

# Dependant's Pension (Scheme One)

**As the dependant of a veteran whose death or severe disablement is service-related, you may qualify for this support payment.**

## Qualifying

You must be a veteran's dependant—or have been, in the period just before their death. You can't be their spouse or partner.

If living, the veteran must be on either:

- Disablement Pension of at least 52%
- War Disablement Pension of at least 70%.

If the veteran has passed away, one of these must apply:

- death is service-related
- veteran at time of death got (or could have got) Disablement Pension of at least 52%
- veteran at time of death got (or could have got) War Disablement Pension of at least 70%.

## **Dependant under 18**

If under 18, you're the veteran's dependant if you:

- usually live with them; and
- mainly rely on them for financial support.

You can't be their child, but might be their grandchild or other relation (such as whāngai).

## **Dependant 18 or older**

If aged 18-plus, and not the veteran's child, you're their dependant if:

- in their care and usually living with them; and
- unable to live independently, due to disability, illness or old age.

If aged 18-plus, and a child of the veteran, you're their dependant if:

- in their care; and
- unable to live independently due to infirmity (mind or body).

## Getting paid

Rate of payment may be reduced by other income (yours or your partners).

Payment is made tax-free, but other agencies (New Zealand or overseas) may treat it as income. If unsure, please check with the agency itself.

## Ongoing entitlement

Entitlement is from day we got your application, unless:

- the veteran has passed away; and
- we got your application within 6 months after their death.

In that case, entitlement is from day of the veteran's death.

Entitlement ends if the veteran's (War) Disablement Pension falls below the threshold level. Otherwise, it ends 28 days after your death, or in the following situations.

## **Dependant under 18**

If you're under 18, and the veteran's living, entitlement ends once you stop living with them or relying on their financial support.

Once you turn 18, entitlement ends unless you're still in the veteran's care due to illness or disability (or would be, but for their death).

## **Dependant 18 or older**

If you're aged 18-plus, and not the veteran's child, entitlement ends once you:

- stop living with the veteran or leave their care (while they're still living); or
- are no longer barred from independent living by your illness or disability.

If you're the veteran's child it ends once you leave their care, or are no longer barred from independent living by infirmity.

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