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BULLETIN

THE NEWSLETTER OF VETERANS UNITED FOR TRUTH, INC.

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*"VETERANS STANDING UP FOR EACH OTHER"*

17 APRIL 2009

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## VA CHANGES THRESHOLD FOR VETERANS SEEKING HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

Paul Hiott April 17, 2009

**NOTE THAT THIS APPLIES DIRECTLY TO THOSE PRIORITY GROUP 8 APPLICANTS WHO APPLIED THIS YEAR AND WERE DENIED. IF YOU WERE DENIED BEFORE, YOU APPARENTLY WILL NEED TO APPLY AGAIN – SEE YOUR VA OFFICE FOR DETAILS**

In 2003, the Veterans Administration made the difficult decision to stop enrolling new Priority Group 8 (high income) veterans, in order to assure all veterans are provided timely and quality medical care.

A new provision (Public Law 110-329) allows veterans whose incomes do not exceed the current thresholds by more than 10 percent to enroll in VA's health care system.

The provision is expected to take effect this June and will be applied retroactively to all enrollment applications received on or after Jan. 1, 2009. These changes do not open enrollment to all Priority 8 veterans.

If you have applied for enrollment on or after Jan. 1, 2009 and you were denied enrollment because your income exceeded the VA income threshold, VA will determine if you are eligible under this new rule, once the new regulations take effect.

You will not need to submit another application for enrollment. If you are eligible under this new rule, you will receive a letter from the VA Health Eligibility Center notifying you of your eligibility for enrollment and welcoming you to the VA health care system.

Included with the letter will be instructions for getting care and how to obtain a veterans identification card.

If you applied for enrollment before Jan. 1, 2009, and were denied enrollment because your income was too high, we encourage you to seek assistance to determine if you are now eligible for enrollment under this new regulation.

Whatever your enrollment determination, the VA encourages all veterans to apply for enrollment as this will help the VA in future planning and budget efforts as well as allow them to be in a better position to identify necessary funding levels to Congress.

For questions regarding the VA income thresholds and to determine if this new provision will help you, please contact your local Veteran Services Office or the West Palm beach VA Medical Center at (800) 972-8262.

### HERE IS THE NOTICE FROM THE DVA WEBSITE

#### Priority Group 8 Enrollment Relaxation Changes

New regulations have been proposed to allow VA to enroll certain Priority Group 8 (PG 8) Veterans in the VA health system. These Veterans would qualify if their household income does not exceed the current VA income thresholds ([means test threshold](#) and/or [geographic means test threshold](#)) by more than 10%. These proposed regulations should take effect in June 2009. For more information on these upcoming changes, go to [PG 8 Enrollment Relaxation](#).

An [Enrollment Calculator](#) is available to help Veterans determine their potential eligibility for VA health care services under the proposed regulation.

<http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/>