



## DoD Special Compensation to Service Members for Caregiver Support

### 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 in the line of duty. SCAADL helps offset the loss of income by a primary caregiver who provides non-medical care, support, and assistance for the catastrophically injured or ill 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 amount of DoD special compensation to Service members for outpatient caregiver support depends upon the amount and degree of personal care services required for the Service member and the location where the Service member resides.
- If you are a catastrophically ill or injured Service member, contact your recovery team (to include the Primary Care Manager, Nurse Case Manager, Recovery Care Coordinator, Non-Medical Case Manager, or unit leadership) for an application form (DD Form 2948) to determine your eligibility for SCAADL compensation.
- The payments can continue until the earlier of the following: for up to 90 days post separation; until assistance is no longer required; or upon your caregiver's receipt of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) caregiver compensation.

### What is required to Qualify for SCAADL compensation?

All Service members must have a permanent catastrophic injury or illness incurred or aggravated in the line of duty and:

1. Be an outpatient
2. Be certified 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.
3. In the absence of caregiver assistance, would require some form of residential institutional care (i.e. hospitalization or nursing home).

### Frequent Asked Questions

#### Is SCAADL Automatic?

No, the Service member or guardian must apply and a DoD or VA physician, **and** the military Commander (or Service designated command representative) certifies eligibility for SCAADL. 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 regarding their eligibility for SCAADL compensation.



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

There is a section on the DD Form 2948 that provides an opportunity to appeal and request reconsideration of the SCAADL determination.

### Who receives the SCAADL payment?

SCAADL is paid directly to the Service member or, if determined to be mentally incompetent, to 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 levels of care required. The amount of compensation may change if the Service member moves or his/her care needs change. Also, recertification is required at least every 6 months to ensure the level of care required, and geographic location is accurately documented.

### 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 16 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 the SCAADL program?

No, Service members who have been authorized an NMA should not assume entitlement to SCAADL. These are two different programs. The Service member, or their guardian, must apply for the SCAADL program, regardless of participation in other programs, as described in the program overview.

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

The payments can continue until the earlier of: up to 90 days post separation from military service; until assistance is no longer required; or until your caregiver begins receiving Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) caregiver compensation.

### How does my caregiver apply for the VA Caregiver stipend program?

The caregiver of a Service member who is still on Active Duty may apply for and receive VA's caregiver stipend once Service member's date of discharge from the military is determined. For additional information about the VA Caregiver program, please visit the VA website:

<http://www.va.gov/PURCHASEDCARE/programs/dependents/caregiver/index.asp>

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

Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment: 877-487-6299

Air Force Wounded Warrior: 800-581-9437

Navy Safe Harbor: 877-746-8563