§ 728.51 General provisions—the "Economy Act."

The Economy Act, 31 U.S.C. 1535, generally permits agency heads, or heads of major organizational units of agencies, to procure goods and services from other agencies or within their own agency so long as funds for procurement are available, the order is in the best interest of the Government, the source from which the goods or services are ordered can produce them or obtain them by contract, and the internal or inter-agency procurement is more convenient, or less expensive, than commercial procurement. Provisions of the Economy Act apply to requests from other Federal agencies for medical and dental care for beneficiaries for whom they are responsible. Consult specific provisions of the Act respecting financial and accounting limitations and requirements.

§ 728.52 Veterans Administration beneficiaries (VAB).

(a) Eligible beneficiaries—Those who have served in the Armed Forces, have been separated under conditions other than dishonorable, and have been determined by the Veterans Administration (VA) to be eligible for care at VA expense. Prior to 7 September 1980, veterans status could be obtained by virtue of 1 day’s honorable service. The following restrictions do not apply to individuals who are discharged from active duty because of a disability or who were discharged for reasons of “early out” or hardship program under 10 U.S.C. 1171 and 1173.

(1) For individuals with an original enlistment in the military service after 7 September 1980, the law generally denies benefits, including medical care.

(2) For individuals entering service after 16 October 1981, the law generally denies medical benefits when such individuals do not complete the shorter of:

(i) Twenty-four months of continuous active duty, or

(ii) The full period for which that person was called or ordered to active duty.

(b) Inpatient control—Each VAB admitted will be required to conform to regulations governing the internal administration of the naval facility. Restrictive or punitive measures, including disciplinary action or denial of privileges, will conform as nearly as possible to VA instructions.

(c) Resolution of problems—All problems pertaining to VABs, including admission, medical or other records, and all correspondence will be matters of resolution between the commanding officer of the naval facility and the VA.
office of jurisdiction authorizing admission. Questions of policy and administration which cannot be so resolved will be forwarded, through the normal chain of command, to the Administrator of Veterans Affairs via COMNAVMEDCOM for resolution.

(d) Care in the United States—(1) Inpatient care. An eligible VAB may be admitted to a naval MTF on presentation of a written authorization for admission signed by an official of the VA office of jurisdiction. Neurological and certain neuropsychiatric patients without obvious evidence of psychosis and not requiring restraints, and instances of suspected tuberculosis, may be admitted for diagnosis. When diagnosed, promptly report instances of psychosis, psychoneurosis, and tuberculosis of present clinical significance to the VA office of jurisdiction with a request for transfer to a VA facility.

(i) Extent of care. Provide eligible VABs medical and surgical care, including prostheses such as eyes and limbs and appliances such as hearing aids, spectacles, or orthopedic appliances when required for the proper treatment of the condition upon which eligibility is based.

(ii) Disposition of emergency admission. Notify the appropriate VA office of jurisdiction by message or other expeditious means within 72 hours after the date and hour of an emergency admission of a potential VAB. Include a request for an authorization for admission and emergency treatment. If VA denies VAB status to such a person admitted in an emergency, the provisions of §728.81(a) are applicable. Once admitted in an emergency situation, discharge a VAB promptly upon termination of the emergency unless arrangements have been made with the VA office of jurisdiction:

(A) For transfer to a VA treatment facility if further treatment is required.

(B) To retain the patient as a VAB in the naval MTF.

(2) Outpatient care. Outpatient care, including post hospitalization outpatient care, may be provided upon authorization by the VA office of jurisdiction. When outpatient followup care is requested, commanding officers are responsible for determining whether capabilities and workload permit providing such care. In an emergency, provide necessary care.

(3) Physical examinations. Upon a determination by a naval MTF commanding officer that space, facilities, and capabilities exist, naval MTFs may provide physical examinations when requested by the VA for the purpose of adjudicating claims for VA physical disability compensation. If authorized by the VA, patients may be admitted when the examination requires more than 1 day.

(4) Dental care. Limit dental treatment to inpatients who require services adjunctive to medical or surgical conditions for which hospitalized.

(e) Care outside the United States—(1) Eligible beneficiaries. Beneficiaries described in paragraph (a) of this section who are citizens of the United States and residing or sojourning abroad may, within the capabilities of the facility as determined by the commanding officer, be provided inpatient and outpatient care upon presentation of an authorization from the appropriate VA office of jurisdiction listed in paragraph (e)(3) of this section.

(2) Emergency care. Overseas naval MTFs furnish emergency care to potential VABs will promptly notify the appropriate VA office of jurisdiction and request authorization for treatment and instructions for disposition of the patient.

(3) Offices of jurisdiction. The following activities are vested with responsibility for issuing authorizations for care and furnishing disposition instructions for VABs in overseas naval MTFs:

(i) In the Trust Territory of the Pacific (Micronesia), VA Office, Honolulu, Hawaii.

(ii) In the Philippines, VA Regional Office, Manila, Philippines.

(iii) In Canada, Canadian Department of Veterans Affairs, Ottawa, Canada.

(iv) In all other foreign countries, consular offices of U.S. embassies.

(f) Forms required. (1) Complete a VA 10–10 (Application for Medical Benefits) when potential VABs are admitted for emergency care without prior authorization.
§ 728.53  Department of Labor, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) beneficiaries.

(a) Potential beneficiaries. The following may be beneficiaries of one of the programs sponsored by the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWC) under the conditions set forth. They are not beneficiaries of OWCP until authorized as such by the appropriate district officer of OWCP. However, they may be carried as potential beneficiaries pending OWCP determination of eligibility. DOD civilian employees provided medical services under a Defense or service health program are not included under this authority (see subpart J).

(1) Members and applicants for membership in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps of the Navy, Army, and Air Force, provided the condition necessitating treatment was incurred in line of duty during an off-campus training regimen. Such care is authorized for injury (a disease or illness which is the proximate result of performance of training is considered an injury) incurred while engaged in:

(i) Flight instructions.

(ii) Flight instructions.

(iii) Travel to or from training or flight instructions.

(2) The following employees of the Government of the United States, regardless of nationality or place of work, are entitled to receive care as outlined in paragraph (e) of this section for work incurred traumatic injuries at the expense of OWCP. (In addition to injury by accident, a disease or illness which is the proximate result of performance of employment duties is considered an injury.) This category includes but is not limited to:

(i) Civilian student employees in training at Navy and Marine Corps facilities.

(ii) Civilian seamen in the service of vessels operated by the Department of the Army (see paragraph (a)(7) of this section and §728.80(c)(2) for civilian Military Sealift Command (MSC) personnel).

(iii) All civilian employees of the Government except nonappropriated-fund-activity employees. Nonappropriate fund employees may be covered under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (contact cognizant district office of OWCP).

(3) Civilian members of the Civil Air Patrol (except Civil Air Patrol Cadets) for injury or disease which is the proximate result of active service or travel to and from such service, rendered in performance or support of operational missions of the Civil Air Patrol under the direction and written authority of the Air Force.

(4) Former Peace Corps enrollees for injury or disease which is the proximate result of their former employment with the Peace Corps or which was sustained or contracted while located with the Peace Corps outside the United States and its territories.

(5) Former Job Corps enrollees for injury or disease which is the proximate result of employment with the Job Corps.

(6) Former VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) enrollees for injury or disease which is the proximate result of employment with VISTA.

(7) Military Sealift Command (MSC) civilian marine personnel (CIVMARpers or CIVMARS) (including temporary employees, intermittent