

TDVS Fact Sheet
Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers
September 2022

Positive Caregiver Program News

VA has extended eligibility for legacy participants in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC or Caregivers) through September 30, 2025. VA published the [interim final rule](#) in the Federal Register today. **VA will expand Caregiver Benefits to Veterans of all eras on October 1st.**

Why it matters: VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers was originally provided to post 9/11 era Veterans. Congress then expanded eligibility to include all generations but with a staggered roll out.

Yes but: The PCAFC and the subsequent expansion has been plagued by issues such as inconsistent application and eligibility reassessments.

- Enacted in 2010 to provide benefits to caregivers of post-9/11 disabled Veterans with serious injuries.
- Eligibility expanded by 2018 MISSION Act.
 - October 1, 2020 – Veterans discharged on or before May 7, 1975
 - **October 1, 2022 – All Eras of Veterans**
- July 1, 2020, VA rewrote eligibility criteria and began a reassessment of legacy participants.
- April 2021, CAVC found right to appeal Caregiver denials to Board of Veterans' Appeals
- September 22, 2021, VA extended the reassessment by an additional year.
- March 22, 2022, VA announces pause to reassessments.
- **September 15, 2022, VA announces extension of eligibility for legacy participants.**
- **September 21, 2022, final interim rule published in the Federal Register extending eligibility for legacy participants.**

I'd like more: TDVS has chronicled the fits and starts of the PCAFC program.

- [Benefit Bulletin 21-6](#) discussing *Beaudette's* extension of judicial review to Caregiver decisions and [Benefit Bulletin 21-12](#) providing more information on how to appeal an adverse decision.
- Benefit Bulletin 21-7
- [Benefit Bulletin 21-10](#) discussing extension of reevaluation.
- [Benefits Bulletin 22-4](#) discussing VA's pause of reassessments.

- [2022 Spring Quarterly Training: NVLSP: A Guide to VA Benefits for Family Caregivers and the Beaudette Class Action](#)

Here are more resources to assist Veterans or caregivers.

- [Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers \(PCAFC\) VSO Toolkit](#)
- [VA Caregiver Program Class Action Website](#) – Important documents and FAQs
- [Veterans Health Administration's Clinical Review or Appeal Process](#) – Outlined in Benefits Bulletin 21-7 and still an available method of disagreement.
- [TDVS Appeals Division Contact Information](#)
- [VA Resources](#)