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REMOVE PAGE(S)

CHAPTER 10

Section 2.1, page 3

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

CHAPTER 10

1. Section 2.1. This change allows service members to enroll in TRICARE Prime before or within thirty days after retirement.
2. Section 3.1. This change allows service members to enroll in TRICARE Prime before or within thirty days of retirement. It also better defines effective dates of enrollment for a newborn or adoptee in Prime.
3. Section 5.1. This change better defines "Covered Groups" under the Transitional Assistance Management Program.

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Chapter 10, Section 2.1

Prime Enrollment

request and fee are received after the twentieth (20th) day of the month, enrollment will begin on the first day of the second month after the month in which they were received by the contractor.

1.1.4.2 Reenrollments for those who were enrolled in Prime immediately prior to a change in their status:

1.1.4.2.1 When an active duty member's retirement **date is established**, a Prime enrollment request to reenroll (enrollment form, BWE transaction, or telephonic request received by the contractor) must be completed **before or** within 30 days **following** the member's retirement. **The effective date of reenrollment shall be the date of retirement, which will result in seamless TRICARE Prime benefits with no break in coverage.** Otherwise, the request shall be considered an initial enrollment in Prime **and effective according to the provisions of paragraph 1.1.4.1.**

1.1.4.2.2 When an active duty member separates other than the first of the month, but continues to be eligible (e.g., is the spouse of an active duty member; or is eligible for Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) they and any eligible family members shall be allowed to reenroll in TRICARE Prime with no break in coverage. TAMP eligibles must request enrollment in Prime (enrollment form, BWE transaction, or telephonic request received by the contractor) prior to the expiration of their period of TAMP eligibility to reenroll in Prime. Non-TAMP eligibles separating but who remain eligible for TRICARE must request enrollment in Prime within 30 days of their change in status. Otherwise, the request shall be considered an initial enrollment in Prime. The effective date of reenrollment shall be the start date of TAMP eligibility or the date of the separation which will then result in seamless TRICARE Prime benefits with no break in coverage.

1.1.4.2.3 TAMP eligible family members who were enrolled in Prime immediately prior to their sponsor's change in status to active duty may continue their enrollment in TRICARE Prime with no break in coverage if they request reenrollment in TRICARE Prime (enrollment form, BWE transaction, or telephonic request received by the contractor) within 30 days of their sponsor's return to active duty status. If they request reenrollment within 30 days of the sponsor's return to active duty status, the reenrollment will be retroactive to the date of the change in status from TAMP to active duty. If reenrollment is not accomplished within 30 days of the sponsor's return to active duty status, the twentieth of the month rule will apply. For information on the effective dates of enrollments for Active Duty Service Members (ADSMs), see the TOM, [Chapter 6, Section 1](#).

1.1.5 Beneficiaries shall be disenrolled when they are no longer eligible for TRICARE or when they do not submit payment for prescribed enrollment fees by the required date.

1.2 Portability. Enrollees may transfer enrollment when they move (within a contract area or outside a contract area). The transfer request or disenrollment may be submitted using an enrollment form, BWE transaction or telephonic request received and documented by the contractor. The losing contractor shall provide continuing coverage until (1) the enrollee requests enrollment in the new location, (2) the enrollee disenrolls, (3) the enrollee is no longer eligible for enrollment in TRICARE Prime, or (4) the contractor must disenroll the beneficiary for failure to pay required enrollment fees, whichever occurs first. The authorization and referral rules of the losing contractor will continue to apply until enrollment is transferred or the beneficiary is disenrolled (see the TOM, [Chapter 6, Section 2](#)).

- END -

Chapter 10

Section 3.1

Prime And Status Changes

Issue Date: May 15, 1996
Authority: [32 CFR 199.17](#)

1.0 POLICY

1.1 Generally, when the TRICARE eligibility status changes, eligibility for TRICARE Prime benefits also changes. The time frames for Prime eligibility parallel TRICARE eligibility.

1.2 In all cases, when TRICARE eligibility ends, eligibility for Prime ceases. This includes retirees, their family members and survivors who turn age 65 and are entitled to Medicare but are not eligible for TRICARE for Life, dependent children who lose TRICARE eligibility due to age, remarriage of former spouses, etc.

1.3 To have continuous Prime coverage, the enrollee shall submit an enrollment form, Beneficiary Web Enrollment (BWE) transaction, or a telephonic request to the contractor before, or within 30 days following, their retirement date, and pay the appropriate enrollment fees, calculated based on the effective date of enrollment, within the required time frames (see [Section 2.1, paragraph 1.1.4.2.1](#)). Active duty personnel who retire may enroll at the same time as the remaining family members.

1.3.1 If this is not done before or within 30 days following the member's retirement or separation, enrollment or reenrollment will be effective according to the provisions of [Section 2.1, paragraph 1.1.4](#).

1.3.2 If the enrollee is receiving ongoing care at the time of retirement or separation, he/she must comply with all of the care authorization requirements of the enrollee's new status including getting a new authorization from the Managed Care Support Contractor (MCSC).

1.4 When status changes from Active Duty Family Member (ADFM) to retiree family member, Prime enrollees shall be offered an opportunity to continue enrollment in Prime, if available, but at the retiree cost-sharing rates. These enrollees must pay the applicable enrollment fees. Beneficiaries shall be permitted to keep their Primary Care Manager (PCM), if possible. Military Treatment Facility (MTF) Commanders shall determine if retiring beneficiaries who enroll in Prime could keep their MTF PCMs, given the MTF's enrollment plan and MTF capacity.

1.5 Prime Enrollment for Transitional Survivors. Those in Transitional Survivor Status, are not distinguished from other ADFMs for Prime eligibility. See the Transitional Survivor Status policy in [Section 7.1](#).

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Prime And Status Changes

1.6 When an active duty member retires other than the first of the month or a member separates other than the first of the month but continues to be eligible (e.g., is the spouse of an active duty member; or is eligible for Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP)), Prime enrollment may continue as of the date of retirement or separation so long as all enrollment requirements have been met as stated in [Section 2.1, paragraph 1.1.4](#).

1.7 When TRICARE Prime enrollment changes from an individual to a family enrollment status prior to annual renewal for beneficiary categories required to pay an enrollment fee, the unused portion (pro-rated on a monthly basis) of the fee will be applied toward a new enrollment period or refunded in accordance with the TRICARE Operations Manual (TOM), [Chapter 6, Section 1, paragraph 7.0](#).

1.7.1 For ADFMs, single enrollment can be changed to family at any time during the enrollment period. A new enrollment period shall be established for the family.

1.7.2 A newborn or adoptee will be deemed to be enrolled in Prime as of the day of birth or adoption **if one family member is already enrolled in Prime**. A responsible representative has 60 days to officially enroll the child to the Prime option. If the newborn or adoptee is formally enrolled in Prime within the 60 day period, the **effective** date of enrollment will be the first of the month following the date of birth or adoption. (The 20th of the month enrollment rule is waived, if necessary.) If the newborn or adoptee is not formally enrolled during the 60 day calendar period, the newborn or adoptee will revert to a non-enrolled beneficiary effective the 61st day. If the decision is made to continue Prime coverage, an official enrollment request (enrollment form, BWE transaction, or telephonic request) must be completed on behalf of the child. For retirees or their family members or survivors who decide to continue enrollment for the child, the unused portion (pro-rated on a monthly basis) of the single enrollment fee they paid will be applied toward a new family enrollment period. For newborns and newly adopted children enrolled under this provision, Point of Service cost-sharing does not apply through the 60th day or the **effective date of enrollment**, whichever is earlier. All services shall be processed with the Prime copayment even in the absence of referrals or authorizations. The TRICARE Regional Director (RD) is granted the authority to extend the deemed period up to 120-days, on a case-by-case or regional basis.

Note: In the case of a reservist who has been called to active duty for a period of 30 days or less, a new family member is not considered enrolled in Prime, since the dependents of the reservist are not eligible to enroll in Prime.

1.7.3 For those newborns and adoptees who are covered under the 60 day "deemed enrollment" benefit, process these claims as civilian Prime for this period. If the newborn or adoptee is formally enrolled during this period, process using enrollment status. If the newborn or adoptee is not formally enrolled during the 60 day calendar day period, at the end of the 60th calendar day period, the contractor shall process all claims as a non-enrolled beneficiary, applying the appropriate TRICARE cost-shares and deductibles. See the TOM, [Chapter 8, Section 1, paragraph 5.0](#) for claims processing procedures.

1.8 When a family enrollment status changes to single, there is no refund of the paid enrollment fee, unless the family enrollment becomes an individual enrollment due to death of one or more family members or a retired TRICARE Prime enrollee becomes dual eligible (see the TOM, [Chapter 6, Section 1, paragraph 7.0](#)). The remaining single enrollee continues to have Prime coverage until

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Prime And Status Changes

the enrollee takes action to disenroll, the enrollee is no longer eligible for TRICARE Prime, or the enrollee fails to pay a required enrollment fee.

1.9 TRICARE eligible beneficiaries who have less than 12 months of eligibility remaining (for example, retirees who are 64 years of age, TAMP beneficiaries, etc.) are allowed to enroll in Prime, however, these enrollees will be disenrolled from Prime when they lose their TRICARE eligibility. The beneficiary has the choice of paying all of the enrollment fee or paying the fees on a monthly or quarterly basis. If paid on a monthly or quarterly basis, the beneficiary will be required to pay the installments that would cover the period of their eligibility only. See [paragraph 1.8](#) for those who pay in full at the beginning of the enrollment period.

1.10 For exceptions to enrollment fee refunds, see the TOM, [Chapter 6, Section 1](#).

1.11 Enrollees may disenroll from TRICARE Prime according to the requirements of [Section 2.1](#).

- END -

Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP)

Issue Date: June 1, 1999

Authority: [32 CFR 199.3](#); Public Law 101-510, 102-125, 103-337, and 108-375

1.0 DESCRIPTION

The Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) establishes TRICARE eligibility for specific categories of beneficiaries. The sponsors and their family members are eligible for continued TRICARE medical benefits including enrollment/re-enrollment in TRICARE Prime, services and supplies provided under the Extended Care Health Option (ECHO), and Military Treatment Facility (MTF) care, for a defined period of time as indicated on Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). While the status of these individuals is neither active duty nor retiree/deceased, for the purpose of cost-sharing, the claims for these individuals (including the former active duty member) shall be processed as active duty dependents.

2.0 POLICY

2.1 Covered Groups. **Members, as determined by their Service personnel office, and their eligible dependents** who meet the criteria below are entitled to medical benefits under TRICARE to the same extent as those available to active duty dependents.

2.1.1 A member who is involuntarily separated from active duty.

2.1.2 A member of a Reserve Component (RC) who is separated from active duty to which called or ordered in support of a contingency operation if the active duty is for a period of more than 30 days.

2.1.3 A member who is separated from active duty for which the member is involuntarily retained under Section 12305 (also referred to as "stop loss") of Title 10, United States Code (USC), in support of a contingency operation.

2.1.4 A member who is separated from active duty served pursuant to a voluntary agreement of the member to remain on active duty for a period of less than one year in support of a contingency operation.

2.1.5 A member who receives a sole survivorship discharge as defined in Section 1174 of Title 10, USC. This provision was added by Public Law 110-317, effective August 29, 2008.

2.1.6 A member who is separated from active duty who agrees to become a member of the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve of a reserve component. This provision was added by Public

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Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP)

Law 110-417, National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2009, Section 734, effective October 14, 2008.

2.2 Time frames of eligibility for TAMP eligibles in which the member's separation occurred on or after November 6, 2003 - Transitional health care for TAMP eligibles shall be available for 180 days beginning on the date on which the member is separated from active duty.

2.3 Determining Eligibility

2.3.1 Eligibility determinations for coverage must be based on DEERS determinations.

2.3.2 Managed Care Support Contractors (MCSCs) are responsible for confirming DEERS eligibility status. Once jurisdictional responsibility is established, the contractor shall have the capability by using DEERS to identify these claims as TAMP and process them as active duty dependent claims. While the status of these individuals is neither active duty nor retiree/deceased, for the purpose of cost-sharing, the claims for these individuals shall be processed as active duty dependents. Eligibility verification of an active duty member who was separated involuntarily shall be based solely on the DEERS response. For those claims that are submitted for medical services rendered to the sponsor and if the contractor can identify the claim as meeting the transitional eligibility requirements, the contractor shall process the claim. Otherwise the sponsor claims indicating status as "active duty" and relationship as "self" shall continue to be transferred to the military services. Claims are to be processed by the contractor using the same rules and cost-shares that apply to active duty dependents, **unless otherwise specified in Chapter 10, Section 8.1.**

2.4 Change in eligibility status of a beneficiary during an inpatient hospital stay (see the TRICARE Reimbursement Manual (TRM), [Chapter 6, Section 2](#)).

2.5 In cases involving the existence of Other Health Insurance (OHI) for dependents and/or sponsors, treat as double coverage as required by the TRM.

2.6 TRICARE Prime:

2.6.1 Enrollment in Prime. TAMP eligibles may enroll or re-enroll in TRICARE Prime.

2.6.2 Effective Date of Enrollment in TRICARE Prime is as follows:

2.6.2.1 TAMP eligibles (including the former active duty member) who were enrolled in Prime immediately prior to their change in status may continue their enrollment in TRICARE Prime with no break in coverage. A reenrollment application must be completed prior to the TAMP expiration period in order to continue with TRICARE Prime. The effective date shall be the date the sponsor separated from active duty as the intent is to ensure that Prime coverage is seamless. See [Section 2.1](#) for further information on the effective date of enrollment.

2.6.2.2 TAMP eligibles who were not enrolled in Prime (including TRICARE Prime Remote (TPR) and TRICARE Prime Remote Active Duty Family Member (TPRADFM)) immediately prior to their change in status may choose to enroll in TRICARE Prime while receiving TAMP coverage but such enrollment is subject to the "twentieth of the month rule". That is, if an application for an initial enrollment is received after the twentieth day of the month, Prime enrollment will begin on the first