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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration

> IB 10-512 February 2013

Caregiver Support Program Beneficiary Travel Fact Sheet

Approved primary and secondary Family Caregivers of eligible Veterans participating in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers are eligible to receive VA travel benefits in two situations:

During Approved Caregiver Education & Training

Eligible for travel, lodging, and subsistence during the period of training and may receive travel for training prior to approval as a Caregiver.

During Associated Veteran's Receipt of VA or VA Authorized Health Care

Eligible for travel, lodging, and subsistence during the period associated Veteran is traveling to and from, and receiving VA or VA authorized non-VA health care. Medical necessity for escort is not required for Caregiver to receive benefit(s).

NOTE: Associated Veteran must be Beneficiary Travel program (BT) eligible in order for Caregiver to receive travel in relation to Veteran's care.

Benefits are generally provided in same manner as that for Veteran:

- Mileage reimbursement at \$0.415 per mile (no deductible for Caregiver): if Veteran and Caregiver travel in same vehicle reimbursement is limited to one person
- Common carrier transport (plane, train, bus, taxi etc.) preapproval required for air transport receipts required
- Lodging and subsistence (when appropriate): actual cost up to 50% of local Federal Employee rate: if sharing a room lodging reimbursement may be limited to one person preapproval and receipts required
- Reimbursement for road and bridge tolls, luggage, ferry fares etc.- receipts required
- Must apply for reimbursement within 30 calendar days of travel

NOTE: Caregivers are not eligible for travel benefits when such travel is in relation to health care solely for the Caregiver at VA or non-VA facilities.