

FACT SHEET

SUBJECT: Ward's Eligibility for Medical Care and CHAMPUS

1. PURPOSE. To inform commanders of recent policy changes to DoD Instruction 1000.13 authorizing extended military treatment facility care to dependent wards.

2. FACTS.

a. Effective 1 July 1994, military treatment facility care will be extended to the dependent wards of both active and retired service members.

b. Additionally, the dependent wards of retired personnel and deceased active duty members and reservists will also be eligible for CHAMPUS. The dependent wards of active duty personnel are not presently eligible for CHAMPUS. Legislation to extend CHAMPUS to this latter category is pending in Congress.

c. For the purposes of this policy, a ward is defined as an unmarried person who meets the following five conditions:

(1) has been placed in the legal custody of the member as the result of a court order for a period of at least 12 consecutive months;

(2) is dependent on the member for over one-half of his/her support;

(3) resides with member unless separated by military necessity or to receive institutional care or under such other circumstances as the administrating Secretary may prescribe;

(4) is not a dependent of a member under any other category;

(5) is under the age of 21, is under the age of 23 and enrolled as a full-time student at an institution of higher learning, or is incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical incapacity that occurred while the person was considered a dependent under this policy.

ATZK-JAA

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3. POC is the Administrative Law Division at 4-7414/4668.

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