

TRICARE BENEFICIARY BULLETIN – APRIL 28, 2011 – 663 WORDS

LEAD MUSIC (:03)

THIS IS THE TRICARE BENEFICIARY BULLETIN, AN UPDATE ON THE LATEST NEWS TO HELP YOU MAKE THE BEST USE OF YOUR TRICARE BENEFIT. I'M AUSTIN CAMACHO. (:10)

FIRST UP: LORRAINE CWIEKA REPORTS ON THE PROGRAM LAUNCH OF TRICARE YOUNG ADULT.

TRICARE YOUNG ADULT IS NOW OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT WITH COVERAGE BEGINNING ON MAY 1.

UNIFORMED SERVICES DEPENDENTS UNDER AGE 26 WHO ARE UNMARRIED AND WHO NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THEIR OWN EMPLOYER-SPONSORED HEALTH CARE COVERAGE MAY BE QUALIFIED TO PURCHASE TRICARE YOUNG ADULT, WHICH OFFERS TRICARE STANDARD COVERAGE FOR MONTHLY PREMIUMS OF \$186.

A PREMIUM-BASED TRICARE PRIME BENEFIT WILL BE AVAILABLE LATER THIS YEAR.

COMPLETE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT TRICARE.MIL/TYA. TRICARE OFFICIALS ENCOURAGE BENEFICIARIES TO EXPLORE ALL POSSIBLE HEALTH CARE PLAN OPTIONS AND COSTS WHEN CHOOSING A PLAN THAT BEST MEETS THEIR NEEDS.

THOSE CONSIDERING TRICARE YOUNG ADULT SHOULD DETERMINE IF THEY ARE ELIGIBLE BEFORE COMPLETING AND SENDING IN AN APPLICATION. THE APPLICATION AND PAYMENT OF THREE MONTHS OF PREMIUMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT A TRICARE SERVICE CENTER OR SENT BY MAIL OR FAXED DIRECTLY TO YOUR REGIONAL CONTRACTOR.

THOSE ELIGIBLE FOR TRICARE YOUNG ADULT WHO HAVE BEEN SAVING RECEIPTS SINCE JANUARY 1ST CAN ALSO PAY ALL PREMIUMS BACK TO JANUARY TO PURCHASE COVERAGE

RETROACTIVELY.

AFTER RECEIVING A WELCOME LETTER AND ENROLLMENT CARD, DEPENDENTS AND THEIR SPONSOR ARE ENCOURAGED TO VISIT AN ID CARD ISSUING FACILITY TO OBTAIN A DEPENDENT ID CARD. THE CARD WILL ASSIST IN IDENTIFYING THE DEPENDENT AS ELIGIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE, PRESCRIPTIONS AND ACCESS TO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS. NEARBY ID CARD FACILITIES CAN BE FOUND THROUGH A LINK AT TRICARE.MIL/TYA.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE ALERTS ON TRICARE YOUNG ADULT AND OTHER TRICARE NEWS AT TRICARE.MIL/SUBSCRIPTIONS.

FOR TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, I'M LORRAINE CWIEKA.

HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE COST AMERICAN TAXPAYERS BILLIONS OF DOLLARS EACH YEAR. TRICARE IS COMMITTED TO

ENSURING YOU RECEIVE CARE FROM TRUSTWORTHY PROVIDERS
AND THAT TAXPAYER MONEY IS USED APPROPRIATELY.

WHAT IS FRAUD AND ABUSE? FRAUD IS AN INTENTIONAL DECEPTION
OR MISREPRESENTATION OF FACT THAT ENABLES SOMEONE TO
OBTAIN AN UNAUTHORIZED BENEFIT OR PAYMENT. HEALTH CARE
ABUSE OCCURS WHEN PROVIDERS SUPPLY SERVICES OR PRODUCTS
THAT ARE MEDICALLY UNNECESSARY OR THAT DO NOT MEET
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS.

YOU ARE AN IMPORTANT PARTNER IN THE ONGOING FIGHT AGAINST
FRAUD AND ABUSE WITHIN THE TRICARE PROGRAM.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- ALWAYS REVIEW THE EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS YOU
RECEIVE AFTER HEALTH CARE SERVICES. IT SHOULD LIST THE
SERVICES AND SUPPLIES YOU RECEIVED.
- IF YOU NOTICE ANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SERVICES
REFLECTED ON YOUR EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS AND THE
SERVICES YOU RECEIVED, CALL THE TOLL-FREE NUMBER

IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR MEDICAL RECORD, YOU SHOULD FOLLOW UP WITH YOUR PROVIDER TO ENSURE THE SERVICES YOU RECEIVED ARE REFLECTED PROPERLY.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TRICARE COMBATS FRAUD AND ABUSE, VISIT TRICARE.MIL/FRAUD.

FINALLY: ANNEMARIE FELICIO REMINDS BENEFICIARIES TO KEEP THEIR DEERS RECORD UP-TO-DATE!

THE DEFENSE ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY REPORTING SYSTEM OR DEERS, IS THE WORLDWIDE DATABASE FOR ALL SERVICE MEMBERS, THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS AND OTHERS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MILITARY BENEFITS—INCLUDING TRICARE. THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT USES THE INFORMATION STORED IN YOUR DEERS

RECORD TO DETERMINE YOUR ELIGIBILITY FOR TRICARE BENEFITS AND PROGRAMS.

KEEPING YOUR DEERS INFORMATION ACCURATE WILL ENSURE YOU HAVE ACCESS TO TRICARE BENEFITS—INCLUDING DOCTORS’ APPOINTMENTS, MEDICATIONS AND REIMBURSEMENTS—WHEN YOU NEED THEM.

UNIFORMED SERVICE MEMBERS ARE CONSIDERED SPONSORS AND ARE AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERED IN DEERS. ONLY A SPONSOR OR SPONSOR-APPOINTED INDIVIDUAL WITH A VALID POWER OF ATTORNEY CAN ADD OR DELETE FAMILY MEMBERS. THESE UPDATES MUST BE MADE IN PERSON AT THE NEAREST ID CARD-ISSUING FACILITY.

WHEN THERE IS A CHANGE IN INFORMATION, EACH FAMILY MEMBER’S ELIGIBILITY RECORD MUST BE UPDATED SEPARATELY. YOU SHOULD UPDATE AND VERIFY YOUR DEERS INFORMATION

WHENEVER YOU EXPERIENCE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING LIFE
EVENTS:

- CHANGE IN SPONSOR'S STATUS
- GETTING MARRIED OR DIVORCED
- HAVING A BABY OR ADOPTING A CHILD
- MOVING TO A NEW LOCATION, INCLUDING ANY OVERSEAS
LOCATION, AND
- DEATH OF SPONSOR OR FAMILY MEMBER.

CONTACT INFORMATION CAN BE UPDATED SEVERAL WAYS
INCLUDING ONLINE, IN PERSON, OR BY PHONE, FAX OR REGULAR
MAIL. VISIT TRICARE.MIL/DEERS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

FOR TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, I'M ANNEMARIE FELICIO.

AND THAT'S TODAY'S TRICARE BENEFICIARY BULLETIN. WE'LL
HAVE MORE NEWS YOU CAN USE NEXT WEEK. (:03)

TAIL MUSIC (:03)