

CHAPTER 8
SECTION 1.5

PROGRAM FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PFPWD):
ELIGIBILITY GENERAL

Issue Date: July 3, 1997

Authority: [32 CFR 199.5\(b\)](#)

I. POLICY

A. PFPWD benefits are limited to a TRICARE eligible child or spouse of:

1. A member of one of the Uniformed Services of the United States; or
2. A former member of a Uniformed Service or the United States when the qualifying condition is the result of, or has been exacerbated by, an injury or illness resulting from physical or emotional abuse. **(Benefits are limited to a period of 12 months following the member's separation.)**
3. A deceased sponsor:
 - a. **For a period of three calendar years from the date an active duty sponsor dies (these individuals are not distinguished from other active duty family members) or**
 - b. **Through midnight of the beneficiary's twenty-first birthday when the beneficiary is receiving PFPWD benefits at the time the sponsor dies and the sponsor was eligible at the time of death for receipt of hostile-fire pay or died as a result of a disease or injury incurred while eligible for such pay.**

NOTE: The date of death must be on or after October 30, 1997. Contractors are not required to research their files. If previous claims are brought to the attention of the contractor, the contractor shall readjudicate the claim in accordance with this policy.

NOTE: The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 authorized an additional two-year period for survivors of deceased active-duty members to remain eligible at the active duty family member rates. Prior to the FY 2001 Act, family members of a deceased active-duty member maintained eligibility for one year after the death of the member.

B. **Except as provided by paragraph I.A.2. or I.A.3.,** eligibility for PFPWD benefits ceases as of 12:01 a.m. of the day following the day that the sponsor ceases to be an active duty member or **the managed care support contractor determines that the beneficiary no longer has a PFPWD qualifying condition.**

C. The contractor will notify the beneficiary in writing of the results of an eligibility determination.

II. EXCLUSION

NATO family members are not eligible for benefits through the Program for Persons with Disabilities.

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