

Caregiver Self-Assessment

- Visit www.va.gov/Geriatrics to learn more about short- and long-term services and supports in VA and the community.
- Talk with your Veteran about this Self-Assessment.
- Use this Self-Assessment in discussions with your Veterans social worker and care team about the home and community services and supports that are best for you and your Veteran.
- Your Veterans eligibility is based on clinical need and service or setting availability.

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Geriatrics and Extended Care

Step 1. Review Role

Check the best answer

How long have you been a caregiver for the Veteran?	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> Between 1 month and 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> Between 1 year and 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 3 years
Does the Veteran currently live with you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not now, but this may change <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes (please explain) _____
How often do you provide caregiver support?	<input type="checkbox"/> 24 hours/day, 7 days a week <input type="checkbox"/> About 40 hours a week <input type="checkbox"/> Between 10 to 40 hours a week <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10 hours a week
How much support do you feel for your caregiver role?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very supported <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat supported <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely supported <input type="checkbox"/> Not supported at all

Step 2. Review Responsibilities

Physical care for Veteran	<i>Check “Yes” if you give this care. If you need help providing care, check the second box, too.</i>	Yes	I need help
	Activities of daily living (eating, bathing, walking)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Hands-on care (physical therapy, wound care)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Household work and chores (meals, laundry, shopping)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Transportation (to appointments or services)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other tasks (describe): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other assistance for Veteran	<i>Check “Yes” if you give this help. If you need help providing assistance, check the second box, too.</i>	Yes	I need help
	Money management (reviewing bills, tracking finances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Coordinating appointments (physicians, social workers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Social support (planning activities with others)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Emotional support (listening, talking)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Financial support for Veteran (paying Veteran’s expenses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other tasks (describe): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your life	<i>Check “Yes” if your life includes this role. If caregiving makes this role difficult, check the second box, too.</i>	Yes	Makes difficult
	Paid work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Education/schooling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other caring roles, such as parenting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cooking/maintaining household/managing finances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Social and leisure activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other tasks (describe): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Step 3. Evaluate Stress

Caregivers are often so busy caring for a loved one that they can neglect their own well-being. Evaluate your caregiver stress below.

Evaluate stress and	<i>Check “I am doing well” OR “I am struggling with this.”</i>	I am doing	I am struggling with this
	Handling my commitments and responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sleeping and taking time to rest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Spending time with family and friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taking a break when I need to	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Having a positive attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Handling stressful events when they occur	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Handling my anger	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Staying healthy, both mentally and physically	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Feeling like I’m doing a good job as a caregiver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Step 4. Take Action

Check the box if you plan to:

Take Action

- Learn more about long term care services and caregiver websites via www.va.gov/Geriatrics
- Visit the VA Caregiver Support website at www.va.gov/Geriatrics
- Talk with a VA social worker about long term care services for Veterans and/or visit www.socialwork.va.gov/socialworkers.asp
- Talk with a VA caregiver support coordinator to learn more about VA support for caregivers
- Talk with a mental health provider about drug, alcohol or mental health services for the Veteran
- Talk with family and friends about getting more support for the Veteran and myself
- Other: _____

