



Continuing Veterans' Access to Health and Support

This measure provides \$59.6 million to support continued access to valuable health and support programs for veterans and families.

This includes:

- Supporting continued access to care for veterans and war widow(er)s under the **Veterans' Home Care** and **Community Nursing** programs.
- Extension of the **Military and Veteran Psychiatry Training Program** to 30 June 2026.
- Extension of the **Provisional Access to Medical Treatment** program to 30 June 2026.
- Extension of the **Veterans' Chaplaincy Pilot Program** to 30 June 2025.

Why is this important?

Veterans' Home Care (VHC) and Community Nursing (CN) programs

These programs support veterans and war widow(er)s to access care and support services to enable them to remain in their own home and reduce the need to enter residential aged care.

The additional funding seeks to reduce the risk of providers withdrawing from the VHC and CN programs in the face of increasing market pressures, particularly in rural and regional areas.

Military and Veteran Psychiatry Training Program (MVPTP)

MVPTP increases veteran access to psychiatrists who have specialist training in veteran and military health. Trainee psychiatrists who participate in the Program are trained in veteran and trauma-focused care.

The extension will allow for up to an additional 20 trainees to complete their training.

Provisional Access to Medical Treatment (PAMT) program

PAMT provides timely access to DVA-funded health treatment for 20 common service-related conditions while a veteran's claim is being processed.

PAMT allows veterans to access the treatment they need faster, promoting recovery and increasing health and wellbeing outcomes.

Veterans' Chaplaincy Pilot Program (VCP)

VCP provides continuity of chaplaincy support after separation from the ADF – particularly for at-risk veterans and families – through the provision of pastoral care, spiritual health, and support for moral injury.

VCP chaplains also upskill the faith-based community to better provide support for moral injury and other veterans' issues, enhancing the veteran-centric support available in the community.

Who will benefit?

Veterans' Home Care (VHC) and Community Nursing (CN) programs

The proposal will benefit 45,000 veterans and war widow(er)s who receive services through the VHC and CN programs. It will also benefit veterans and war widow(er)s who may have a future need to access these programs.

Military and Veteran Psychiatry Training Program (MVPTP)

Trainees will gain experience in delivering mental-health services to veterans. These skills benefit veterans who are treated by a workforce with training in the unique mental health challenges associated with military service.

Provisional Access to Medical Treatment (PAMT) program

Former serving ADF members who lodge liability claims for one or more of the 20 most commonly claimed conditions under the DRCA and the MRCA will benefit under the program. To date, more than 45,000 veterans and families have benefited from the PAMT program. Around 22,000 additional veterans are expected to benefit from this extension.

Veterans' Chaplaincy Pilot Program (VCP)

The VCP is available to all transitioning ADF members, veterans and families in the three pilot locations of Townsville, Perth and Brisbane.

Date of effect?

1 July 2024

How much will this cost?

\$59.6 million, including:

- \$48.4 million for the Veterans' Home Care and Community Nursing programs.
- \$10.2 million to extend the Provisional Access to Medical Treatment Program.
- \$1.0 million to extend the Veterans' Chaplaincy Pilot Program, to be met from within existing resourcing of DVA.
- Also, \$2.5 million for the extension and an evaluation of the Military and Veteran Psychiatry Training Program will be met from within the existing resourcing of the current funding agreement.