



Survivor SBP Newsletter

April 2022

Director's Message

Greetings from Cleveland, and welcome to another edition of our Survivor SBP Newsletter. As always, our goal with this newsletter is to you keep informed and updated on what's happening with the Survivor Benefit Plan.

We began the newsletter last year, just in time to help explain the recently enacted SBP-DIC offset legislation. We know this legislation is complicated, no question, but we're doing our best to untangle it for you.

Past newsletter editions have included updates on how changes in SBP-DIC offset impact certain annuitants. This edition is no different. This time we provide additional information on phase two of the offset elimination. As we progress through the final phase of offset elimination, we'll keep you in the loop.

A related article explains the elimination of the Optional Annuity for Dependent Children and the reversion of the SBP annuity to surviving spouses. This affects those spouse annuitants who, to avoid DIC offset, elected to have their annuity paid to an eligible dependent child.

Also in the news, School Certification season is here again. We go through the steps you need to take to ensure the continued eligibility of a child annuitant.

We also have an article for those child annuitants turning 18 who need to set up their own direct deposit. By following the steps we outline, these child annuitants, once they are 18, can receive their annuity directly via direct deposit with no interruption.

We will continue to share news of interest to survivors in our quarterly DFAS Retiree Newsletter, and twice a year we will also provide this focused newsletter especially for you. We hope this newsletter, along with our other communications tools, will help to clarify your annuity benefits.

Please share this information with your community of survivors.

Remember, our website puts a lot of helpful information at your fingertips. Check it out: <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary>. Look for "Survivors and Beneficiaries" in the menu for links of special interest to survivors.

We honor the service and sacrifices made by you, your family, and your loved one. We are proud to serve those who have served, and we wish you and your family a safe and happy spring and summer season.

Active Duty/Line of Duty Survivors Spotlight

The DoD Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) provides an ongoing monthly annuity payment to military spouses or dependent children when a military member dies while on active duty, on inactive duty in the line of duty, or after retirement (if the military retiree chooses to purchase coverage).

When a service member dies on active or inactive duty in the line of duty, the surviving spouse can request to have the SBP annuity paid directly to an eligible dependent child or children instead of to the spouse.

This is called the "Optional Annuity for Dependent Children" but is often referred to as the "Optional Child Annuity."

The option is available because until recently, there was a requirement for a spouse's SBP payments to be offset (reduced) by the full amount of the spouse's Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) payment from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Payments to the surviving child were considered a more favorable option because SBP paid to a child is not required to be offset (reduced) by the amount of the DIC payment.

The Optional Annuity for Dependent Children is only allowed when the service member died on active duty or inactive duty in the line of duty after October 7, 2001.

Changes to the Optional Annuity for Dependent Children do not impact the SBP coverage for families of a service member who retired prior to passing away or the SBP coverage for any current living retiree.

Check out our new Quick Reference Guide on the special focus webpage:
<https://www.dfas.mil/sbp2023childoptrev>

What Happens in 2023

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2020 directed that as of January 1, 2023, the "Optional Annuity for Dependent Children" will be eliminated and the SBP monthly annuity payment must revert to the surviving spouse (if the surviving spouse submits documentation confirming eligibility).

The first SBP monthly payment to surviving spouses documented as eligible will be February 1, 2023. Because the SBP benefit is paid the following month, the January 2023 benefit is paid on February 1, 2023.

The last SBP monthly payment to a child under the Optional Annuity for Dependent Children will be the December 2022 benefit that is paid on January 3, 2023 (unless the surviving spouse is documented as deceased or not eligible).

Can an Eligible Child Continue to Receive the SBP Annuity? Can a Spouse Choose to Have the SBP Annuity Paid to the Child?

The elimination and reversion is in the law. It is not optional. A surviving spouse cannot refuse the annuity to have it continue to be paid to a surviving child. If we do not receive documentation for a surviving spouse, the annuity will be suspended. It cannot continue to be paid to a surviving child without documentation that the surviving spouse is not eligible.

SBP coverage for active duty or inactive duty in the line of duty deaths is for spouse and child. Since the SBP coverage is for spouse and child, the child can receive payment if the spouse is documented as not eligible.

There are three situations where an eligible child can continue to receive the SBP monthly payment after the elimination of the Optional Child Annuity in 2023:

1-If DFAS receives documentation that there was no surviving spouse at the time of the service member's death.

2-If DFAS receives documentation that the surviving spouse is deceased.

3-If DFAS receives documentation that the surviving spouse remarried prior to age 55.

If DFAS does not receive the documentation in the above situations, the annuity will be suspended until documentation is received.

Please note that the documentation needed for a deceased spouse is a copy of the death certificate with contact information for the person submitting the documentation.

What Happens Between Now and 2023

If a child or children are currently the designated recipients of the SBP monthly annuity payment because the Optional Annuity for Dependent Children was requested, they will continue to receive the SBP payments (as long as they remain eligible) until the SBP-DIC offset is fully eliminated in 2023.

If a child or children lose eligibility because they marry or reach age 18 (or age 22 if a full-time student) prior to January 1, 2023, the annuity will be suspended until January 1, 2023. On January 1, 2023, the annuity will revert to the surviving spouse (if the spouse is eligible and submits documentation).

If the annuity is already suspended because the child or children are no longer eligible, it will continue to be suspended until January 1, 2023. On January 1, 2023, the annuity will revert to the surviving spouse (if the spouse is eligible and submits documentation).

If the annuity is suspended because the child/children are no longer eligible and we do not receive eligibility documentation for the surviving spouse, the annuity will remain suspended until we receive the documentation.

The Process of Documenting Eligibility for Surviving Spouses

We mailed eligibility packets in mid-November of 2021 to approximately 5,000 surviving spouses of service members who died on active duty or on inactive duty in the line of duty after October 7, 2001 and who had previously requested the SBP Optional Child Annuity.

The eligibility packet includes the documents we need the surviving spouse to fill out and return. The documents will help us determine the spouse's eligibility for SBP annuity payments and set up their account to begin payments (if they are eligible) when the changes take effect on January 1, 2023.

If a spouse does not receive a packet in the mail, they can download the full eligibility packet from the DFAS special focus webpage: <https://www.dfas.mil/sbp2023childoptrev>

Although the effective date of this change is not until 2023, we are reaching out early. If we receive the documents with the information needed early, we can provide the surviving spouse with the assessment of their future SBP eligibility well in advance of 2023.

We have developed a special process so that the accounts that are affected by the elimination/reversion can be prepared for the 2023 change without affecting the payments to children who are currently receiving the Optional Child Annuity.

Some accounts may require research to locate the required information, so we encourage surviving spouses who are in this group to provide us with their documentation as soon as possible.

On our special focus webpage (<https://www.dfas.mil/sbp2023childoptrev>) there are specific instructions for filling out and returning the documents. There is also a helpful how-to checklist for filling out the forms.

The eligibility packet that is downloadable in a PDF from the webpage includes a copy of the letter, instructions, and the forms.

Spouses can upload their completed and signed documents online on the customer-facing annuity start askDFAS online upload tool, or mail them, or fax them.

When we receive the completed documents, we will review them and send the spouse a postal letter with their eligibility information and the current amount of the annuity.

We Do Need Eligibility Information for ALL Surviving Spouses

Please note that DFAS does need to receive eligibility information from all surviving spouses, even if they are not eligible for the annuity due to remarriage prior to age 55.

There are two reasons:

First, as explained above, if the surviving spouse is documented as not eligible (or deceased), we can continue to pay the annuity to an eligible child, even after the change in January of 2023. If we don't receive documentation proving the spouse is not eligible, the annuity payments must be suspended as of January 2023 until we receive the documentation.

Second, providing this documentation now will simplify the process for a surviving spouse if they are currently remarried before age 55, but that marriage later ends due to death or divorce in the future. At that point, the surviving spouse may become eligible for the SBP annuity payment.

Surviving Spouses of Active Duty/Line of Duty Service Members Who Are Currently Entitled to SBP/SSIA

Some surviving spouses may be confused about what the Optional Annuity for Dependent Children is and if they are entitled to an additional annuity. If a spouse is currently entitled to and receiving an SBP and/or SSIA monthly payment, they did not request the Optional Child Annuity and the 2023 reversion does not apply to them. SBP is paid either to the surviving spouse OR to the surviving child/children; it is not paid to both spouse and child.

The Optional Child Annuity is not an additional annuity payment. It is the option to pay the SBP annuity to the child/children instead of to the surviving spouse.

In addition, this change in the law does NOT impact the surviving spouse or child of a member who retired prior to passing away. The change in the law does NOT impact the current SBP coverage of a retiree.

Again, the Optional Annuity for Dependent Children is only allowed when the service member died on active duty or inactive duty in the line of duty after October 7, 2001.

See the Special Focus Webpage for Additional Information

See our special focus webpage for a downloadable Eligibility Packet and specific instructions for completing it and a helpful checklist for completing the documents.

We also have a **new Quick Reference Guide** for the SBP 2023 Optional Child Annuity Reversion: <https://www.dfas.mil/sbp2023childoptrev>

The SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination: What You Need to Know About Phase Two and Phase Three

On January 1, 2022, Phase Two of the SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination began.

To help surviving spouses who are entitled to both SBP and DIC in 2022 understand the effect of this change, DFAS mailed letters in early December with individual estimates of 2022 SBP payments.

As a reminder, the SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination only affects SBP payments issued by DFAS. The changes do NOT affect Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) payments from the VA. Eligible surviving spouses will continue to receive the full amount of DIC from the VA.

Check out our new Quick Reference Guide on the special focus webpage:

<https://www.dfas.mil/sbpdicnews>

What Happens in 2022 – Phase Two of the SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination

January 1, 2022 marked the start of the second phase of the SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination.

The changes affect surviving spouses who are, or who will become in the future, eligible for both Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) payments and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) payments, and who were subject to a full or partial SBP-DIC Offset.

In Phase Two of the SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination the amount that is **offset** (deducted) from the spouse's SBP annuity payment is **one-third** of the amount of the DIC payment.

DIC payments are **not** affected.

The SBP monthly payment is reduced by the amount of the offset (1/3 of the amount of the DIC payment).

If a spouse's gross SBP benefit is less than one-third of the amount of the DIC they receive from the VA, the spouse will not receive an SBP payment. About 12 percent of spouses (approximately 7,600) will not see a change in their SBP payment in 2022 because their gross SBP benefit is less than one-third of their DIC payment from the VA.

Spouses who have their SBP offset by DIC will continue to receive the Special Survivors Indemnity Allowance (SSIA) in 2022, up to the maximum amount of \$346 per month, or up to gross amount of SBP (if the gross amount of SBP is less than \$346).

Summary – Phase Two

VA will pay:

- 100% of the DIC payment

DoD/DFAS will pay:

- The remainder of the SBP benefit after deducting an amount equal to 1/3 of the spouse's DIC payment from the SBP gross annuity amount (SBP gross – 1/3 of DIC = SBP net)
- Plus the appropriate amount of SSIA up to the maximum allowable (\$346).

The effective date of Phase Two was January 1, 2022. January 2022 benefits were paid on February 1, 2022. The **last payment of Phase Two** is for December of 2022, which will be paid on **January 3, 2023**.

Phase Three: Starting January 1, 2023

In the third and final phase that begins January 1, 2023, the SBP-DIC offset will be fully eliminated. That means spouses will begin to receive their **full SBP monthly payments** with no offset (reduction) on **February 1, 2023**.

DIC payments will **not** be affected.

The SBP benefit will be **paid in full** (no offset).

SSIA will **NOT** be paid.

Additional Notes

Spouses should have received a January 2022 Annuitant Account Statement (AAS) near the time of their February 1, 2022 payment that showed changes to the SBP and/or SSIA payment because of the second phase of the SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination.

Annuitant Account Statements are available in your myPay account:

<https://mypay.dfas.mil>

Reminder: if a spouse previously received a refund of SBP premiums paid due to the SBP-DIC offset, they will **NOT** need to pay back that refund because of this change in the law.

Questions?

Check out the full range of Frequently Asked Questions and download our **new Quick Reference Guide** on the SBP-DIC News webpage: <https://www.dfas.mil/sbpdicnews>

We also have a webpage explaining SBP, DIC and SSIA:

<https://www.dfas.mil/sbpdicssia>

Check Out Our Helpful Customer Information Guide for SBP Annuitants

DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay is working hard to provide better communication and helpful tools to make managing your SBP annuity pay easier.

Our new **Annuitant Customer Information Guide** outlines the tools we developed to simplify finding basic information about your pay or submitting a request for a change to your account.

The Customer Information Guide is available to download in a PDF from the Retired Military & Annuitants homepage: <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary>

The new guide explains how to use many of our time-saving tools, including Form Wizards, Online Upload Tools, Status Notifications, and our website.

Form Wizards

We currently have several Form Wizards available and are working on more. The Form Wizards “take the form out of the form” by walking you through the information needed to help ensure that all necessary fields are completed properly.

The Form Wizards also have a helpful link to submit the form through an askDFAS online upload tool. Plus, some offer the option of signing electronically.

askDFAS Online Upload Tools

Many forms or requests can be submitted online via the DFAS.mil website using the askDFAS online upload tools. The new askDFAS submission tools were established to improve the way requests are submitted and eliminate the time sending requests through mail or fax.

Upload your form in a PDF directly from your home computer. Just fill in the information requested on the askDFAS online upload tool page and upload the form you want to submit in a PDF.

askDFAS Online Forms

Send DFAS information or a request via one of our AskDFAS online forms:

- Annuitants can get 1099-Rs sent to their mailing address on record or to a one-time, temporary mailing address by submitting the request online on askDFAS.
- Use our convenient online form to report the death of a military retiree.

askDFAS FAQs

Read helpful questions and answers about SBP annuitant pay, or submit a question of your own. Please note, these are general questions and answers, not those specific to an individual situation.

Email Status Notifications

Email Status Notifications are underway! We are starting to send status notifications with progress updates on your requests.

We send you updates when: (1) When we receive your request; (2) When your request has been assigned for processing; (3) When the request has been completed.

There are two ways to receive notifications:

A. If you send a form to us using one of the askDFAS Online Upload Tools, we send updates to you using the email address you provide on the upload tool.

B. If you send a form or request to us using fax or mail, we send updates to you using the email address registered in your myPay account. You can review and update your email address in myPay at any time. <https://mypay.dfas.mil>

myPay

<https://mypay.dfas.mil>

The fastest and most secure way to manage your retired pay or SBP pay account is through myPay. myPay is available using the internet from your computer or your mobile device browser.

myPay provides convenient access to a range of information about your payments, and lets you easily update your contact information or your tax withholding, submit your annual certification, or download your tax documents. Annuitants can log in to myPay, and print a 1099-R from the comfort of their home.

Also, when you have an email address in myPay, you can receive important email messages from DFAS about your pay account.

Get Your Customer Information Guide:

<https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary>

Do Not Be Late To Class! It is School Cert Season

Child annuitants between the ages of 18 and 22, attending school on a full-time basis, will soon start receiving their annual **school certification packets**. Survivor Benefit Plan child annuitants who are between age 18 and 22 must regularly certify they are enrolled in a full-time course of education to be entitled to an annuity.

The annual school certification packets will contain a cover letter of instruction, DD Form 2788 School Certification and a Child Annuitant Past Attendance self-certification letter. The DD Form 2788 School Certification will be used to provide the child annuitant's future intent to attend school on a full-time basis for the next school year. A school official signature or school documentation is no longer needed.

Child annuitants are encouraged to use the **DD Form 2788 Form Wizard** which DFAS introduced last year. Doing so will make completing the form a snap by 'taking the form out of the form' and make it easy for child annuitants to fill it in correctly. The Form Wizard will ask a series of questions and fill in the answers in the appropriate areas of the form.

Compatible PDF software, such as the free Adobe Acrobat DC software, available at [adobe.com](https://www.adobe.com), will be necessary. We do not recommend saving the Form Wizard to a shared computer, because it contains personal identifiable information.

The **DD Form 2788 Form Wizard** can be found on our school certifications webpage at: <https://www.dfas.mil/schoolcerts>

Once all the questions have been answered, the child annuitant can even choose to electronically sign the form and submit it online using our online upload tool! Or they can click a button to generate a ready-to-print-and-sign PDF with their answers.

The DD Form 2788 Form Wizard can be downloaded to a Windows or MAC computer.

The Child Annuitant Past Attendance self-certification letter will allow the child annuitant to self-certify that they attended school as they previously provided they would. The self-certification letter will be pre-populated with the prior school year's information and the child annuitant will simply sign and date the self-certification letter and return to DFAS via the askDFAS upload link.

The child annuitant will then be set for the next upcoming school year. If at any time the child annuitant's school attendance or marital status changes, the child annuitant needs to contact DFAS immediately so they do not incur a debt.

Child annuitants approaching the age of 18, will receive a cover letter of instruction and a DD Form 2788 to complete, prior to their 18th birthday, so that DFAS can determine their continued eligibility to receive an annuity as a child annuitant between the ages of 18-22.

If students provide an email address in myPay, DFAS will send an email reminder when they have a school certification coming due.

Also, located on the school certification webpage is a How-To Checklist along with some additional resources that can aid in the school certification process. Submission of the child annuitant's school certification can be done using an online upload tool through askDFAS, available on the DFAS.mil website, which is also accessible on a mobile browser.

The askDFAS online upload tool is at: <https://go.usa.gov/xymaH>

To use the online upload tool to submit a school certification form, the child annuitant will just need to fill in the required information in the online screen, and then upload a PDF of their completed and signed form and signed Child Annuitant Past Attendance self-certification letter.

In conjunction with using the askDFAS online upload tool, DFAS also provides digital status notifications for the submission of DD Form 2788 School Certification.

What is a digital status notification? It is a three-step process that will update the child annuitant when their DD Form 2788 is received, when it is assigned, and whether it was able to be completed or not.

The notification will be sent via the email address provided during the AskDFAS submission. It will help to alleviate any doubt or concern as to whether the form was received and completed or not.

Do You Have a Child Annuitant Turning 18? Important Information You Should Know

Many child annuitants, for example, those who are unmarried and attending school full time, may remain eligible to receive benefits after reaching the age of 18. Once they turn 18, however, they will no longer have a guardian or legal representative. DFAS will therefore discontinue the direct deposit allowing the guardian or legal representative to receive benefits on the annuitant's behalf.

To avoid any disruption in direct deposit, DFAS allows the annuitant to set up a direct deposit in their own name up to 60 days prior to reaching their 18th birthday. Because they are still a minor child at this time, both the annuitant and the guardian/legal representative must sign a new Direct Deposit Authorization Form 1199A.

This form may be found here: <https://www.dfas.mil/raforms>

The annuitant will receive a letter prior to their 18th birthday reminding them to establish a new direct deposit and enclosing a Direct Deposit Authorization. If the annuitant fails to set up a new direct deposit by their 18th birthday, the annuity will be sent to the address of record in the form of a paper check. This will continue until a new direct deposit is established.

Authenticator Apps Make myPay Two-Factor Authentication Simpler

A growing number of myPay customers have switched to authenticator apps to get the one-time PINs (OTP) necessary in logging into their myPay account. This method avoids any delays in receiving OTPs via text or email messages. This is particularly helpful for users located overseas.

Of course, in this time of rising concerns over security of personal, financial and health information having tools that increase that security is of greater value.

myPay, which provides pay management and information services to more than six million military members, federal civilian employees, retired military members and annuitants, requires the use of two-factor authentication (2FA) to access individual accounts. While 2FA lessens the opportunities for online thieves to mimic account holder activities in order to divert pay to other bank accounts or obtain critical personal information, cyber criminals are finding ways to access email accounts, obtain passwords and even intercept text messages sent to customers' smartphones and other mobile devices.

Authenticator apps, available for Apple and Android devices, generate the critical one-time PIN on the user's mobile device (such as a smartphone or tablet) rather than relying on the code being sent from a system (such as myPay) via text or email. In this way, the 2FA one-time PIN isn't sent via channels that are potentially intercepted by hackers.

Another critical advantage of authentication apps is the immediate one-time PIN needed for myPay login. This avoids delays in receiving email or text messages beyond the 10 minutes required to enter the PIN during the myPay login process.

Interested myPay customers can start the process by searching for authenticator apps through app stores associated with their device (i.e., Apple or Android). Once selected, downloaded and installed, users should carefully follow any instructions required to activate the app. Many authenticator apps have detailed instructions in descriptions of the product. Within the app itself, using Get Started or Help features also have information for using the app.

The next step will be to change the preferred method for receiving one-time PINs. Once the customer has logged onto their myPay account, selecting Personal Settings followed by Two-Factor Authentication will reveal already established methods to receive a one-time PIN. At the bottom of that page is a set up button to begin entering information that will allow use of PINs provided by the selected authenticator app.

Step-by-step instructions for the set up process are available at <https://www.dfas.mil/mypayinfo/2FA/AuthApp/>

myPay information, from the user's name, direct deposit instructions, email addresses, etc., are too important to be unprotected and vulnerable to cyber criminals ready to make a profit on unsuspecting victims. While two-factor authentication adds to myPay's impressive security features, use of authenticator apps makes unauthorized access of accounts that much harder.

Did You Know?

We recognize that the laws and regulations governing military annuity pay are complex and can be difficult to understand. In each issue of the DFAS Survivor SBP Newsletter, we will share a few helpful **tips and tidbits** for survivors.

Survivor Benefit Plan Coverage

- Did You Know: There is only one SBP annuity? It is paid either to the spouse or to the child/children. If paid to the children, the annuity is split into equal shares.
- Did You Know: The Optional Child Annuity is not an additional annuity payment? It is the option to pay the SBP annuity to the child/children instead of to the surviving spouse.
- Did You Know: Spouse and child coverage means the spouse receives the annuity unless the spouse passes away or marries prior to age 55. Only then does the eligible child (or children) receive the annuity payment.
- Did You Know: If the surviving spouse becomes ineligible, we need a new SBP application package for the child or children, including a new DD 2656-7 - Verification for Survivors Annuity.

School Certifications

- Did You Know: High school and college students 18 and over do not need to maintain a minimum grade point average to remain annuity-eligible. The only criteria is that they remain unmarried and enrolled in school full-time.
- Did You Know: For high school and college students turning 18 and over 18, we can now use your completed, annual DD 2788 School Certification form as your Certificate of Eligibility (COE) instead of sending you a separate COE to submit each year.
- Did You Know: As stated in the above "Turning 18" article, Retired and Annuity Pay is now accepting Turning 18 Letters to ensure payments do not stop direct deposits. Please check out the Turning 18 article for more information.

Multiple Child Annuitants

- Did You Know: When there is more than one eligible child annuitant, the annuity payment is split into equal shares? If one of the children becomes ineligible (due to marriage or not attending school full-time), their share is redistributed to the other children, but only if the child's ineligibility is documented with DFAS. If we do not receive documentation of the child's ineligibility, their share will be held until the child is proven eligible or ineligible.

Direct Deposit

- **Did You Know:** If you are currently receiving a paper check, you can easily start to receive your pay conveniently direct deposited by using myPay, sending us a completed direct deposit form, or calling our Customer Care Center.

Did You Know? DFAS Webpages for Survivors

- **Manage your SBP annuity:** <https://www.dfas.mil/managesbp>
- **Understanding SBP, DIC, SSIA:** <https://www.dfas.mil/sbpdicssia>
- **SBP-DIC offset phased elimination:** <https://www.dfas.mil/sbpdicnews>
- **SBP 2023 Active Duty/Line of Duty child option reversion:**
<https://www.dfas.mil/sbp2023childoptrev>
- **School Certifications:** <https://www.dfas.mil/schoolcerts>
- **Claim retiree Arrears of Pay:** <https://www.dfas.mil/retireeaop>
- **Start an SBP annuity:** <https://www.dfas.mil/startsbp>
- **AskDFAS:** <https://www.dfas.mil/AskDFAS>
- **DFAS YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/DFAS>
- **myPay:** <https://mypay.dfas.mil>

News from our Partners: Special Newsletter from Army Survivor Outreach Services - "The Survivor Link"

"The Survivor Link" is the **Army Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) newsletter**. This newsletter is published on a quarterly basis to provide information about benefits changes, program updates, opportunities to connect with other survivors and to stay linked to the Army.

Army Survivors can subscribe to "The Survivor Link" at any time. To subscribe just follow the link below. You can choose to have "The Survivor Link" delivered to your **email** address or as a **text message** to your cell phone.

Subscribe here: <https://dcsg9.army.mil/safr/sos/sos-form.html>

All Army Survivors, staff and partners are invited to subscribe and stay connected with the SOS community.

2022 Pay Calendar

To help you plan for 2022, below is a list of the annuitant pay dates. Annuitant pay is generally paid on the first of the month. However, if the first falls on a weekend or holiday, annuitants are paid on the first business day of month.

Entitlement Month	Annuitant Pay Date
December 2021	January 3, 2022
January 2022	February 1, 2022
February 2022	March 1, 2022
March 2022	April 1, 2022
April 2022	May 2, 2022
May 2022	June 1, 2022
June 2022	July 1, 2022
July 2022	August 1, 2022
August 2022	September 1, 2022
September 2022	October 3, 2022
October 2022	November 1, 2022
November 2022	December 1, 2022
December 2022	January 3, 2023
January 2023	February 1, 2023

Contact Us

DFAS Retired & Annuitant Pay Website

www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary

DFAS Retired & Annuitant Pay Mailing Addresses

Annuitants:

Defense Finance and Accounting
Service
U.S. Military Annuitant Pay
8899 E 56th Street
Indianapolis IN 46249-1300

Retirees:

Defense Finance and Accounting
Service
U.S. Military Retired Pay
8899 E 56th Street
Indianapolis IN 46249-1200

DFAS Retired & Annuitant Pay Phone and Fax Numbers

Customer Care Phone:

Toll-free: 800-321-1080
Local: 216-522-5955 – This number will change as of July 2022
DSN: 580-5955

Annuitant/Survivor Pay Fax:

800-982-8459

myPay Customer Care:

<https://mypay.dfas.mil>

Phone: 888-332-7411

Important Phone Number Change Coming Soon

Over the next few months, you will start to notice many of our forms, statements and general mail will have a new local phone number to reach our Customer Care Center.

The changes will NOT affect the 1-800 or 1-888 numbers.

You will see the (216) area codes will change to (317). All international callers should use the new (317) phone numbers.