

TEST ENVIRONMENT

1.0. One region is available for both contractor testing and training. Typically, as fixes are applied and tested, the modified software will be installed in the contractor region for testing. **Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)** will coordinate with **TRICARE Management Activity (TMA)** and the contractors when the test region will be upgraded with software for the next major release (as opposed to continuing software modifications for the current release) and available for contractor testing. DMDC will coordinate changes with contractors to the baseline set of **Social Security Numbers (SSNs)**.

1.1. Releases

New releases of the **Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) Online Enrollment System (DOES)** software will be posted to the DMDC web site for download. Notification of new releases of DOES and back-end software to support DOES and other interfaces with the **Managed Care Support Contractors (MCSCs)** or **Uniformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP)** providers will be sent to contractors in advance via e-mail. The contractor will upgrade/comply with any changes to the DOES software.

Changes to the following are excluded: DataBase, Core Changes, **Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS)**, Automated Central Tumor Registry (ACTUR), Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB), or other non-MCSC/USFHP provider related projects.

Emergency fixes are evaluated and, depending on the scope and severity may be released by DEERS to Production prior to the contractor test region. Notification of such an emergency release will be sent via e-mail.

1.2. Maintenance Window

The weekly maintenance window occurs on Saturday at 9:00 p.m. to Sunday at 6:00 a.m. EST/EDT. The DEERS contractor testing environment is available to contractors for testing and training Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. EST/EDT.

