

Survivor Milestones



Do you know what to expect the first year and beyond?



Spouse

Within
First
Year

- Update DEERS.
- Apply for DIC, SBP, Social Security (if applicable).
- Establish DS Logon Level 2 (Premium) account (<https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil>).
- Establish VA eBenefits account.
- Access Online Survivor Benefits Report (OSBR).
- Free financial counseling and online will preparation from Financial Point Plus for SGLI recipients (<https://financialpointplus.com/groWeb/fpp/login/login.xhtml>).

1
Year

- HEART (Heroes Earning Assistance and Relief Tax) Act eligibility expires.
- "Final Move" deadline for Survivors in government housing.

3
Years

- Final Move deadline. (You may request an extension.)
- "Qualifying widow/widower" federal income tax status expires.
- TRICARE Prime (active duty) expires. You will be auto-enrolled into TRICARE Standard for Retirees.
- If you wish, you can enroll in TRICARE Prime for Retirees.
- Active-duty family member dental plan expires; you can enroll in retiree dental.

20
Years

- Spouse DEA eligibility ends.

Age 55

- Remarriage restrictions on SBP payments lifted.

Age 57

- Remarriage restrictions on DIC payments lifted.

Age 60

- Remarriage restrictions on Social Security Survivor benefits are lifted.
- Reduced-rate Social Security retirement benefits are available.

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Child(ren)

Within First Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Obtain ID card (any age).Eligible for 40 hours of respite care at military Child Development Center (CDC).
Age 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Social Security survivor benefits for child(ren)'s parental or non-parental caregiver ends.
Age 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">TRICARE and TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) survivor benefit eligibility ends. Full-time college students can apply for an extension until age 23 or purchase TRICARE Young Adult.
Age 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">TRICARE and TDP Survivor Benefit eligibility end for students; TRICARE Young Adult can be purchased.
Age 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none">DEA eligibility ends.
Age 33	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fry Scholarship eligibility ends if eligibility began before January 1, 2013. This time limit is lifted if eligibility began after that date.

Financial Beneficiary

Within First Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Free financial counseling and online will preparation are available from Financial Point Plus for SGLI recipients (https://financialpointplus.com/groWeb/fpp/login/login.xhtml).If applicable: Non-parent guardian of Surviving child(ren) should establish legal guardianship.
1 Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">HEART (Heroes Earning Assistance and Relief Tax) Act eligibility expires.
Child Reaches Age 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Social Security survivor benefits for child(ren)'s parental or non-parental caregiver ends.

Glossary:

DEA: Dependents Educational Assistance — an educational benefit provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

DEERS: Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System — a registry of service members, spouses and children.

DIC: Dependency and Indemnity Compensation — a tax-free monthly payment to Survivors provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SBP: Survivor Benefit Program, a taxable annuity for Survivors paid through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS).

TRICARE: The uniformed services' health maintenance program.

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