

What is FEHB?

The Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) is a health insurance program for federal employees (active or retired).

If I am enrolled in FEHBP, can I suspend FEHBP coverage if I'm also CHAMPVA eligible?

Yes. You can suspend your FEHBP coverage if you are an FEHB annuitant, survivor annuitant, or former spouse annuitant. If you are a current federal employee, please consult your human resources office regarding your health insurance options.

Why should I suspend FEHBP?

In many cases, suspending FEHBP when you are CHAMPVA eligible can result in financial savings to you because there are no premium payments for CHAMPVA.

How do I suspend my FEHBP coverage?

You must submit your written request for FEHBP suspension to the Office of Personnel Management:

Office of Personnel Management (OPM)
Retirement Operations
Washington, DC 20415-3532

The Retirement Information Office can send you a *Health Benefits Cancellation/Suspension Confirmation* form (RI 79-9) to complete, or visit the OPM website at https://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/RI79-9.pdf to download a fillable PDF form. You will be required to provide a copy of your CHAMPVA eligibility card and a copy of your Medicare card showing enrollment in Medicare Parts A and B.

What will be the effective date of my FEHBP suspension?

You must designate the effective date of your FEHBP suspension. If the retirement office receives your documentation within 31 days before or after the day you have designated, then the FEHBP suspension date will be effective at midnight the day before your CHAMPVA coverage begins.

Can I re-enroll in the FEHBP if I involuntarily lose CHAMPVA coverage?

Yes, if you are advised by us that you are no longer eligible for CHAMPVA benefits, you may re-enroll in FEHBP beginning 31 days before and ending no later than 60 days after the loss of CHAMPVA coverage by submitting your written request to the Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Operations.

Can I re-enroll in FEHBP for a reason other than involuntary loss of CHAMPVA coverage?

Yes, but you may only do so during FEHBP Open Season.

What is the effective date of my FEHBP re-enrollment?

The effective date of your FEHBP re-enrollment is usually the date when your CHAMPVA coverage ended. However, if the retirement office does not receive your re-enrollment request within 31 days before or 60 days after your involuntary loss of CHAMPVA coverage, you will have to wait to re-enroll until the next available FEHBP Open Season.

How do I get more information?**VHA Office of Community Care**

- Mail: VHA Office of Community Care
CHAMPVA
PO Box 469063
Denver, CO 80246-9063
- Phone: 1-800-733-8387, Monday-Friday
8:05 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time
- Email: Follow the directions for submitting email via IRIS at <https://iris.custhelp.com/app/ask>
- Website: <http://www.va.gov/purchasedcare/>

OPM Retirement Operations Contact Information

- Phone: 1-888-767-6738
- Website: <https://www.opm.gov/>