



## DEPENDENTS AND SURVIVORS

### PARENTS' DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION

#### WHAT IS PARENTS' DIC?

Parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) is a needs-based benefit paid to the parent(s) of a military Servicemember or Veteran who dies from:

- a disease or injury incurred or aggravated while on active duty or active duty for training, OR
- an injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty, or certain diseases incurred while on inactive duty for training, OR
- a service-connected disability.

#### WHO ARE ELIGIBLE PARENTS?

The term "parent" includes biological, adoptive, and foster parents.

#### HOW MUCH DOES VA PAY?

See the [Parents' DIC rate charts](#) and explanations about how to determine the monthly payment for Parents' DIC.

The amount of benefits VA pays recipients of Parents' DIC is based on the parent or parents' countable income. When countable income exceeds the limit set by law, no benefit is payable. Eligible parents must report all sources of income to VA such as wages, retirement payments, insurance proceeds or annuity payment, interest, and dividends.

VA deducts certain expenses paid by you from your annual household income, which will decrease your countable income and increase your monthly Parents' DIC payment. A complete list of these exclusions is provided in sections [3.261 and 3.262 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations](#).

#### HOW CAN YOU APPLY?

You may apply for Parents' DIC by completing [VA Form 21-535, Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation by Parent\(s\)](#), and mailing it to the [Pension Management Center \(PMC\)](#) that has jurisdiction over your claim. If you do not know which [PMC](#) has jurisdiction over your claim, you



Disabilities determined by VA to be related to your military service can lead to monthly non-taxable compensation, enrollment in the VA health care system, a 10-point hiring preference for federal employment and other important benefits. Ask your VA representative or Veterans Service Organization representative about Disability Compensation, Pension, Health Care, Caregiver Program, Career Services, Educational Assistance, Home Loan Guaranty, Insurance and/or Dependents and Survivors' Benefits.



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may submit your application to the VA regional office closest to your current residence. See our [directory of VA regional offices](#).

