



Secondary Dependency & Incapacitated Child over Age 21

A PEATC
Do You Know
Factsheet for Virginia's
Parents

“Don't follow the path. Go
where there is no path and
begin the trail.

When you start a new trail
equipped with courage,
strength and conviction, the
only thing that can stop you
is you!”

-Ruby Bridges



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Do You Know?

When a Service Member is financial responsible for supporting their child over the age of 21, they may be eligible to claim them as Secondary Dependents.

Military life is a unique experience and military families enjoy many wonderful adventures, but also endure challenging hardships. When a Service Member finds himself/herself with a special needs child that is transitioning into adulthood, questions surround who will care for their child, how their child will be cared for, how will financing continue, etc. Having eligible family members determined as secondary dependents can ensure that service members receive the benefits and allowance they, and their dependents are entitled to. These benefits include:

- ✚ Continuation of Tricare health benefits
- ✚ Continuation in the EFMP Program and retain access to Tricare ECHO
- ✚ Increased Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)
- ✚ Uniformed Service Identification and Privileges Card

For an incapacitated child over the age of 21 to be considered as a dependent –

- ✚ Must be unmarried
- ✚ Be continuously incapable of self-support due to medical or physical incapacity prior to his/her 21st birthday
- ✚ Income, not including contributions, must be less than one-half the living expenses.
- ✚ Service members contribution must be more than one-half the dependents monthly living expense (Documentation to prove living expenses and contributions must be provided)

Documents Required When Completing Secondary Dependency Application

- ✚ DD Form 137-3 - Dependency Statement - incapacitated child over 21 (A notary seal/signature is required on this document)
- ✚ Medical Sufficiency Letter
- ✚ Verification of income
- ✚ Proof of support: If the dependent **DOES NOT** reside with the service member one or more of the following additional proof of support is required:
 - ✚ Ad (discretionary) allotment for dependent or the court-appointed custodian – provide a copy of LES

- + Cancelled checks
- + Money Orders
- + Electronic transfers
- + Copies of bills paid on dependents behalf
- + If dependent owns or rents own residence, copies of lies or mortgage statement can be included

Additional Requirements by Branch:

- + **Navy** – Relationship documents, copy of NAVPERS 1070/602 (DEERS – for Active Duty Only), DD1172-2 (Application for Identification Card)
- + **Marines** – NAVMC Form 10922 – Dependency Application (signed by attesting officer)
- + **Air Force** – AF Form 594 (Application & Authorization to start, stop, change BAQ), DFAS Form 1856 (statement of understanding BAQ), relationship documents, DD1172-2(Application for Identification Card)
- + **Army** – Relationship documents, DD1172-2 (Application for Identification Card)

Final Considerations

- + The Personnel or Finance Office will assist with the application process and answer questions regarding secondary dependency
- + Review all instructions and document requirements for the specific branch of military affiliated with:
<http://www.dfas.mil/militarymembers/SecondaryDependency/SDC.html>
- + Ensure that all applications are sent to the appropriate DFAS Office

RESOURCES

- + Defense Finance and Accounting Services:
<http://www.dfas.mil/militarymembers/SecondaryDependency/SDC.html>
- + Secondary Dependency FAQs:
http://www.dfas.mil/militarymembers/SecondaryDependency/SDC/SDC_FAQ.html



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