



Prime Travel Benefit



This information is for non-active duty TRICARE Prime patients (active duty family members, retirees and retiree family members) registered in DEERS and enrolled to a Military Treatment Facility (MTF) or TRICARE Prime Clinic.

TRICARE Prime Travel Benefit (PTB)

- The PTB program allows certain Prime beneficiaries to be reimbursed for reasonable travel expenses when they are referred by their PCM for medically-necessary specialty care more than 100 miles (one-way) from the Primary Care Manager's (PCM's) office.

Who May Qualify?

- Active duty family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime or Prime Remote
- Retirees and retiree family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime
- Medal of Honor veterans and retirees with a combat-related disability
- One authorized non-medical attendant (NMA)

Non-Medical Attendant (NMA)

Criteria

- Documentation from the PCM indicating the medical need for a non-medical attendant is required in the form of a letter from specialty office
- The NMA may be a parent, spouse, guardian or other adult family member, or a companion with a Power of Attorney; if the NMA is not the patient's parent or spouse.
- NMA **must be** 21 years of age or older

What is Needed to Request Travel Authorization?

- Verification of TRICARE eligibility and TRICARE Prime enrollment
- A specialty referral from the PCM for TRICARE-covered services, justifying:
 - Medical necessity
 - If applicable, NMA medical necessity
- Authorization from Tricare for the specialty care, to include authorization number

Key Information:

- Written orders are required **before** traveling. If you travel without orders, you may be denied reimbursement.
- PTB **cannot** be used in the event of emergency care.
- Contact the PTB Coordinator at D11-HSWLSC-PTBREQUEST@USCG.MIL to obtain PTB forms and submit your PTB request.
 - Direct questions to (510) 637-1214
- ACTUAL reimbursement is based on government per diem rate expenses (for the area where the specialty care is received).
- When government transportation is not available, the least costly mode of transportation must be used.
- Commercial travel or a rental car must be preauthorized by the Travel Office.
- Lodging is only authorized if an overnight stay is medically-necessary; or may depend on the travel distance/time and time of the appointment.
- Reimbursement requests must be submitted to the HSWL SC within FIVE days of the completion of travel Reasonable travel expenses include:
 - Transportation
 - Fuel, tolls, parking
 - Commercial air, train or bus
 - Rental car
 - Taxi or shuttle
 - Meals
 - Lodging (including taxes and fees)
- **Remember to save your receipts**

