



*Career progression, community management, personnel matters, and general information from the desk of the Navy Personnel Command, Force Master Chief, FORCM Jon Port*

***TRICARE YOUNG ADULT OFFERS PRIME OPTION 1 JANUARY***

Young adults whose parents are TRICARE beneficiaries now can buy TRICARE Prime coverage if they live in an area served by TRICARE's managed care network. The creation of TRICARE Young Adult Prime, announced Nov. 23 in the Federal Register, gives unmarried adult children of service members and retirees without their own employee-backed health care plans the option of being seen at a military treatment facility or a TRICARE network primary care provider. TYA Prime coverage, which begins Jan. 1, will cost \$201 a month, down from an anticipated \$213 a month when the program was first conceived. TRICARE officials also announced that monthly premiums for TYA Standard and Extra will drop in 2012, to \$176 from \$186. "Whereas premiums across the board may be rising, these programs are pegged to the overall health costs of this group, and their actual health costs are lower than expected," TRICARE spokesman Austin Comacho said Monday. Although TYA Prime has a higher premium of the two, it is considered the most cost-efficient because enrollees can be seen at military treatment facilities for free and at primary care providers for nominal co-pay. TRICARE Standard and Extra patients pay higher cost shares based on percentages. TYA covers adult children of TRICARE beneficiaries to age 26. It was approved by Congress as separate legislation following enactment of the 2009 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which directed commercial health insurers to extend coverage for dependent children to age 26. TRICARE covers dependents up to age 21 or age 23 if they are enrolled in college fulltime. Applications for TYA Prime will be on TRICARE's website starting Dec. 1, at <http://www.tricare.mil/tya>, Camacho said TYA Prime is available only to beneficiaries whose parents are eligible for Prime, meaning they must not be in TRICARE for Life and Medicare-eligible. Since its introduction this year, more than 10,000 military family members have enrolled in TYA, according to TRICARE officials.

***DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL: POST REPEAL***

The United States Navy values diversity and we are a better military and stronger nation for it. This means that, like all other qualified citizens, gay, lesbian and bisexual (LGB) Recruits and Sailors shall be evaluated based on individual merit, fitness, and performance. It is the policy of the Department of Defense to treat all service members in a sexual orientation neutral manner – with professionalism, dignity and respect to ensure maintenance of good order and discipline.

DADT repeal was a major policy change. Focused leadership will continue to ensure a positive impact on unit cohesion, readiness and the effectiveness of a given unit. Front line leaders are tasked with building unit cohesion and maintaining readiness in a diverse force to meet mission requirements. For more information, visit the Navy's DADT repeal [webpage](#).

***INJURED RESERVE SAILOR CASE HANDLING IMPROVED***

We often work side-by-side with Reserve members without even knowing it but the Reserve personnel system is governed by unique factors. For example, if a Reservist is hurt while in a duty status, even on drill weekend, this is considered a Line of Duty event that requires filing and paperwork to cover their medical expenses. PERS-9, the Reserve Personnel Management directorate at NPC, has dramatically decreased the time it takes to process Reserve Line of Duty (LOD) injury cases. LOD status is designed to coordinate care and return the Sailor back to full duty as quickly as possible. From Jan. 1 this year to mid-November, open cases were reduced from 630 to 388. Processing time was also reduced, currently averaging about 20 days - down from 135 days at the beginning of the year. These drastic improvements were due to Pers 9's strident improvements of business practices and enforcing tighter deadlines on the Navy Operational Support Centers who service Reserve Sailors. First, all paper records were uploaded to TRIM, which allowed much easier access to the files. Second, reports were built into the Medical Readiness Reporting System (MRRS) providing the ability to measure. Finally, PERS-95 worked with the member's chain of command to cut the process to a 30-day deadline. Bravo Zulu to Pers 9 - formerly known as the Navy Reserve Personnel Center.

***DOES YOUR COMMAND NEED REFERENCES ON CD?***

The BUPERS CD is sent to commands with limited capability to access the NPC website. Usually this situation pertains to deploying units and Navy elements in remote locations. The CD contains MILPERSMAN articles and duplicates content on the NPC web site at [www.npc.navy.mil](http://www.npc.navy.mil) If your unit no longer needs to receive BUPERS CD due to decommissioning or in port status, please contact [denny.cox@navy.mil](mailto:denny.cox@navy.mil) Also, contact him if you need to be added to the distribution for the BUPERS CD, bearing in mind that the exact same material is on the NPC web site.

***This week in Navy History***

- Nov 28<sup>th</sup>, 1941 - USS *Enterprise* (CV-6) sailed from Pearl Harbor for Wake Island to ferry Marine aircraft to island.
- Nov 29<sup>th</sup>, 1890 - First Army-Navy football game (Navy won 24 to 0)!
- Nov 30<sup>th</sup>, 1942 - In Battle of Tassafaronga, last major naval action in Solomons, U.S. force prevented Japanese attempt to reprovision the Japanese troops on Guadalcanal. Six U.S. ships were damaged in the action.
- Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 1921 - In first flight of airship filled with helium, Blimp C-7 piloted by LCDR Ralph F. Wood left Norfolk, VA, for Washington, DC.
- Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1775 - Congress ordered first officers commissions printed.

***Quote of the Week***

**"The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it." ~Norman Schwarzkopf**