

CAREGIVER NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION

PCAFC PHASE 1 MISSION ACT EXPANSION

The Portland Caregiver Support Program is very excited to announce that the PCAFC has officially expanded as of October 1, 2020.

The Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers is a program that provides resources, education, support, health insurance (if eligible), beneficiary travel (if eligible), and a financial stipend to caregivers of eligible Veterans.

Veterans may be eligible for this clinical program if :

- ♥ The Veteran must have a serious injury, which is a single or combined service-connected disability rating of 70% or more, and meet the following eligibility requirements to participate in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers:
- ♥ Veterans who incurred or aggravated a serious injury (including a serious illness) in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service:
 - ◆ on or before May 7, 1975, or
 - ◆ on or after September 11, 2001
- ♥ The individual is either: A Veteran; or A member of the Armed Forces undergoing a medical discharge from the Armed Forces.
- ♥ 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; or
 - ◆ A need for supervision, protection, or instruction.
- ♥ It is in the best interest of the individual to participate in the program.
- ♥ 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.
- ♥ The individual receives care at home or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.
- ♥ The individual receives ongoing care from a Primary Care Team or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.

HOW TO APPLY

The caregiver and Veteran will need to apply together and participate in an application process to determine eligibility for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers.

The application requires that both the caregiver and the Veteran answer all questions for their role and sign and date the application.

Applying for the program has never been easier with the addition of the online application! Of course, the application can still be downloaded, printed, and mailed.

Apply online with the link below:

[Apply for the program of comprehensive caregiver assistance](#)

Apply by mail:

[Download VA Form 10-10CG \(PDF\)](#)

Mail the form and any supporting documents to:

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

For more detailed information on the application process visit:

[PCAFC Application Process Fact Sheet](#)

The helpful Portland Caregiver Support Program Team Members are available to help answer any questions and provide guidance throughout the application process. The Caregiver Support Program can be reached by calling 503.273.5210.

CURRENT PARTICIPANTS

Legacy Participants

Who is a Legacy Participant?

Veterans and Family Caregivers who were approved and designated by the VA as eligible for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) before October 1, 2020 are considered a “Legacy Participant.”

What does a Legacy Participant need to do?

No immediate action is required for Legacy Participants wanting to stay in the PCAFC. A local VA Caregiver Support Program team member will schedule an appointment to reassess continued eligibility and care needs. Legacy Participants maintain automatic eligibility for one year—through September 30, 2021 regardless of when the reassessment occurs.

Will the Stipend Change Due to Reassessment?

For Legacy Participants who meet the new eligibility requirements and the reassessment results in:

- ♥ A higher stipend amount, then the increase will take effect immediately with retroactive payment to October 1, 2020.
- ♥ A lower stipend amount, then the current stipend amount remains through the duration of the transitional period.

For Legacy Participants who do not meet the new eligibility requirements: (and who are not discharged or revoked on another basis), the current stipend amount will continue for the transitional period.

Click the following link for more information on Legacy Participants:

[Legacy Participant Fact Sheet](#)

National Family Caregiver Month

The theme this year during National Family Caregiver Month is:

CAREGIVING IN CRISIS

The Portland Caregiver Support Program wants to take a moment to recognize that the COVID-19 pandemic has presented new challenges for Caregivers and the Veterans they care for. Our team sends heartfelt gratitude for all you do to care for our Nation's Heroes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Caregiver Wellness and Resiliency Café: Caregiving Through Difficult Times

November 19, 2020 ~ 10:00 am—12:30 pm

There are two ways to enjoy the event:

- ♥ Video Conference: [WebEx](#)
- ♥ Telephone Conference: 1-404-397-1596 Access code: 199 714 5545

Empowering Versus Enabling: PTSD and Caregiving

November 12, 2020 ~ 9:00 am—10:00am

[Join meeting](#)

