

EFMP Respite Care Reimbursement Changes Effective Oct 1, 2013

Since 2008 and our groundbreaking efforts to reorganize and improve the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), our enrolled families have grown from 4,500 to 8,700. Reducing enrollment stigma and improving quality of care were key imperatives.

EFMP initiated respite care in 2008 to support the impact of a wartime operational tempo and the particular impact to families who support a family member with exceptional needs. Since initiation, we have reimbursed more than 1.7 million hours of respite care, and know that this program has been valued and appreciated by enrolled families. Family efforts will always be focused on connecting to care and obtaining the services required by their exceptional family member; however, we must restructure our respite care benefit to preserve reimbursement for Level of Need (LoN) 3 and 4 families as we transition from wartime to peacetime capabilities and funding.

Effective Oct 1, 2013, the following changes will be in effect:

- (1) EFMP enrolled Marines with a (LoN) 3 or 4 EFM will continue to be eligible for respite care.
- (2) Marines with a LoN 1 or 2 EFM will no longer be eligible to use respite care.
- (3) Age typical sibling reimbursement will no longer be included in the reimbursement formula.
- (4) Adult EFMs will no longer be eligible for reimbursement of their age typical children.
- (5) Total respite care hours will be reduced from 40 hours per month, per family to 20 hours per month, per family.
- (6) Adults EFMs who are LoN 4 will remain eligible for respite care for themselves.

EFMP enrolled families who have registered to use respite care at their current installation will receive a letter from the installation EFMP office. This letter will contain specific information regarding continued eligibility for respite care and changes to reimbursement rate(s).

Marine Corps Bulletin 1754 EFMP Respite Care Program Changes is available at <http://www.marines.mil/News/Publications> and provides greater detail about the policy change. Families should contact their EFMP Family Case Worker with any questions or if they desire assistance identifying local community resources.

For additional information regarding the Marine Corps Respite Care changes, please visit: https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page/portal/M_RA_HOME/MF/F_Family%20Care/Exceptional%20Family%20Member%20Program.