

# TRICARE Dependent Medical Coverage Extended to Age 26

January 17, 2011

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 extends dependent medical coverage up to age 26. The legislation authorizes both TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Prime which will be implemented in a two phased approach.

- Effective April 1, 2011 TRICARE Standard will be available.
- Prime Plans will follow later in 2011 due to complexity of system and process changes.

Enrollment process through the TRICARE Management Activity (TMA), will begin April 1, 2011. When enrolling, the sponsor may opt to have the date of initial enrollment back dated to January 1, 2011, provided the sponsor pay retroactive premium payments. If the eligible dependent incurs health care expenses prior to April, all receipts against claims can be submitted once the dependent is enrolled.

Once dependents have been enrolled and show eligible in DEERS, they can proceed to the nearest DEERS/RAPIDS site to receive an ID card. There should be no enrollments or child adds in DEERS UNLESS a dependent is not visible to the Managed Care Support Contractor; normally these would consist of children who were never added to the sponsor's DEERS record.

For more information about the program and legislation, please visit [www.tricare.mil](http://www.tricare.mil).

Please contact the DMDC Support Center (DSC) User Helpdesk at 1-800-372-7437 or DSN 698-5000 (CONUS) / 312-698-5000 (OCONUS) for further assistance.

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