

TRICARE West Region How to Book an Appointment

Quick Reference Guide

Key Points

- · Eligibility and requirements
- · Types of appointments available
- · How to book an appointment using TRICARE's online system or by phone
- Selecting a provider for referrals and prior authorizations
- · How to contact customer service for assistance

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Introduction

This Quick Reference Guide will help you book an appointment, ensuring you get the care you need efficiently.

Eligibility and Requirements

TRICARE Prime Enrollees

Your plan defines the eligibility and requirements for how you will book an appointment. If you're an active duty service member, you're automatically enrolled in TRICARE Prime. Active duty family members may be Prime or Select. You can book an appointment using one of the options below:

- Call your primary care manager to schedule an appointment at your assigned military hospital or clinic first. They will advise where you can receive care.
- Use the West Region provider directory to search for a provider and select an appointment.

Note: For emergencies, visit the emergency department. For urgent health matters, contact the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273) and select option 1. For specialty care, you need a referral.

TRICARE Select Enrollees

Those enrolled in TRICARE Select can schedule an appointment with any TRICARE-authorized provider. This includes TRICARE Select, TRICARE Select Overseas, TRICARE Reserve Select, TRICARE Retired Reserve, and TRICARE Young Adult Select.

Additional Plan Information

Select to learn more about getting care.

Types of Appointments

TRICARE offers three appointment types.

Routine: For general check-ups and ongoing health concerns

Specialty care: For referrals to specialists

• **Urgent care**: For non-emergency but immediate care needs

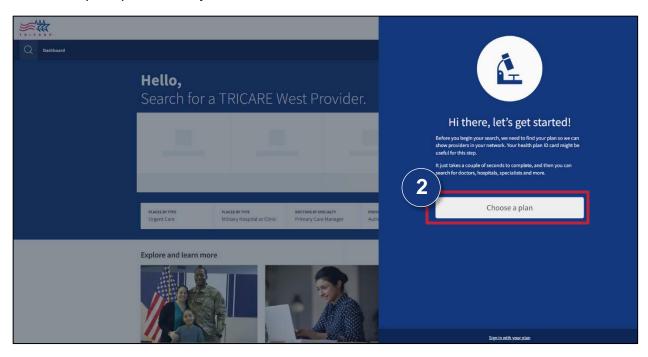
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Steps to Book an Appointment Online

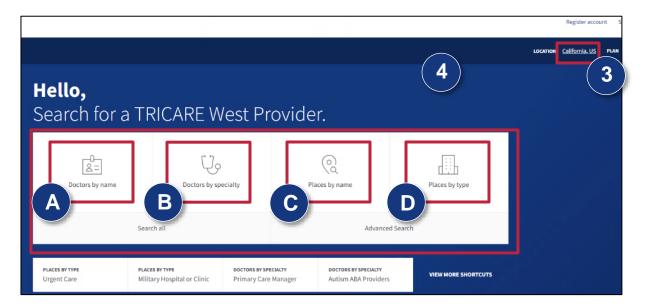
- 1. Navigate to the West Region Provider Directory.
- 2. Follow the prompt to select your TRICARE Plan.



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- 3. Select your location in the top right corner of the Provider Directory dashboard.
- 4. Search for your provider using one of the four search functions available in the Provider Directory:
 - A. **Doctors by name**: Search for a doctor by their name to view their locations, network status, and whether they are accepting new patients.
 - B. **Doctors by specialty**: Locate a doctor who specializes in specific conditions.
 - C. Places by name: Find a specific place to view its hours, address, and network status.
 - D. Places by type: Explore options based on the type of places, such as a hospital or lab.

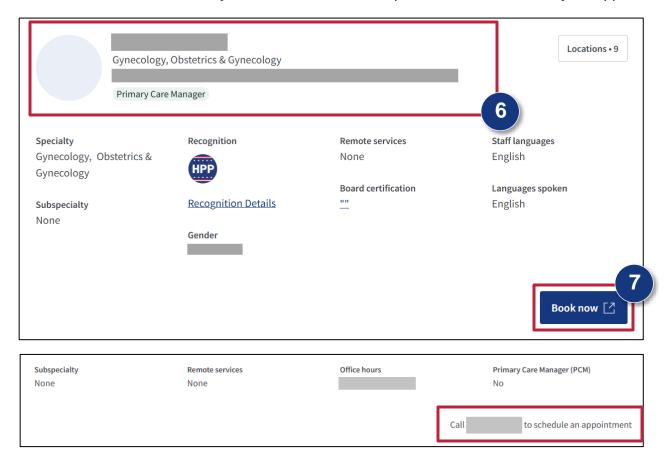


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- 5. Search on the directory using the search terms that match your needs.
- 6. Find a provider you want to schedule a visit with from the results. Notice the **Book Now** button at the bottom of the profile card.
- 7. Select **Book Now**. The **Get appointment options** panel will display.

Note: If Book Now functionality is not available, call the provider's office to book your appointment.

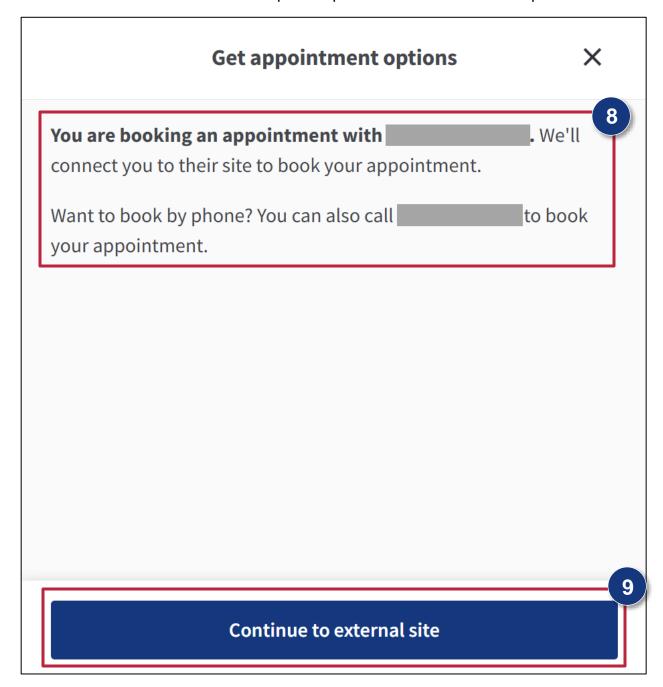


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- 8. The **Get appointment options** panel opens. Read the information about the provider's booking options. For example, this provider lets you book by phone and through their website.
- 9. Select **Continue to external site** to open the provider's website. This will open an external link.



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10. Complete all fields on the external website to complete your appointment request.



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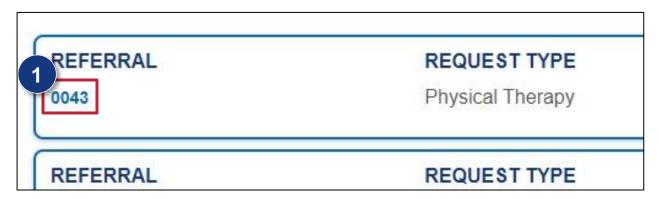
Selecting a Provider—Provider/Prior Authorization

If TriWest has successfully completed a referral request for you, **you will receive a letter.** This letter from TriWest will include three preferred providers within the required drive time from your home address. The letter will also include specific information about how to schedule and what to bring to your appointment.

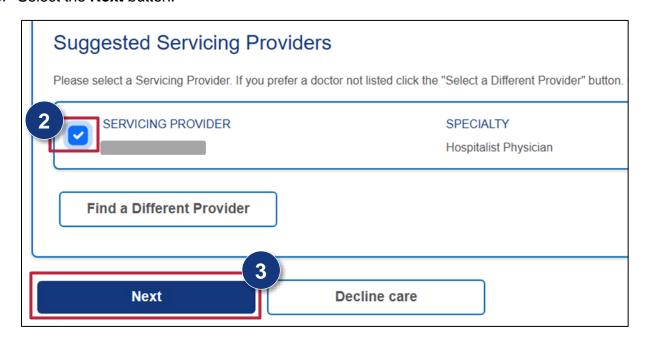
Note: If you choose a non-network provider, your care will be billed as point of service. This means you'll pay a deductible and the copay amounts listed in your benefits packet.

To begin choosing a provider for your care, you will navigate to the **beneficiary portal**.

1. In the beneficiary portal, select the **Referral Number** of the desired referral to display details page.



- 2. Under the "Suggested Servicing Providers" section, choose one of the identified providers by selecting the checkbox for that provider.
- Select the **Next** button.

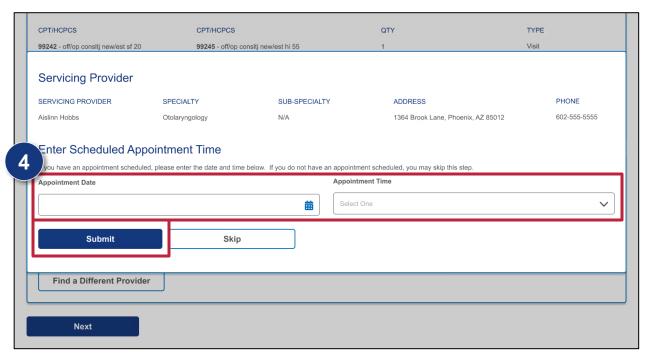


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4. After selecting Next, a window pops up asking for an **Appointment Date** and **Appointment Time**. If you already have an appointment scheduled, enter its information here, then select **Submit**.



5. Notifications will display. One says "Thank you for your submission. Your letter will be ready to view soon." If you entered an appointment time, a "Your appointment was scheduled" notification will display.



6. Now that you have chosen a provider, contact the provider's office to schedule an appointment.

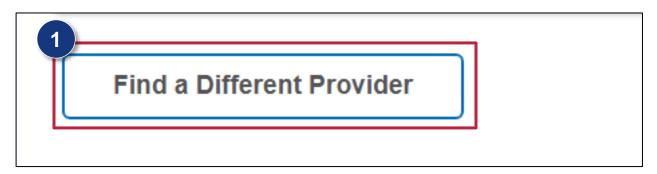
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Selecting a Different Provider

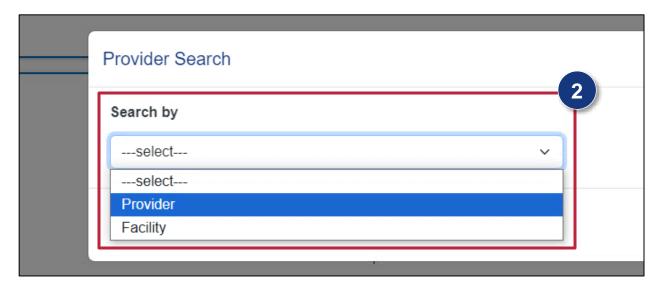
1. To choose a different provider, select the **Find a Different Provider** button. **Note:** It's important to inform TriWest of your selected servicing provider so the servicing provider can obtain your clinical information available with your request.



A. If the **Find a Different Provider** button is not available, a message will display. Select the **Change Servicing Provider Information** hyperlink to get more information.



2. After selecting Find a Different Provider, the Provider Search window displays, where you can search by **Provider** or **Facility**.

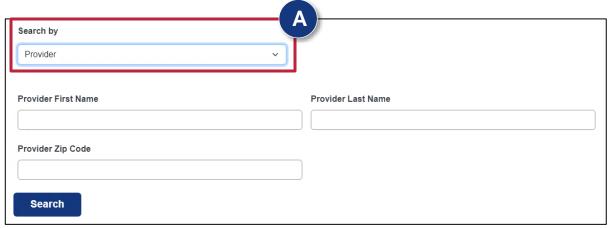


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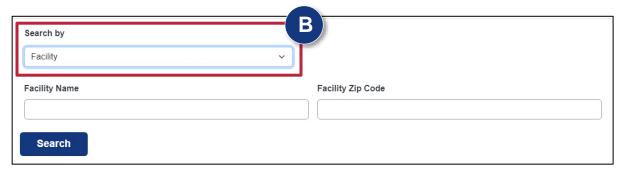
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- 3. Search by either Provider or Facility.
 - A. To search by provider, select **Provider** from the "Search by" dropdown menu and complete all fields.



B. To search by facility, select **Facility** from the "Search by" dropdown menu and complete all fields.

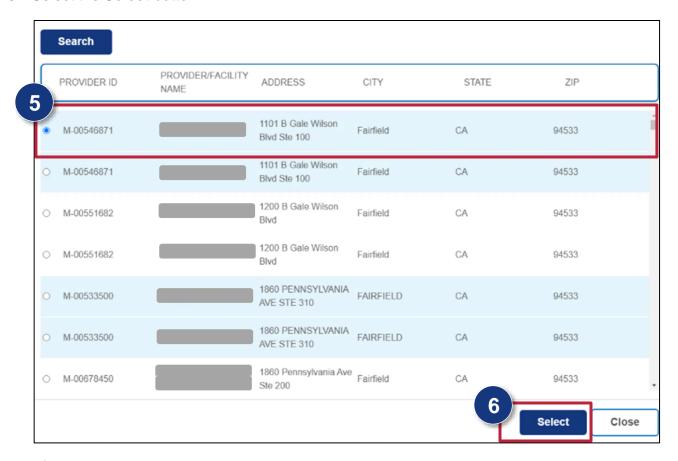


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- 4. After completing the required fields, select **Search**.
- Results will display. Select your desired provider.
 Note: If no results display, you will be directed to the West Region provider directory. <u>Access the Provider Directory Quick Reference Guide</u> for more information on how to search for providers and facilities using the provider directory.
- 6. Select the **Select** button.



7. After the dialog box to select the provider closes, select the **Next** button.



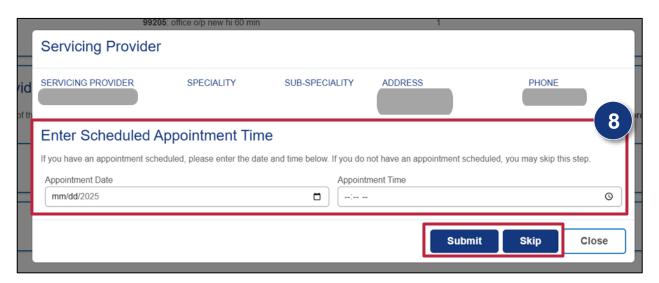
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8. After selecting Next, a window pops up asking for an **Appointment Date** and **Appointment Time**. If you already have an appointment scheduled, enter its information here, then select **Submit**. Otherwise, select **Skip**.

Note: If you select an appointment time here, this appointment selection will display in your online referral letter as well.



 Notifications will display. One says "Thank you for your submission. Your letter will be ready to view soon." If you entered an appointment time, a "Your appointment was scheduled" notification will display.



10. Now that you have chosen a provider, contact the provider's office to schedule an appointment.

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Support and Additional Assistance

You can also book an appointment by phone. Call TriWest Customer Service at 888-TRIWEST (874-9378). This service is only for first-time appointments. Those enrolled through Military Treatment Facilities or in TRICARE for Life can't book by phone.

Have the following information ready when you call:

- Sponsor's ID Number
- Appointment type needed
- Preferred appointment time(s)

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