

## VHC and HHS/AC Benefit Comparison Table

If legislated the improved MRCA will provide VEA veterans (with service-related conditions) access to the MRCA Household Services program where currently VEA only veterans can only access services under the Veterans Home Care (VHC) program. The table below outlines the the two program, their eligibilities, and potential services that can be accessed.

Program	Veterans Home Care	Household Services and Attendant Care
Program Intent	To provide practical help at home so you can continue to live independently	To provide extra support if you need help at home because of a service-related injury or condition.
DVA Website link	<a href="https://www.dva.gov.au/get-support/health-support/care-home-or-aged-care/services-support-you-home/veterans-home-care-vhc/help-so-you-can-stay-your-home">https://www.dva.gov.au/get-support/health-support/care-home-or-aged-care/services-support-you-home/veterans-home-care-vhc/help-so-you-can-stay-your-home</a>	<a href="https://www.dva.gov.au/get-support/health-support/care-home-or-aged-care/services-support-you-home/household-services">https://www.dva.gov.au/get-support/health-support/care-home-or-aged-care/services-support-you-home/household-services</a>  <a href="https://www.dva.gov.au/get-support/health-support/care-home-or-aged-care/services-support-you-home/attendant-care">https://www.dva.gov.au/get-support/health-support/care-home-or-aged-care/services-support-you-home/attendant-care</a>
Program Eligibility	Veterans may be eligible under both programs.  Both programs can be accessed at the same time however there can be no duplication of services.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gold card holders</li> <li>- White card holders for accepted service-related conditions</li> </ul> <p>Eligibility for VHC is related to card eligibility and assessed clinical need. There is no requirement to have a conditions accepted as service related.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Current:</b> Veterans who were responsible for household tasks and are no longer able to manage due to their accepted service-related conditions (DRCA/MRCA).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>From 1 July 2026:</b> <b>All veterans who are unable to manage household tasks due to their accepted service-related conditions.</b></p>
Accessing the Program	Call VHC assessment agency for an assessment	Claim form
Limits	<p>Based on clinical assessed need, you may be able to receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Domestic help as required</li> <li>- Personal care max 1.5 hours / week</li> <li>- in-home respite max 196 hours</li> <li>- residential respite care max 28 days</li> <li>- emergency short term relief max 216 hours</li> <li>- Garden maintenance max 15 hours / year</li> </ul> <p><i>note : some services require a co-payment</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Current:</b> Maximum value of services DRCA \$552.12 / week MRCA \$573.61 / week</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>From 1 July 2026</b> Maximum value of services \$573.61 / week</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Personal Care provided under Attendant Care Programs - see below</b></p>
<b>Services Available</b>		
Shopping	✓ (unaccompanied shopping)	✓
Childcare	✗	✓ (in some circumstances)
Laundry	✓	✓
Ironing	✓	✓
Bill paying	✓	✗
Meal preparation	✓	✓
Lawn mowing	✓	✓
Gardening	✓ (where an environmental health or safety hazard exists)	✓

Solar Panel cleaning	✘ (VHC does not include services that require a qualified tradesperson)	✓ (in some circumstances)
Window cleaning	✓	✓ (in some circumstances)
Gutter cleaning	✓	✓ (in some circumstances)
Minor home repairs & maintenance	✓ (where maintenance & repairs can be completed by a handyman)	✘
Chopping/splitting, moving &/or stacking of firewood	✓	✓
Personal Care (e.g. showering, toileting & eating)	✓	<p>Personal care services are defined as attendant care services under the MRCA. This is a separate program from Household Services.</p> <p>Current: Maximum value of services DRCA \$552.12 / week MRCA \$573.61 / week</p> <p>From 1 July 2026 Maximum value of services \$573.61 / week</p>
In-home respite care	✓	✘
Residential respite care	✓	✘
Emergency short term respite care	✓	✘