

TRICARE Prime Enrollment Fees

Is the TRICARE Prime enrollment fee changing for retirees?

Yes, the Department of Defense is setting new TRICARE Prime enrollment fee amounts for individual and family enrollments. [The new fees are effective October 1, 2012.](#)

Do all fee-paying TRICARE Prime enrollees have to pay the new amounts?

There are two exceptions: *survivors of active duty deceased sponsors* and *medically retired Service members* (and their dependents) will always pay the enrollment fee rate in effect when they were classified as a survivor or medically retired and enrolled in TRICARE Prime. One family member must remain enrolled in Prime and there can be no break in Prime enrollment for the fee amount to remain “frozen.”

EXAMPLE: A beneficiary is classified as medically retired and enrolls in TRICARE Prime for the first time as a medical retiree. As long as the beneficiary remains enrolled in Prime, the annual enrollment fee will be “frozen” at the rate in effect at the time of that first enrollment.

Does the TRICARE Prime enrollment fee increase include those enrolled in the US Family Health Plan?

Yes. The TRICARE Prime enrollment fee also applies to beneficiaries enrolled in the US Family Health Plan, including those 65 and older who do not have Medicare Part B.

Will TRICARE Prime enrollment fees increase every year?

TRICARE Prime enrollment fees are subject to change at the beginning of each fiscal year (October 1 – September 30). Survivors of active duty deceased sponsors and medically retired Service members and their dependents will have their annual enrollment fee “frozen” at the rate in effect when they enrolled, as long as one family member remains enrolled in Prime and there is no break in Prime enrollment.

My fee payments are set up as automatic monthly electronic payments (allotments, electronic funds transfer or recurring credit card payments). Do I need to do anything?

No. When the government changes the fee amounts, TriWest will adjust the payments automatically based on the beneficiary’s enrollment type. If they need to make a change to their automatic payment method, they can log into their TriWest.com account.

NOTE: Though the current calculated rates for FY 2013 are based on current law, fees are subject to change through the NDAA or on an ongoing annual basis. Please encourage Prime enrollees to pay their enrollment fee payments on a monthly or quarterly basis so payments may be more easily adjusted.

Do the current Prime rules (20th of the month) and lock out provisions apply?

Yes, the current enrollment rules and lock out provisions apply. Enrollees have to make sure they submit their payments on time to avoid lock-outs and breaks in coverage.

Do my co-pays, point-of-service deductible, and fiscal year catastrophic cap amounts change with the increase of my TRICARE Prime enrollment fee?

No. All these rates and payments are not affected by the enrollment fee increase, but may still

change each year on October 1. Remember, enrollment fee counts towards the annual catastrophic cap. The most up-to-date fee, rate and cost information will be found at TRICARE.mil/Costs.

Sign up for electronic automatic payments to pay your TRICARE Prime enrollment fee automatically. You can pay monthly payments by:

- allotment
- electronic funds transfer
- credit card

Sign up:

- **Online** at TriWest.com/ePay
- **Download**, complete and submit the [*Electronic Payment Authorization \(TRICARE Prime\)*](#) or the [*Enrollment Fee Allotment Authorization*](#) form
- **In person** at your local [TRICARE Service Center](#).

For the most up-to-date information on costs, co-pays, costshares, deductibles, and catastrophic caps, please visit TRICARE.mil/Costs.

Other WebPages to check out:

<http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Costs/HealthPlanCosts>

<http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Costs/HealthPlanCosts/TRICAREForLife?>

<http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Costs/PharmacyCosts>