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Veteran Eligibility for Dental Care

There are different classes for each eligibility for dental care. Read the following descriptions to find which relates to you personally.

Class I - You are eligible for any needed dental care through this class if you have a condition or dental disability

Class IIC - You are eligible for any needed dental care if you are a prisoner of war

Class IV - You are eligible for any needed dental care if you have disabilities that are 100% disabling that were acquired through service

Class II - You are eligible for one-time dental care should your DD214 certificate of discharge has not indicated that a full examination and appropriate treatment was rendered before discharge.

Class IIA - You are eligible for any needed dental care if you can provide and maintain a dentition that is fully maintained

Class III- You are eligible for any needed dental care to treat oral conditions determined to have a material or direct detrimental effect on your service

Class V- You are eligible for any needed dental care if you are engaged actively in a 38 USC chapter 31 vocational rehabilitation program

Class VI- You are eligible for any needed dental care to treat any oral condition that has been deemed to complicate your current medical condition or treatment by a VA professional

Class IIB- You are eligible for a one-time course for care if it has been deemed medically necessary for the purpose of relieving pain, treating moderate, complicated or severe periodontal conditions.

What To Do If You Don't Have Eligibility

If you are not eligible for any of the state VA dental care, you are able to visit the national VA Dental Insurance Program for enrolled CHAMPVA beneficiaries for veterans in order to have the opportunity for the purchase of reduced dental insurance.

Applying for Dental Care

You can apply for dental care on the VA website. When you fill out your application be sure to have the following documents:

- Social Security Number

- Most recent tax return
- Copy of your military discharge papers

- Financial Information

- Account numbers or any current health insurance

Dental Clinic Locations

The VA has provided clinics for veterans throughout the country, with 200 locations available, which include both Puerto Rico and Alaska, as well. You will be able to find the closest clinic to your location by clicking here and following the instructions listed by the VA.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Organization

The VFW is a non-profit organization aimed to aid veterans with their health, transition into daily life, and anything else that applies to their sacrifices. They have selected MetLife as their dental sponsorship for insurance in order to provide the proper dental care needed to veterans.

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP)

The TRDP is one of the most well-known programs that are available for veterans in regards to dental care and was set forth by the federal government. The eligibility for the program is verified through the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System and can be quite extensive.

Depending on what you are eligible to receive, you could receive coverage for diagnostic services, preventive services, dental accident coverage, and more. For more information on the TRDP, your possible eligibility, and any other required information visit their website by <u>clicking</u> <u>here</u>.

Other Dental Care Avenues

If you are unable to receive some form of care through the VA, there are other avenues to take and options available to you. Because the VA has strict eligibility policies and requirements, various dentists across the United States have teamed up to offer free or highly discounted services for veterans in desperate need of dental care.

Aspen Dental has over 500 offices across the nation, dispenses a mobile unit that travels around the country, and offers specific services to veterans. Over 4,000 veterans have been helped in their search for proper dental care, with approximately \$2.8 million being donated in the process.

For more information on Dental Resources for Veterans visit: <u>https://www.emergencydentistsusa.com/dental-care-resources-for-veterans/</u>