



Homemaker and Home Health Aide Care

What is Homemaker and Home Health Aide Care?

Homemakers and home health aides are not nurses, but they can help care for a Veteran.

A home health aide comes to a Veteran's home to assist with activities such as bathing, dressing, and eating. A homemaker helps Veteran's with laundry, basic cleaning, and cooking.

Homemakers and home health aides work for an agency that has a contract with the VA Boston Healthcare System.

Homemaker and home health aide services can be used with other Home and Community Based Services.

Am I eligible for Homemaker and Home Health Aide Care?

Since homemaker and home health aide care is part of the VHA Standard Medical Benefits Package, all enrolled Veterans are eligible **IF they meet the clinical need for the service.**

To have a homemaker and/or home health aide come the home, the Veteran must need hands-on help with activities such as bathing, dressing, and eating.

Ask your VA Boston social worker if the Veteran has to pay a copay for homemaker or home health aide care.

What services can I get?

The number of hours of care depends on how much help the Veteran needs with the following activities:

Activities of daily living

- Bathing
- Dressing
- Using the bathroom
- Eating
- Shaving
- Moving from one place to another

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living

- Cooking
- Shopping for food
- Laundry
- Using the telephone
- Cleaning

VA Boston will pay for a specified number of hours of care each week.

For example, a Veteran who is approved for 4 hours a week of care may schedule

- 1 hour 4 days a week; or
- 2 hours 2 days a week

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How do I decide if it is right for me?

Your VA Boston physician or other VA Boston care provider can answer questions about your medical needs.

Your VA Boston social worker can help you decide what kind of help VA can provide. Some important questions to talk about with your social worker and family include:

- How much help do I need during the day (bathing, dressing, cooking, cleaning, etc.)?
- How will this affect my well-being and health?
- How will this affect my caregiver(s)?

If homemaker and home aide care seems right for you, please ask a member of your VA Boston primary care team (primary care provider, RN, or social worker) for help.

For more information:

VA Boston Call Center
1-800-864-3384

