

of-pocket costs for CHAMPUS care. Beneficiaries generally agree to use military treatment facilities and designated civilian provider networks and to follow certain managed care rules and procedures.

(B) "TRICARE Extra," which is a preferred provider organization (PPO) program. It allows TRICARE Standard beneficiaries to use the TRICARE provider network, including both military facilities and the civilian network, with reduced out-of-pocket costs. These beneficiaries also continue to be eligible for military medical treatment facility care on a space-available basis.

(C) "TRICARE Standard" which is the basic CHAMPUS program. All eligible beneficiaries are automatically included in Standard unless they have enrolled in Prime. It preserves broad freedom of choice of civilian providers, but does not offer reduced out-of-pocket costs. These beneficiaries continue to be eligible to receive care in military medical treatment facilities on a space-available basis.

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(b) *Triple option benefit in general.* Where the TRICARE program is fully implemented, eligible beneficiaries are given the option of enrolling in TRICARE Prime (also referred to as "Prime") or remaining in TRICARE Standard (also referred to as "Standard"). In the absence of an enrollment in Prime, coverage under Standard is automatic.

(1) *Choice voluntary.* With the exception of active duty members, the choice of whether to enroll in Prime is voluntary for all eligible beneficiaries. For dependents who are minors, the choice will be exercised by a parent or guardian.

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(c) *Eligibility for enrollment.* Where the TRICARE program is fully implemented, all CHAMPUS-eligible beneficiaries who are not Medicare eligible on basis of age are eligible to enroll in Prime or to remain covered under Standard. CHAMPUS beneficiaries who are eligible for Medicare on basis of age (and are enrolled in Medicare Part B) are automatically covered under TRICARE Standard. Further, some rules and procedures are different for dependents of active duty members and retirees, dependents, and survivors. In addition, where the TRICARE program is implemented, a military medical treatment facility commander or other authorized individual may establish priorities, consistent with paragraph (c) of this section, based on availability or

other operational requirements, for when and whether to offer enrollment in Prime.

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(3) *Retired members, dependents of retired members, and survivors.* (i) Where TRICARE is fully implemented, all CHAMPUS-eligible retired members, dependents of retired members, and survivors who are not eligible for Medicare on the basis of age are eligible to enroll in Prime. After all active duty members are enrolled and availability of enrollment is assured for all active duty dependents wishing to enroll, this category of beneficiaries will have third priority for enrollment.

(ii) If all eligible retired members, dependents of retired members, and survivors within the area concerned cannot be accepted for enrollment in Prime at the same time, the MTF Commander (or other authorized individual) may allow enrollment within this beneficiary group category on a first come, first served basis.

(4) *Coverage under Standard.* All CHAMPUS-eligible beneficiaries who do not enroll in Prime will remain in Standard.

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(v) *Administrative procedures.* The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), the Director, TRICARE Management Activity, and MTF Commanders (or other authorized officials) are authorized to establish administrative requirements and procedures, consistent with this section, this part, and other applicable DoD Directives or Instructions, for the implementation and operation of the TRICARE program.

Dated: April 17, 2003.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register, Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD05-03-037]

RIN 1625-AA09

Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Elizabeth River Southern Branch, AICWW, Virginia

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District, has approved a temporary deviation from the regulations governing the operation of the Dominion (Steel) Bridge across the Elizabeth River (Southern Branch) Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AICWW) mile 8.8, at Chesapeake, Virginia to allow the bridge owner to conduct needed mechanical work. The work will be performed at night. The closure periods to navigation are from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m., on Fridays and Saturdays, and from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m., on Sundays to Mondays.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 8 p.m. on May 2, 2003, to 5 a.m. on June 9, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Brazier, Bridge Management Specialist, Fifth Coast Guard District, at (757) 398-6422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The City of Chesapeake has requested a temporary deviation from the current operating regulation set out in 33 CFR 117.997(f) which requires the drawbridge to open on signal, except that, from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday except Federal holidays, the draw need not open for the passage of recreational vessels. The City of Chesapeake has requested the temporary deviation to allow necessary repairs to the drawbridge in a critical time sensitive manner.

The work involves the replacement of bent sections of the nose and tail locks on the moveable span of the bridge. To facilitate the replacement, the bascule span will be locked in the closed position to vessels at night for up to 11 hours on each Friday and Saturday from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m., and up to nine hours each Sunday to Monday, from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m., from May 2-5, May 9-12, May 16-19, May 30-June 2, and June 6-9, 2003. During this period, the work requires completely immobilizing the operation of the bascule span in the closed position to vessels. At all other times, the bridge will operate in accordance with the current operating regulations outlined in 33 CFR 117.997(f). Calling the project superintendent at (757) 672-4829 will provide for emergency opening requests.

The Coast Guard has informed the known users of the waterway of the closure periods for the bridge so that these vessels can arrange their transits to minimize any impact caused by the temporary deviation.

The District Commander has granted temporary deviation from the operating requirements listed in 33 CFR 117.35 for the purpose of repair completion of the