

Year-End Reporting

February 24, 2023 - recently the Department Office had a question from a unit member regarding how to account for hours on the Year-End Reporting forms for hours and funds provided by at spouse caregiver of a Veteran. The following is the information the Department Office received to help clarify the question.

How to Account for Caregiver Hours to a Veteran

Caregivers can now be awarded "Service to Veterans" hours which may accumulate for hour bars as well as count for *IMPACT REPORTING* for the time spent providing care and assistance to Veterans within their families if they do not receive PROFESSIONAL compensation for doing so. VA stipends (PSFAC Stipends) do NOT count as professional compensation.

If the caregiver lives with the Veteran, they may be awarded 10 hours a week. If they do NOT live with the Veterans then they may be awarded 5 hours a week.

The onus is placed upon the caregiver to report these hours through the existing structure within their units and department. These hours can be claimed for activities such as but not limited to:

- Medical appointments
- Any assistance provided with activities of daily living (Bathing, dressing, feeding, managing prescriptions, etc.)
- Support activities outside the home such as errands.
- Activities that positively impact the health and welfare of the Veteran.

Only the highest earned hours bar will be awarded. For those department that track both 'hospital' hours as well as 'service to Veterans' hours, these hours will fall under "Service to Veterans."