

AWARD ATTACHMENT FOR QUALIFYING VETERAN'S CHILD BORN WITH DISABILITIES

VA HEALTH CARE

As a person who has been determined to have a covered birth defect, you may receive care from any health care provider licensed or otherwise authorized to deliver health care related services in your state. VA will pay for health care relating to your disability or a condition associated with it, but not for other conditions. Payments are made directly to the health care provider based on an itemized bill submitted to the VA Health Administration Center in Denver, Colorado. The Health Administration Center will review and authorize payments.

Pre-authorization is required for durable medical equipment, professional counseling, mental health services, training, substance abuse treatment, dental services, transplantation services and travel other than by privately owned vehicles. Pre-approval may be obtained by contacting the VA Health Administration Center at the number listed below.

If your disability is spina bifida, the Shriners Hospitals for Children have signed an agreement with VA to provide care for eligible children at no cost to VA or the family. If you are interested in receiving care at a Shriners hospital, you should contact the nearest Shriners Hospital for Children or the VA Health Administration Center.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

You may be eligible for vocational training and related services and assistance to help you get or keep a good job. Under this program, VA will pay all the costs of any training, including tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment. To learn if you are eligible, you need to apply for this benefit. When we receive your application letter, we will arrange an appointment for you to come in for an evaluation of whether it is reasonably feasible for you to achieve a vocational goal.

To apply for vocational training, complete and sign a VA Form 21-4138, *Statement in Support of Claim*, and return it to the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service at the nearest VA regional office. VA forms are available at www.va.gov/vaforms. Include the following:

- A statement that you want to take part in vocational training for children with disabilities.
- Your full name, address and a telephone number where we can reach you during the daytime.
- Your VA file number, if you have one.
- The full name and VA file number, if any, of the parent on whom you based your claim for a monetary allowance for a disability.
- Your signature and the date.

WHERE TO CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call toll free at **1-888-820-1756**.

NON-ASSIGNABILITY AND EXEMPT STATUS OF BENEFITS

Benefit payments are exempt from taxation and are exempt from claims of creditors. With certain exceptions, payments are not assignable and are not subject to attachment, levy, or seizure except as to claims of the United States.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE

Please notify the VA immediately of any change of address.

CONDITIONS AFFECTING RIGHT TO PAYMENTS

1. Your award of benefits is subject to adjustment when VA receives evidence showing a change in the level of disability.
2. Monthly payments may be reduced if you fail to furnish evidence as requested, or if you fail to cooperate or submit to a VA examination when requested.
3. Monthly payments may be stopped if you furnish VA, or cause to be furnished, any false or fraudulent evidence. The law provides severe penalties, which include fine or imprisonment, or both, for the fraudulent acceptance of any payment to which are not entitled.

INFORMATION ABOUT DIRECT DEPOSIT

All federal payments beginning January 2, 1999, must be made by electronic funds transfer (EFT), also called Direct Deposit.

To start Direct Deposit: Please attach a voided personal check or deposit slip or provide the information requested on your application to enroll in Direct Deposit.

What if I don't have a bank account?

If you do not have a bank account, we will give you a waiver of Direct Deposit. The Treasury Department is working on making bank accounts available to you. Once these accounts are available, you will be able to decide whether you wish to sign up for one of the accounts or continue to receive a paper check. You can also request a waiver if you have other circumstances that you feel would cause you a hardship to be enrolled in Direct Deposit. You can write to: **Department of Veterans Affairs, 125 S. Main Street, Suite B, Muskogee, OK 74401-7004** and give us a brief description of why you do not wish to participate in Direct Deposit.