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Different Types of Compensation

Benefit Description

Disability Compensation is a tax free monetary benefit paid to Veterans with disabilities that are the result of a disease or injury incurred or aggravated during active military service. Compensation may also be paid for post-service disabilities that are considered related or secondary to disabilities occurring in service and for disabilities presumed to be related to circumstances of military service, even though they may arise after service.

Generally, the degrees of disability specified are also designed to compensate for considerable loss of working time from exacerbations or illnesses.

> [Learn More about Disability Compensation](#)

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) is a tax free monetary benefit generally payable to a surviving spouse, child, or parent of Servicemembers who died while on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training or survivors of Veterans who died from their service-connected disabilities. [DIC for parents](#) is an income based benefit.

> [Learn More about Dependency and Indemnity Compensation](#)

Special Monthly Compensation (SMC) is an additional tax-free benefit that can be paid to Veterans, their spouses, surviving spouses and parents. For Veterans, Special Monthly Compensation is a higher rate of compensation paid due to special circumstances such as the need of aid and attendance by another person or a specific disability, such as loss of use of one hand or leg.

For spouses and surviving spouses, this benefit is commonly referred to as aid and attendance and is paid based on the need of aid and attendance by another person.

> [Learn about special monthly compensation benefit rates](#)

Other Benefits: VA provides additional housing and insurance benefits to Veterans with disabilities, including [Adapted Housing grants](#), [Service-Disable Veterans' Insurance](#), and [Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance](#).

To access Veterans Compensation Benefits Rate Tables, follow [this link](#).

For help in filing your disability claim, seek out your Department of Veterans Services (DVS) representative.

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