	<b>Agency Name</b>	Office of Family Support (OFS)			
	<b>Chapter No./Name</b>	09 – Support Enforcement Services (SES)			
	<b>Part No./Name</b>	M. Military			
	<b>Section No./Name</b>	M-700 Establishment Procedure			
	<b>Document No./Name</b>	M-720 Military Health Insurance			
	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Issue</b>	January 30, 2004	<b>Effective</b>	February 1, 2004

\* The military health care program is called [TRICARE](#), formerly [CHAMPUS \(Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services\)](#).

A system called [DEERS \(Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System\)](#) maintains the information for dependents of military members enrolled in this program. \*\*

Children born out of wedlock are entitled to military health care and insurance (DEERS/Tricare) if:

- the child is acknowledged and supported by the military NCP, or
- there is a judicial decree of paternity.

Children born in wedlock are automatically entitled to military health care.

A military I.D. card is required to prove eligibility. If the NCP is active duty military, the CP may go to the nearest military base with verification of the child's paternity (if the child's parents were not married), a birth certificate, and a court order for child support or other means of providing support to obtain the card. If the NCP is a civilian employee of the military, the CP may go to the nearest personnel office to obtain the card.

\* Location of the nearest enrollment site or military installation can be obtained from the [Defense Manpower Data Center \(DMDC\)](#) Telephone Center at 1-800-538-9552. The Internet web site is <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/> and restricted to .mil or .gov users.


Once enrolled in [DEERS](#), the child is eligible to receive medical care in two ways. The child may be able to obtain medical care and medications from military hospitals and clinics. The child can also use the cost-share medical coverage, [TRICARE](#), with civilian health providers.

TRICARE uses the term "shared" rather than "covered" because the cost is shared by the beneficiary after an annual deductible cost is satisfied. Claims to [TRICARE](#) can be submitted up to a year after treatment. Entitlement to [DoD](#) medical benefits is determined by either the child's date of birth, or the date(s) of the sponsor's military service, not the [DEERS](#) enrollment date.

### TRICARE Enrollment

Verification of a dependent's enrollment in [TRICARE](#) may be obtained from the [DEERS](#) office. Please include the name and Social Security number (SSN) of the military service personnel as well as the name, SSN, and date of birth of the dependent.

Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)  
Support Office  
Attn: CA99  
400 Gigling Road  
Seaside, CA 93955-6771

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## M-721 WHERE TO SEND THE NATIONAL MEDICAL SUPPORT NOTICE FOR ACTIVE DUTY AND RETIRED MILITARY

Send the National Medical Support Notice to:

Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)  
Support Office  
Attn: CA99  
400 Gigling Road  
Seaside, CA 93955-6771

The [Defense Manpower Data Center \(DMDC\)](#) will respond with a letter in-lieu of the form. Once an active duty military member and family members have been enrolled in [DEERS](#), they have medical benefits. These medical benefits do not include dental or vision care.

Do not send requests for medical coverage information for medical support orders to DFAS in Cleveland, which is the address for income-withholding orders. They do not maintain medical coverage information, nor can they process a medical order. \*\*