

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>). (Two years of eligibility for up to 40 hours of financial counseling support.)

**1
Year**

- HEART (Heroes Earning Assistance and Relief Tax) Act eligibility for applicable Survivors expires.
 - Survivors who remain in base housing are required to vacate after one year.
- Note: Be sure to allow for scheduling time. It is suggested that you begin the process at least six months prior to the one-year mark.
- For more information, see the NGS Reference Sheet "Ready to Move, Navigating Your Final Move."

**3
Years**

- Final Move deadline. (You may request an extension.)
- Note: Be sure to allow for scheduling time. It is suggested that you begin the process at least two and a half years before the expiration date to ensure you do not miss the window. If you are seeking an extension, be sure to allow for processing time.
- For more information, see NGS Reference Sheet "Ready to Move, Navigating Your Final Move."
- "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 and DIC payments are 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**
 - Obtain ID card (any age).
 - Eligible for 40 hours of respite care at military Child development Center (CDC). Some restrictions may apply.
- Age 16**
 - Social Security survivor benefits for child(ren)'s parental or non-parental caregiver ends.
- Age 21**
 - 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**
 - TRICARE and TDP Survivor Benefit eligibility end for students; TRICARE Young Adult can be purchased.
- Age 26**
 - DEA eligibility ends.
- Age 33**
 - 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**
 - 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**
 - HEART (Heroes Earning Assistance and Relief Tax) Act eligibility expires. (Applicable to SGLI and Death Gratuity recipients)
- Child Reaches Age 16**
 - 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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