



# DoD SPECIAL COMPENSATION TO SERVICE MEMBERS FOR CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Updated August 2012

## OVERVIEW

Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living (SCAADL) was authorized by the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act. This special monthly compensation is for Service members who incur a permanent catastrophic injury or illness. SCAADL helps offset the loss of income by a primary caregiver who provides non-medical care, support, and assistance for the Service member.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- The Department of Defense (DoD) is committed to assisting catastrophically wounded, ill, and injured Service members, and those who care for them.
- The Department of Defense special compensation payment to Service members for caregiver support depends upon location and needs of the Service member.
- If you are a catastrophically wounded, ill or injured Service member, contact a member of your recovery team (to include the Primary Care Manager, Nurse Case Manager, Recovery Care Coordinator, Non-Medical Case Manager, or unit leadership) for the application form.
- The payments can continue for up to 90 days post separation, until assistance is no longer required, or upon receipt of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) caregiver compensation.

## WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR QUALIFICATION?

- All Service members who have a catastrophic injury or illness incurred or aggravated in the line of duty due to their condition.
- The Military Department concerned determines condition compromises the ability of the Service member to carry out activities of daily living to a significant degree.
- Certification by a DoD or VA physician to be in need of assistance from another person to perform the personal functions required in daily living or require constant supervision.
- Service member is not currently an inpatient, and would, in the absence of this benefit, require some form of residential institutional care (i.e. hospitalization or nursing home).



# DoD SPECIAL COMPENSATION TO SERVICE MEMBERS FOR CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Updated August 2012

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Is SCAADL automatic?**

No, the Service member or guardian must apply and a DoD or VA physician certifies eligibility. A Service member should contact a member of his or her recovery team (to include the Primary Care Manager, Nurse Case Manager, Recovery Care Coordinator, Non-Medical Case Manager, or unit leadership) for the SCAADL application form and guidance.

### **What if I disagree with my SCAADL determination?**

There is a section on the DD Form 2948 that provides an opportunity to indicate you wish to appeal.

### **Who receives the SCAADL payment?**

These payments are paid directly to the Service member or if determined to be mentally incompetent, their trustee. It is up to the Service member or trustee to ensure that the caregiver receives the appropriate compensation.

### **Are there any instances where my SCAADL could change?**

Yes, SCAADL amounts are based on geographic location AND care needs. Amounts may change if the Service member moves or his/her care needs change.

Also, your Military Service may require recertification to ensure payment accuracy.

### **What if my status changes from outpatient to inpatient?**

As long as the Service member is in outpatient status for the majority of the month (more than 15 days) he / she will still be eligible for SCAADL.

### **Is SCAADL tax-exempt?**

No, SCAADL is taxable compensation.

### **Can I designate a military member as my primary caregiver?**

No, a military member cannot be designated as a primary caregiver for purposes of SCAADL.

### **I was authorized a Non Medical Attendant (NMA). Does that mean I will automatically qualify for SCAADL?**

No, Service members who have been authorized an NMA should not assume entitlement to SCAADL. NMAs are authorized by physicians and designated by the Service member. However, there is no stringent clinical review applied to this designation as there is with SCAADL.

### **I'm transitioning out of the service. Will I still receive SCAADL as a veteran?**

The payments can continue for up to 90 days post separation, until assistance is no longer required, or upon receipt of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) caregiver compensation. While out processing, you need to complete the VA Caregiver Application and work with the recovery team to begin the transition process.

*Support and information for caregivers and eligible beneficiaries is available by contacting the respective Military Services wounded warrior programs:*

U.S. Army Warrior Transition Command G1: [WTC.G1SCAADL@conus.army.mil](mailto:WTC.G1SCAADL@conus.army.mil)  
Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment: 877-487-6299  
Air Force Wounded Warrior: 800-581-9437  
Navy Safe Harbor: 877-746-8563