

### What is the Foreign Medical Program (FMP)?

The Foreign Medical Program is a VA program for Veterans who live or travel overseas. FMP will pay the VA allowable amount for the treatment of a service-connected condition, or any medical condition associated with and held to be aggravating a service-connected condition. Additionally, VA may authorize necessary foreign medical services for any condition for a Veteran participating in the VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program under Title 38 U.S.C., Chapter 31.

### What does FMP cover for a Veteran with a VA-rated service-connected dental condition?

Veterans with a service-connected, compensable dental disability or condition (Class I) are eligible for any dental care reasonably necessary to maintain oral health and masticatory function, including repeat care. Veterans who do not have a Class I designation may be eligible for dental care, if they met specific criteria.

For more information about service-connected designations, eligibility criteria, and associated benefits for dental services, please review Chapter 2, Section 5 of the FMP Policy Manual. This document can be viewed on the VHA Office of Community Care (VHA CC) website at [http://www.va.gov/purchasedcare/pubs/fmp\\_policy.asp](http://www.va.gov/purchasedcare/pubs/fmp_policy.asp).

### What dental care does the FMP cover for recently discharged Veterans?

Veterans discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable and who have served on active duty 180 days or more – or for not less than 90 days in the case of a Veteran who served on active duty during the Persian Gulf War – are eligible for a one-time, outpatient dental treatment.

To qualify, the DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, (generally referred to as a “DD-214”), must not indicate that dental care was completed while on active duty within the 90-day period preceding the separation from active duty, and the application for a VA dental exam must be made within 180 days of separation. A VA rating is not required to receive this one-time exam.

In some cases, Veterans may be able to receive more than one outpatient dental treatment after discharge. A service-connected compensable dental disability has no restriction on the number of repeat episodes of treatment. Those who are service-connected, non-compensable but their

dental condition or disability was adjudicated as resulting from combat wounds or service trauma are also eligible for repeat care for the service-connected condition(s).

### What is meant by one-time dental care when separating from active duty?

The one-time dental benefit includes a complete dental examination and all appropriate dental treatment as indicated by the examination and documented in a treatment plan. It does not include repeat care beyond the initial treatment plan.

### How do I enroll in the FMP?

To enroll in FMP, the Veteran must complete a [VA Form 10-7959f-1, Foreign Medical Program \(FMP\) Registration Form](#), and submit it to VHA CC at the address listed below.

Eligible Veterans will receive an FMP authorization letter which identifies the VA service-connected disabilities or rehabilitation status for which treatment is authorized.

### Application process for the one-time dental benefit

1. Complete and submit a [VA Form 10-7959f-1, Foreign Medical \(FMP\) Registration Form](#), within 180 days of separation. Attach a copy of your DD-214. The DD-214 must be included to be considered a complete application. Submit the form to:  

VHA Office of Community Care  
Foreign Medical Program  
P.O. Box 469061, Denver CO 80246-9061
2. A notification letter will be sent within 30 days of receipt of a completed application. The notification letter will inform you of your eligibility determination for this one-time dental benefit. However, in the event your application is received prior to your formal separation date, FMP will hold your application until the separation date on your DD-214 has passed. Your application will then be processed without further action on your part unless there were changes in your discharge status. If that is the case, the new/revised DD-214 should be sent to FMP upon your separation from service.
3. If you have been determined to be eligible for the one-time dental benefit, you may arrange an appointment for a dental exam after you get your notification letter.

4. After you receive the dental care outlined in the dental treatment plan, you or your provider will need to submit a claim along with a copy of the treatment plan to the Foreign Medical Program at the address listed below.
5. Claims will be processed and adjudicated based on what benefit the Veteran was notified he/she was eligible for and the plan of treatment.

#### **How do I find a provider who will accept FMP payment for services?**

FMP does not have contract providers. Under FMP, you may elect any health care provider who is licensed to provide the medical services you require. You may consider checking with the U.S. Embassy or Consulate staff, or the TRICARE office (if there is a military treatment facility nearby) to see if they are aware of local providers who will bill and accept payment from the VA FMP directly. If you seek treatment from a provider who will not bill us for services, you may pay the provider and then file for payment by submitting the bill and medical documentation to FMP.

Although Veterans may select medical providers of their choice, we recommend but do not require, that providers have the ability to produce medical documentation and billing statements in English. Claims or documents received in languages other than English will be sent for translation, which may delay processing. Regardless of language, all documentation and billing statements must be legible.

Payment for services are reimbursed in US dollars based on the daily exchange rate for the date of service. Payment cannot be made in foreign currency.

#### **How do I file a claim with the FMP?**

The claim for a one-time dental exam should include the Veteran's DD-214, results of the examination and a treatment plan (if more than one visit is required). All claims should include the information noted below:

- **Veteran information:** full name, mailing address and U.S. Social Security Number
- **Provider information:** full name and title of provider, office address and phone number, and the billing address, if different from the mailing address
- **Dental claim** (*completed by provider*): diagnosis treated, description of service(s) rendered, billed charge for each service and date(s) of service

Send this information to the VHA CC mailing address listed below. For more detailed information on how to file a FMP claim, please refer to [Fact Sheet 04-02: How to File a Foreign Medical Program \(FMP\) Claim](#).

#### **How do I get more information?**

- Mail: VHA Office of Community Care  
Foreign Medical Program  
PO Box 469061  
Denver, CO 80246-9061
- Phone: 303-331-7590, Monday-Friday  
8:05 a.m. to 6:45 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/>