



Becoming a TRICARE Provider

Becoming a TRICARE authorized (certified) provider requires only a few moments of your time, and the cost of a postage stamp. TRICARE, which is part of the Military Health System, under the auspices of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, covers an ever growing 9.6 million beneficiaries that include active duty members and families of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard, as well as retirees from each of the above services and their families. A critical adjunct to the active component are the National Guard and Reserve forces; these men and women have repeatedly left hearth and home for extended periods of intense combat, returning to their communities (and yours) bearing the emotional scars of that combat. This is where you can personally make a difference in each individual and family you treat, but also collectively, in maintaining the strong resilient fabric of our national security.

Before embarking on the process, there are a few things you may find helpful. TRICARE is the healthcare entitlement that reimburses for medical and behavioral health services outside the confines of a military treatment facility. As an authorized participating provider, you are agreeing to treat TRICARE beneficiaries for the reimbursement allowed by law. You may also choose to non-participate and charge 15 percent over the maximum allowable fee, which will ultimately be paid by the beneficiary. Being so large, TRICARE is separated into three regions (North, South, and West), and is administered by managed-care support contractors. These companies: HealthNet in North, Humana in the South, and TriWest in the West, provide a wide array of provider assistance services, not the least of which is processing and payment of claims. To assist you with determining who to contact for provider services, please see the attached state/region listing.

TRICARE-reimbursed services include, but are not limited to:

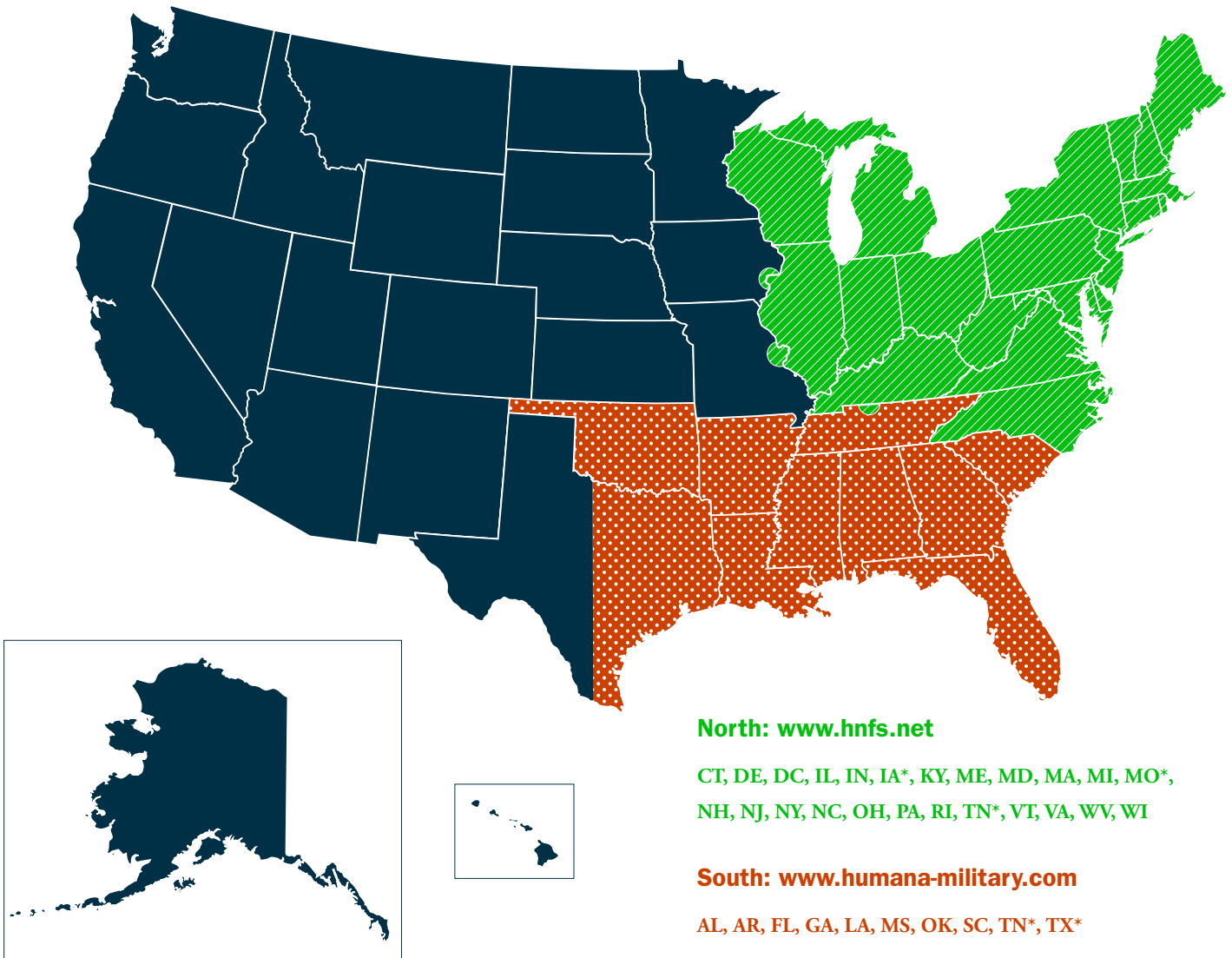
- Outpatient therapy
- Acute hospitalization
- Partial hospitalization
- Residential treatment center (children and adolescents)
- Substance use disorder rehabilitation

Non-active duty beneficiaries may self refer for care, and the first eight sessions in a fiscal year are automatically reimbursed. If continued therapy is required after the eighth session, merely submit a request for continued care using the applicable document on the regional website (www.triwest.com, www.humana-military.com, and www.hnfs.net). All three websites are treasure troves of information.

The following provider categories may be authorized and reimbursed by TRICARE:

- Psychiatrists
- Clinical psychologists
- Certified psychiatric nurse specialists
- Clinical social workers
- Certified marriage and family therapists
- Pastoral counselors
- Mental health counselors/
licensed professional counselors

You will find a certification application (to become an authorized provider) for each category in the Region folder corresponding to your state of practice. If you run into problems that cannot be resolved by the applicable contractor, please email the TRICARE/SAMHSA liaison at john.sparks@trow.tma.osd.mil.



North: www.hnfs.net

CT, DE, DC, IL, IN, IA*, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MO*, NH, NJ, NY, NC, OH, PA, RI, TN*, VT, VA, WV, WI

South: www.humana-military.com

AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, OK, SC, TN*, TX*

West: www.triwest.com

AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, IA*, KS, MN, MO*, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OR, SD, TX*, UT, WA, WY

*denotes portion of state

TRICARE North region provides health care services and support in Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, the Rock Island Arsenal area of Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, the St. Louis area of Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, the Fort Campbell area of Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

TRICARE South region provides health care services and support in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, most of Tennessee, and the eastern portion of Texas.

TRICARE West region provides health care services and support in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa (except for the Rock Island Arsenal area), Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri (except for the St. Louis area), Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, the extreme western portion of Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.