage, then the beneficiary will be eligible for CHAMPVA without the need for Medicare Part B coverage.
- If the beneficiary turned 65 before June 5, 2001, and has Medicare Parts A and B, the beneficiary must keep both Medicare Parts A and B to be eligible.
- If the beneficiary turned age 65 on or after June 5, 2001, the beneficiary must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B to be eligible.

### How to apply for CHAMPVA benefits

To apply, the following documents are required:

- *Application for CHAMPVA Benefits*, VA Form 10-10d. The application is required to be signed/dated.
- Medicare information:
  - A copy of your Medicare card, if you are eligible for Medicare. (Please do not send originals.)
  - If you are age 65 or older and are not entitled to Medicare, you must send documentation from the Social Security Administration which confirms you are not

entitled to Medicare benefits under any other Social Security number.

- Other health insurance certification. If you have other health insurance, a signed and dated VA Form 10-7959c, *CHAMPVA Other Health Insurance (OHI) Certification*, is required.
- School certification of full-time enrollment for children ages 18–23. Please refer to *Fact Sheet 01-15: School Enrollment Certification Requirements for CHAMPVA Benefits* for details.

Send your complete package to:

VHA Office of Community Care  
CHAMPVA-Eligibility  
PO Box 469028, Denver, CO 80246-9028

### Application process

Once we get your application, we will review it to ensure it is complete and that all required documents are included. If your application package is not complete, we will return it to you with further instructions.

It takes approximately 3–6 weeks after we receive a complete application package until the CHAMPVA Identification (ID) card, handbook and related materials are mailed to the beneficiary. Once you receive your CHAMPVA ID card, you can begin to use CHAMPVA.

### Information about survivor benefits

For information about benefits for surviving spouses and dependents of military personnel who died while in active military service, and for survivors of Veterans who died after active service, visit the VA Survivor Benefits website at [http://www.va.gov/opa/persona/dependent\\_survivor.asp](http://www.va.gov/opa/persona/dependent_survivor.asp)

### For more information about CHAMPVA

- Mail: VHA Office of Community Care  
CHAMPVA  
PO Box 469063, Denver, CO 80246-9063
- Phone: 1-800-733-8387, Monday-Friday  
8:05 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time
- Email: Follow the directions for submitting email via IRIS at <https://iris.custhelp.com/app/ask>
- Website: <http://www.va.gov/purchasedcare/>