Navigating the Changes to VA’s Caregiver Program

The Top 10 things to know about the new Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

Presented by:
Wounded Warrior Project
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
VA’s PROGRAM OF COMPREHENSIVE ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS IS EXPANDING

- PCAFC was launched in 2011
- Presently, only available to post-9/11 era

Expansion in 2 phases:
1. PCAFC will begin 1st phase to WWII, Korean and Vietnam Veterans expected October 2020
2. 2nd phase – all other Veterans, 2 years later
PCAFC has been known for stipend payments & health care (CHAMPVA)

Program of General Caregiver Support Services
  - Training
  - Education
  - Coaching
  - Respite Care
  - Self-care Courses
  - Peer Mentoring Program

Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274
  - Trained Social Workers available for telephone support and coordination; education and support meetings
VETERAN MUST DEMONSTRATE:

**Serious injury**

AND

Require personal (in-person) care services due to inability to complete an activity of daily living (ADL) or the need for supervision, protection, or instruction.
“SERIOUS INJURY”

is defined as

Having a single or combined service-connected disability rating of 70% or more.

“Serious injury” now also means serious illness and diseases.

A WWP national service officer can help
"IN NEED OF PERSONAL CARE SERVICES" is defined as:

Inability to perform an activity of daily living (ADL)

OR

Need for supervision, protection, or instruction

Must be provided in person

Must have been provided for at least 6 consecutive months
APPLYING HAS BEEN MADE EASIER

APPLICATION OPTIONS

- **Online at** [va.gov/family-member-benefits/comprehensive-assistance-for-family-caregivers](http://va.gov/family-member-benefits/comprehensive-assistance-for-family-caregivers)

- **Download application and mail**

- **Download application and deliver**

NEED HELP?

**VA:** 1-855-260-3274  
**WWP:** 1-888-997-2586
NEW RULES REQUIRE ASSESSMENT FOR ELIGIBILITY

- Initial assessments for new applicants
- Both veteran and caregiver assessments
- Includes a Veteran Functional Assessment
- Reassessments for current participants/Legacy participants
- Requires home visit from VA
- Must be completed to remain eligible

WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT
• Current/old system
  • 3 tiers
  • Based on hours of care provided

• New system
  • 2 levels of care
  • Based on amount and degree of care

• New pay scale
CAREGIVERS HAVE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- Eligibility evaluations
- Education and training
- Initial home assessment and demonstration of training
- Must be done within 90 days of PCAFC application
PCAFC will continue for 12 months, until September 30, 2021

Those who are no longer eligible will get 60 days advanced notice of discharge and 90 days extended benefits

Program of General Caregiver Support Services still available

Other VHA Services

NEED HELP?

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THANK YOU!