



VETERANS CHOICE PROGRAM: WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Eligibility requirements as of December 1, 2015

Wait-Time (30 Days)

The Veteran is informed by his/her local VA medical facility that they are not able to schedule an appointment for care either:

- Within 30 days of the date the Veteran's physician determines the Veteran needs to be seen, or
- Within 30 days of the date the Veteran wishes to be seen



A Veteran must be enrolled in VA healthcare and meet one of the surrounding criteria.



Distance

The closest VA medical facility where the Veteran can see a full-time primary care physician is more than 40 miles driving distance from his/her home.

No full-service VA facility

The Veteran lives in a state or territory without a full-service VA medical facility and lives more than 20 miles from such a facility. This applies to Veterans who live in Alaska, Hawaii, New Hampshire, Guam, America Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands).

(Note that the Veteran is not eligible under this criterion if he/she lives in New Hampshire and within 20 miles of the White River Junction VAMC.)



Unique Travel

The Veteran has to travel by air, boat, or ferry to the nearest VA medical facility.

Unusual or Excessive Burden

The Veteran faces an unusual or excessive burden in traveling to a VA medical facility based on geographic challenges, environmental factors, a medical condition, the nature or frequency of the care needed, and whether an attendant is needed.

Most Veterans must call 866-606-8198 to verify eligibility and set up an appointment. Veterans who qualify under the wait-time requirement will be contacted by VA partners directly to set up an appointment.
Visit www.va.gov/opa/choiceact for more information or to chat live with a VA representative.