

Prime Travel Benefit for Specialty Care Fact Sheet

TRICARE Prime beneficiaries referred more than 100 miles from their primary care manager for non-emergency, medically necessary specialty care may be eligible for reimbursement of their reasonable travel expenses.* This entitlement applies to enrollees within their local enrollment areas, not while traveling.

Travel entitlement and the issuing of travel orders will be handled by the referring Military Treatment Facility (MTF) for those enrolled at an MTF and the Office of the Lead Agent (OLA) for all other TRICARE Prime members, including TRICARE Prime Remote. The referring MTF or the OLA will also assist the enrollee with the required form – SF-1164, “Claim for Reimbursement Official Business.”

This entitlement only applies when 1) the specialty provider is not available within 100 miles, 2) an appointment with the required specialist isn’t available within the access standards or 3) MTF considerations with the patient’s concurrence. If an MTF or TRICARE Network provider is not available within 100 miles, the patient will be authorized treatment with a non-network provider, if available. *This travel entitlement only applies when no provider or appointment is available or the patient agrees to travel to a military MTF.*

Travelers will be required to itemize costs for meals, lodging, gas, and commercial transportation. Original receipts (not copies) will be needed for all lodging and any other individual expenses over \$75 (meal and lodging expenses not to exceed the local per diems). Travel expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with the Joint Federal Travel Regulations (JFTR). Per diem expenses will be based on the U.S. Per Diem Rate. If travel can be completed in the same day, reimbursement will be 75% of the daily rate.

A non-medical attendant may accompany the Prime enrollee on this travel. The attendant may be a parent or guardian of the traveling enrollee or another adult who is a member of the patient’s family. The parent or guardian is not required to be age 21, but if the attendant is not the parent or guardian, he or she must be age 21 or older. The MTF or lead agent office, in coordination with the TRICARE Prime patient’s primary care manager, is responsible for determining if the requirement for a non-medical attendant exists and issuing the appropriate travel orders.

**The Prime enrollee travel entitlement does not apply to:*

- 1. Travel expenses incurred by Active Duty Services Members, or Active Duty family members residing with their sponsors overseas*
- 2. Travel costs of beneficiaries referred under DoD specialized treatment programs, which are reimbursed by other travel entitlements*
- 3. Transportation expenses resulting from emergency care covered under the basic TRICARE Standard benefit.*