

CHAPTER 11
SECTION 9.3

PROGRAM FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PFPWD): BENEFIT AUTHORIZATION

Issue Date: July 3, 1997

Authority: [32 CFR 199.5\(a\)\(4\)](#)

I. POLICY

A. A required authorization for a Program for Persons with Disabilities (formerly known as Program for the Handicapped) service or item must be adjudicated by the contractor.

B. A required authorization for a PFPWD benefit must be based upon the following documentation:

1. That the beneficiary is a TRICARE-eligible beneficiary;
2. That the beneficiary will remain an eligible beneficiary for the duration of the inclusive period of the benefit authorization;
3. That the beneficiary has a PFPWD qualifying condition as evidenced by a qualifying condition certificate which meets the requirements of [Chapter 9, Section 14.1](#);
4. That the requested benefit is allowable as a PFPWD benefit by the provisions of [Chapter 8, Section 3.1](#); and,
5. That the benefit request meets the public facility use requirements of [Chapter 11, Section 9.2](#).

C. An authorization for a particular PFPWD service or item shall not exceed six consecutive months.

D. Required PFPWD benefit authorization not requested/received. The contractor may waive the requirement for a written authorization for rendered PFPWD services/items that, except for the absence of the written authorization, would be allowable as a PFPWD benefit.

E. A required statement of public facility availability may be waived. The original of the required beneficiary written statement and a copy of the subsequent PFPWD benefit authorization shall be retained by the appropriate contractor as a part of the contractor responsibility of the authorization action.

F. Proration of equipment expense. The PFPWD beneficiary (or sponsor or guardian acting on the beneficiary's behalf) may, only at the time of the request for authorization of

equipment, specify that the allowable cost of the equipment be prorated. The maximum number of contiguous months for which a prorated amount may be authorized for cost share will be the lesser of (1) the number of months calculated by dividing the initial allowable cost of the equipment by \$1,000 and doubling the resulting quotient, or (2) the number of months of useful equipment life for the requesting beneficiary, as determined by the contractor.

G. The denial document shall conform to all requirements for notification of a denial of benefits.

II. CONSIDERATIONS

A. For authorization requirements for each category of PFPWD benefits see list in [Chapter 8, Section 3.1](#).

B. The contractor is to dispute any public facility use certification which is contrary to known service or item availability or adequacy.

C. For each State within its jurisdiction, the contractor should be knowledgeable concerning the contents of the State Plans for services to persons with disabilities.

- END -