



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-4000

APR 30 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

SUBJECT: Continuation of TRICARE Reserve Select Coverage for Certain Members of the Selected Reserve

This memorandum amends the attached DoD TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) policy, dated July 27, 2007, by implementing section 706 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (The Act) which amends the TRS health plan to allow certain members of the Selected Reserve (SELRES) who were excluded from continued participation in TRS after September 30, 2007, because they were eligible for enrollment in the Federal Employees Health Benefit (FEHB) program the option to again purchase TRS coverage for the remainder of their TRS Tier 1 service agreement.

The Act provides those members, who had previously purchased TRS Tier 1 coverage, the opportunity to purchase either retroactive coverage in TRS effective from October 1, 2007, or to purchase prospective coverage in TRS. Members who elect either option may purchase TRS coverage for the time remaining on their DD Form 2895, "Agreement to Serve in the Selected Reserve for TRICARE Reserve Select," as was entered on the TRS Web Application, provided they continue to meet all other TRS requirements.

Attached is a copy of the letter being sent to those SELRES members whose TRS coverage was terminated because they were eligible to purchase their health insurance through the FEHB program informing them of this new option to purchase TRS. Also included with the letter are detailed guidance and enrollment materials needed for them to resume purchasing TRS coverage as provided for in the FY-08 NDAA.

Administration of the TRS health plan, for this specific group of SELRES members who are also eligible for enrollment in FEHB, will conform to the existing TRS policy with the following modifications:

- To qualify to resume purchasing TRS health care coverage the member must have maintained uninterrupted membership in the SELRES since September 30, 2007.
- TRS coverage will be terminated, and the member will be barred from re-enrollment under this provision, if any of the following conditions are met:
 - Failure to remain in the SELRES for the entire period covered by his/her service agreement
 - Failure to make monthly TRS premium payments
 - Failure, by an enlisted member, to re-enlist for continued service in the SELRES



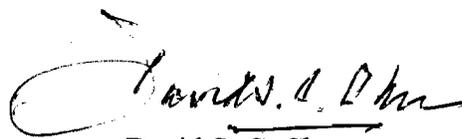
- Voluntary termination of TRS coverage by the member.
- TRS coverage and premium payments will be suspended during any period that a member becomes eligible for a non-premium based TRICARE benefit (i.e., any period of active service greater than 30 days, delayed-effective-date active-duty order, TAMP, dual military couple when the spouse is on active service greater than 30 days).
- A member's TRS coverage shall resume when eligibility for a non-premium TRICARE benefit ceases and will continue until the period of TRS coverage specified in the member's DD Form 2895 service agreement expires, is again suspended, or is otherwise terminated.
- A member may only change the type of TRS coverage (member only, or family and member) purchased due to a Qualifying Life Event.
- Members effected by this change in the Public Law must exercise their option and purchase either retroactive or prospective TRS coverage to begin no later than August 1, 2008: or, if covered by a non-premium TRICARE benefit on that date, when the non-premium TRICARE benefit ceases if the member is serving on a period of active service greater than 30 days, is on a delayed-effective-date active-duty order, is in a period of TAMP; or, is a dual military couple when the spouse is on active service greater than 30 days on or after July 31, 2008.

This memorandum establishes the policy, and provides additional guidance for the administration of this amended TRS policy for only those SELRES members previously enrolled in TRS Tier 1, but were excluded from continued participation after September 30, 2007, to again purchase coverage in TRS.

This policy change applies only to those SELRES members who are eligible for, or enrolled in, the FEHB program as provided under chapter 89 of title 5 U.S.C., and were enrolled in TRS Tier1 prior to September 30, 2007.

These changes are effective immediately. Secretaries of the Military Departments shall prescribe implementing instructions consistent with this guidance.

My point of contact for this policy is Mr. David Percich at (703) 693-2238, or David.Percich@osd.mil.


David S. C. Chu

Attachments as

cc: Commandant of the Coast Guard