§ 51.59 Authority to continue payment of per diem when veterans are relocated due to emergency.

(a) Definition of emergency. For the purposes of this section, emergency means an occasion or instance where all of the following are true:

1. It would be unsafe for veterans receiving care at a State home facility to remain in that facility.
2. The State is not, or believes that it will not be, able to provide care in the State home on a temporary or long-term basis for any or all of its veteran residents due to a situation involving the State home, and not due to a situation where a particular veteran's medical condition requires that the veteran be transferred to another facility, such as for a period of hospitalization.
3. The State determines that the veterans must be evacuated to another facility or facilities.

(b) General authority to pay per diem during relocation period. Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, VA will continue to pay per diem for a period not to exceed 30 days for any eligible veteran who resided in a State home, and for whom VA was paying per diem, if such veteran is evacuated during an emergency into a facility other than a VA facility if the State is responsible for providing or paying for the care. VA will not pay per diem payments under this section for more than 30 days of care provided in the evacuation facility, unless the official who approved the emergency response under paragraph (e) of this section determines that it is not reasonably possible to return the veteran to a State home within the 30-day period, in which case such official will approve additional period(s) of no more than 30 days in accordance with this section. VA will not provide per diem if VA determines that a veteran is or has been placed in a facility that does not meet the standards set forth in paragraph (c)(1) of this section, and VA may recover all per diem payments made for the care of the veteran in that facility.


§ 51.50 Eligible veterans.

A veteran is an eligible veteran under this part if VA determines that the veteran needs nursing home care and the veteran is within one of the following categories:

(a) Veterans with service-connected disabilities;
(b) Veterans who are former prisoners of war;
(c) Veterans who were discharged or released from active military service for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty;
(d) Veterans who receive disability compensation under 38 U.S.C. 1151;
(e) Veterans whose entitlement to disability compensation is suspended because of the receipt of retired pay;
(f) Veterans whose entitlement to disability compensation is suspended pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 1151, but only to the extent that such veterans’ continuing eligibility for nursing home care is provided for in the judgment or settlement described in 38 U.S.C. 1151;
(g) Veterans who VA determines are unable to defray the expenses of necessary care as specified under 38 U.S.C. 1722(a);
(h) Veterans of the Mexican border period or of World War I;
(i) Veterans solely seeking care for a disorder associated with exposure to a toxic substance or radiation or for a disorder associated with service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War, as provided in 38 U.S.C. 1710(e);
(j) Veterans who agree to pay to the United States the applicable co-pay-ment determined under 38 U.S.C. 1710(f) and 1710(g).