

# VETERAN FAMILY CAREGIVER'S HOME CARE COMPARISON GUIDE

Use this side-by-side breakdown to help determine which provider type best fits your veteran's needs and your caregiving situation.

| Category                       | Licensed Home Care Agency                                                    | Independent Provider                                                     | Registry                                                                     |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Who employs the caregiver?     | The agency                                                                   | You (the family)                                                         | You (the family)                                                             |
| Caregiver training & oversight | Agency provides training, supervision, and performance reviews               | You hire, supervise, and at times must provide training to the caregiver | You hire, supervise, and at times must provide training to the caregiver     |
| Background checks & insurance  | Provided by the agency                                                       | Your responsibility                                                      | May vary—some registries vet, some do not                                    |
| Cost                           | Typically higher, but includes full service                                  | Often lower hourly rate                                                  | Skin & hair nourishment                                                      |
| Scheduling & backup care       | Handled by agency                                                            | You manage all scheduling and replacements                               | Calming & enhances focus                                                     |
| Flexibility & personalization  | Less flexible, more structured                                               | Highly flexible—care tailored to your preferences per your choice.       | Flexible, however pick from available care providers pre-picked on registry. |
| Help accessing VA benefits?    | Often experienced in VA programs and paperwork                               | Unlikely                                                                 | Some may offer limited guidance                                              |
| Best for families who:         | Want full support, professional oversight, and VA benefit compatibility      | Prefer control and can manage caregiving logistics themselves            | Want referrals but can manage most caregiving tasks themselves               |
| Veteran-specific strengths     | Many agencies have military cultural training and experience with VA systems | Rarely trained in veteran-specific care                                  | May or may not understand veterans' needs                                    |



**Elizabeth Dole Foundation**  
CARING FOR MILITARY FAMILIES



**Cornerstone**  
CAREGIVING