



Veterans' Entitlements, Treatment and Support (Simplification and Harmonisation) Bill 2024

Household Services, Attendant Care and Veterans' Home Care – Factsheet

If agreed to by Government, the changes would see the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* (VEA) and the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation (Defence-related Claims) Act 1988* (DRCA) closed to new claims from 1 July 2026 and all claims from veterans and their families determined under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act* (MRCA) after that date.

Under DVA's current arrangements, veterans can be provided with extra support if they need help at home because of an injury or medical condition. Compensation for short-term help can also be provided to assist whilst a veteran is recovering from surgery or on an ongoing basis if they have complex health issues.

The Attendant Care and Household Services programs provide compensation for personal care and domestic assistance to allow veterans to manage their essential home and personal care needs. These programs fall under the DRCA and MRCA and are only available for veterans in relation to their service-related conditions.

The Veterans Home Care (VHC) program is available under the VEA and provides a small amount of practical help to support entitled veterans to continue living independently in their homes for longer. Access is based on assessed needs and is not limited to services required due to accepted conditions (like Household Service and Attendant Care are under the MRCA and DRCA).

Under the MRCA, payments for household and attendant care services are available up to a maximum amount of \$573.61 per week for each service.

The single ongoing Act will standardise the eligibility criteria by enabling all Household Services and Attendant Care claims to be considered under the MRCA, whilst VHC will remain available.

How will this affect me?

Under the single ongoing Act model, all veterans will have access to the higher rate for Household Services and Attendant Care under the MRCA. Access to services provided via the VHC will also remain for those with current eligibility.

Who will benefit?

VEA veterans will become eligible for Household and Attendant Care services.

DRCA veterans claiming Household and Attendant Care services will be eligible for the more beneficial MRCA rate per week.

Date of effect?

Ongoing from 1 July 2026.