VA Caregiver Support Program

Presentation for the
National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
(NHPCO)

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Caregiver Support Program
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Caregiver Support Program Mission Statement:
To promote the health and well-being of family caregivers who care for our nation’s Veterans, through education, resources, support, and services.
MISSION Act Phased Expansion

• Prior to October 1, 2020: the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) was only available to eligible Veterans who were seriously injured in the line of duty on or after September 11, 2001.

• Phase One, October 1, 2020: PCAFC expanded to eligible Veterans who were seriously injured in the line of duty on or before May 7, 1975.

• Phase Two, October 1, 2022: PCAFC expanded to eligible Veterans who were seriously injured in the line of duty of all eras.
There are a total of 7 Veteran eligibility requirements, including:

- The Veteran must have a serious injury incurred or aggravated within the specified phased expansion date. **Serious injury** means any service-connected disability that (1) is rated at 70 percent or more by VA, or (2) combined with any other service-connected disability or disabilities, is rated at 70 percent or more by VA.
The Veteran must need in-person personal care services for a minimum of six (6) continuous months based on either:

- An inability to perform an activity of daily living (ADL), or
- Need for supervision, protection, or instruction.

(ii) a need for supervision or protection based on symptoms or residuals of neurological or other impairment or injury;

(iii) a need for regular or extensive instruction or supervision without which the ability of the Veteran to function in daily life would be seriously impaired.
PCAFC Services

• Education and Training
• Enhanced Respite Care
• Counseling
• Beneficiary Travel
• Monthly Stipend
• Access to health care through Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA), if eligible
• Financial planning and legal resources for Primary Family Caregivers
How to Apply to PCAFC

Apply Online:

https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/apply-for-caregiver-assistance-form-10-10cg/introduction

VA Form 10-10 CG:

https://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/10-10CG.pdf

PCAFC Application Process Fact Sheet
The Program of General Caregiver Support Services (PGCSS) provides one-on-one coaching and support, group support, skills training, peer support, mobile support, and connection to resources to caregivers of all era Veterans.

The Veteran must be enrolled in VA health care and need assistance with activities of daily living or require supervision or protection.

No formal application is required.
PGCSS Enrollment Process

Intake  Enrollment  Benefits & Services
• Training and support through in-person, online and telehealth sessions.

• Skills training focused on caregiving for a Veteran’s unique needs.

• Individual counseling related to the care of the Veteran.

• Respite care, which offers medically and age-appropriate short-term services to eligible Veterans, allows caregivers to take time for themselves while the Veteran is cared for in a safe and caring environment.
Clinical Support

Skills Training

Mobile Support

One on One Coaching

Group Support & Coaching

Peer Support Mentoring
Local Caregiver Support Program Offices offer a Caregiver & Family Resource Fair annually with a focus on resources for caregivers and families to include:

- VHA resources
- VBA resources
- Local organizations
- Community agencies
How Do You Contact the Caregiver Support Program?

VA Caregiver Support Line
1-855-260-3274

• VA's National Caregiver Support Line is a toll-free number for caregivers, family members, friends, Veterans, and community partners to contact for information related to caregiving and available supports and services

• Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. ET, and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET

• To find your local Caregiver Support Program, or for more information: http://www.caregiver.va.gov

Informational Purposes Only