**Delayed-Effective-Date Active Duty Orders**

Information provided by MAJ Mark A. Head, OTSG

When an Army National Guard or Army Reserve members receive federal delayed-effective-date active duty orders for ***more than 30 consecutive days in support of a contingency operation***, the service member (SM) and their eligible family members may access TRICARE coverage on the date the order was issued or 180 days prior to being called to active duty, whichever is later.

Sponsors are responsible for ensuring that family members are registered in DEERS. The coding of this ***“early TRICARE benefit”*** in DEERS is a Service responsibility and may need to be addressed at the Army National Guard or Army Reserve member’s unit.

Once eligible family members are registered in DEERS they are covered under TRICARE Standard by default. To enroll in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote for Active Duty Family Members, the service member and or their family members will need to complete a Prime enrollment form.

For more information about TRICARE Prime enrollment, you can visit the closet TRICARE Service Center (TSC), call your regional contractor toll free or speak to a Beneficiary Counselor and Assistance Coordinator (BCAC) at the nearest MTF; contact information for these customer service resources and others can be found at : [www.tricare.mil/contactus](file:///C%3A%5CDocuments%20and%20Settings%5CLudlow.Ball%5CLocal%20Settings%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CB1365LCZ%5Cwww.tricare.mil%5Ccontactus). Enrollment forms (DD Form 2876) can be downloaded at [www.tricare.mil/mybenfit/Forms.do](http://www.tricare.mil/mybenfit/Forms.do).

 Completed forms can be processed at the closet TSC, or by mailing it to their managed care support contractor, or your regional contractor website; Beneficiary Web enrollment is also available at [www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe/index/Action.do](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe/index/Action.do).