

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS

Transitional Health Care 180 Days / Identification Card Benefits and Privileges

This article provides information relating to health care benefits under Transitional Health Care, formerly the Transitional Assistance Management Program, also referred to as Transition Assistance for 180 days.

The THC provides 180-days of transitional health care benefits to help certain uniformed services members and their family's transition from military to civilian life. The 180-day time period for health care benefits begins on the date of the member's separation from active duty service. This is a 2-year time period for shopping privileges (Commissary, Base Exchange, and Morale, Welfare, & Recreation (MWR)), beginning one day after the date of the member's separation from active duty service. **Example:** Date of separation is Dec. 31; the THC-180 medical benefit begins on Jan. 1 to include the 2-year shopping privileges. The identification card issued to an eligible person will reflect two expiration dates: 180-days for the medical care and 2-years for the shopping privileges.

To qualify for TA-180 benefits with the DEERS program, the member must be separated with service discharge characterized as honorable or general under honorable conditions as reflected on their separation orders or DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, reflecting the Separation Program Designator code. The SPD code authorizes the TA-180 benefit or the DD Form 214 remarks section reflecting de-mobilization.

THC Qualifiers

- Voluntarily separated under the Force Management Voluntary Separation program in fiscal year 2014
- Involuntarily retained on active duty (stop-loss) in support of a contingency operation.
- Voluntarily remained on active duty for one year or less in support of a contingency operation.
- Reserve component members (Guard and Reserve) who are de-mobilized or de-activated after being called to
 active duty for 31 days or more in support of a contingency operation. (Note: Members serving less than 30 days
 of active duty are not eligible for TA-180 benefits). This also includes entry level accession for active duty, Air
 National Guard, and Air Force Reserve members and is separated with less than 30 days of active service.
- Receiving a sole survivorship discharge.
- Separating from active duty and agree to become a member of the selected reserve of the Ready Reserve.
 (Note: Member's personnel record must be gained through the Military Personnel Data System by the Air National Guard or Reserve unit before the THC-180 medical benefit and 2-year shopping privileges are present in the member and dependent family member DEERS record).

THC-180 Days for Selected Reserve

Separating from active duty and agree to become a member of the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve of a Reserve Component. (**Note:** Enlisted members not eligible are those discharged for reasons of misconduct, discharge in-lieu of court-martial or other reasons for which service normally is characterized as under other than honorable conditions). Officers are not eligible if discharge was a result of resignation in-lieu of trial by court-martial, or misconduct or moral or professional dereliction if the discharge could be characterized as under other than honorable conditions.

Type of ID card

<u>DD Form 2765</u>, Department of Defense/Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card - issued to qualifying member, tan color with a super-imposed over stamp lettering "TA-180" on the front side.

<u>DD Form 1173</u>, *Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card* - issued to eligible family members, tan color with a super-imposed over stamp lettering "TA-180" on the front side.

Airmen should check with their uniformed Services Personnel Separation offices or Transition Assistance Program counselors for determination of THC (transitional assistance) or benefit qualification as eligibility does not apply to every separating service member and their family. The THC benefit is determined by the uniformed Services personnel data system reporting of member's qualification to the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

Airmen and their family members who no longer qualify for medical care may be eligible for the Continued Health Care Benefit Program. Write or call the CHCBP Administrator: Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc., Att: CHCBP, PO Box 740072; Louisville, KY 40201; Phone: 800-444-5445.

RESOURCES

Continued Health Care Benefit Program

TRICARE

<u>AFI 36-3026V1_IP</u>, Identification Cards for Members of the Uniformed Services, Their Eligible Family Members, and Other Eligible Personnel