DEPENDENCY COMPENSATION AWARDS TRAINEE HANDOUTS

DEPENDENCY FOR COMPENSATION AWARDS TRAINEE HANDOUTS

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References

- □ <u>38 CFR 3.1(j)</u>, Definitions, Marriage
- □ <u>38 CFR 3.4(b)(2)</u>, Compensation, An additional amount of compensation
- □ <u>38 CFR 3.50</u>, Spouse and surviving spouse
- □ <u>38 CFR 3.57</u>, Child
- □ <u>38 CFR 3.204</u>, Evidence of dependents and age
- □ <u>38 CFR 3.210</u>, Child's relationship
- □ <u>38 CFR 3.31</u>, Effective Dates
- a <u>38 CFR 3.401(b)</u>, Veterans, Dependent, additional compensation or pension for
- □ <u>38 CFR 3.403(a)(5)</u>, School Attendance
- **38 CFR 3.315**, Basic eligibility determinations; dependents, loans, education
- a <u>38 CFR 3.660,</u> Dependency, income and estate
- □ M21-1MR III.iii, *Dependency*
- □ M21-1MR III.iii.5, Relationship and Dependency
- M21-1MR III.iii.5.F.35.c, Determining the Proper Effective Date for Adding a Dependent
- M21-1MR III.iii.6, School Attendance
- Description: M21-1MR III.iii.7, A Child's Permanent Incapacity for Self-Support
- M21-1MR III.v.2, Award and Denial Authorization & Notification
- □ M21-1MR III.iii.5.F.36, Adjustments Due to Loss of a Dependent

The Veteran must have at least a 30% combined evaluation due to serviceconnected disabilities before dependency becomes an issue for compensation claims.

Spouse of Veteran (Dependency assumed)

<u>38 CFR 3.50(a)</u>, <u>38 CFR 3.1(j)</u>

Children of Veteran (Dependency assumed)

General <u>38 CFR 3.57</u>, Legitimate vs. Illegitimate <u>38 CFR 3.210</u>

- □ Biological child 38 <u>CFR 3.57(a)</u>
- □ Stepchild <u>38 CFR 3.57(b)</u>
- □ Adopted child <u>38 CFR 3.57(c)</u>

Additional subcategories

- □ Helpless children <u>38 CFR 3.57(a)(1)(ii)</u>
- □ School children <u>38 CFR 3.667</u>

Parents of Veteran (Dependency assumed)

- □ Parent of Veteran <u>38 CFR 3.59(a)</u>
- □ Foster Relationship <u>38 CFR 3.59(b)</u>

Examples of those who cannot be considered dependents:

- Foster children of veteran
- Grandchildren of veteran
- Mother or Father In-Law
- Ex-spouses of veteran
- Stepchild When no longer a member of the Veterans home (exceptions may apply)

Adding Dependents to a Veterans Corporate Record

We can add the dependents to the Corporate Record by selecting the "Dependents" option from the Available Processes menu that is found on the left side of the Share VBA Ready Screen



Select "Add" to continue

edit or remove any d	lependent lis	sted below, please take ap	propriate award action.			
irst Name	MI	Last Name	Relationship	Date of Birth	SSN	Proof of Dependency Date of De
Add	difu	Delete Belationship to	Claimant			
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irst Name	M	Last Name	Helationship	Date of Birth	55N	Proof of Dependency Date of De
	1					6.4x 000x

Select dependent from dropdown, input details - then select "Update"

👹 Dependents							×
To edit or remove any depen	dent lis	ted below, please take appropria	ate award action.				
First Name	MI	Last Name	Relationship	Date of Birth	SSN	Proof of Dependency	Date of Death
▼							Þ
Add <u>M</u> odfy		Delete Relationship to Claima	rt.				
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	_	TAMPA		FL	I.1.1		•
SSN SSN	Verified	I? Proof of Dependence Y Y	Gender Rel Vet Female	ate to eran? Ca	incej	Jgdate	Clear
Close					Aub	668sc A	uto 674

Select "OK" – then select "Close" if all dependents are added or select "Add" for additional dependents and follow previous two steps above until all are added

👹 Dependents							2
To edit or remove an	y dependent lis	ted below, please	take approp	iate award action.			
First Name	M	Last Name		Relationship	Date of Birth	SSN	Proof of Dependency Date of Death
•							<u>></u>
Add First Name ANNA	Modify MI	Delate Relative Share	SHR [)EP 08: Dep	endent updat	e successful	Proof of Dependency Date of Death Y
Close							Auto 685c Auto 674

This process is only to add the dependents into the Corporate Record. If an award was to be generated without any further action the dependent(s) would not be added

to the award. That action will be done once we go into the VBMS-A system and add the dependent(s) on to the actual award

To ensure the dependents have been added to the Corporate Record, from the VBA Ready Screen, input the claim number - select "Search All in List" and Submit. From the screen shown below you will double click on the Corporate Record:



Person Information - \	₩ashington						_ 🗆 ×
ile Help							
Person Military Clai	ms/ Award/ PreCon ials Batings Moster	File Nbr 60 370 100	SSN	Name	JONES, INDEPE	DENCE	
Perso	n	Non - C&P Addre	BSSBS		All R Click Line	elationships to View De) Itails
Name	File Numbe	r Relationship	Award Ind	DOB	SSN	DOD	Gender
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	Salact the "Al	Palationshins" tab	and				
	Select the Al	r Kelationships tau					
Person Details	see that the de	pendent spouse has					
Name	been added to	the Corporate Reco	ord	Verificat	ion		
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J							

Dependency - Add spouse

As with every dependency action, you will need to add the reported family member to the Corporate Record before attempting to pay for the dependent in VBMS-A.

Select Dependency in the column of decision screens to open the Dependency decision screen.

ecord Decisions								
🚖 Main	Show Only Decisions Pert	nent to This Benefit:						
Allotments	Compensation							
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1. Select the **Add** button.

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Institutionalizations	0		04/23/2014	minor childtwo	Not an Award Dependent	05/01/2015	04/01/2015	School Attendance Terminates	Child	663258943	01/02/1996		Delete
Military Eligibility	0		05/13/2014	minor childfour	Minor Child	01/01/2014	12/15/2013	Eligible Minor Child	Child	225381121	08/15/2005		Undo
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Dation	0		05/28/2014	minor childfive	Minor Child	02/01/2014	01/01/2014	Eligible Minor Child	Child	662553223	01/01/2005		
Fraud	0		05/28/2014	minor childfive	Not an Award Dependent	06/01/2016	05/01/2016	School Attendance Terminates	Child	662553223	01/01/2005		
	0		05/28/2014	minor childfive	School Child	01/01/2023	01/01/2023	School Attendance Begins	Child	662553223	01/01/2005		
	0		08/08/2014	spouse man	Spouse	02/01/2014	01/05/2014	Dependency Established	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980		
	0		08/08/2014	spouse man	Not an Award Dependent	07/01/2014	06/02/2014	Marriage Terminated	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980		
	0		09/18/2014	minor child	Minor Child	05/15/2005	05/15/2005	Eligible Minor Child	Child	332522141	01/02/1996		
		_							~~~				

2. Select the **Person** for whom a dependency decision will be made.

The system will list all dependents that have been previously established as family members through Share or Participant Profile.

The personal information will be automatically populated based on the information entered into the Corporate Record.

ary Payment Info	O	05/13/2014	minor childfour	Not an Award Dependent	08/15/2023	08/15/2023	Turns 18	Child	225381121	08/15/2005	History
	0	05/28/2014	minor childfive	Minor Child	02/01/2014	01/01/2014	Eligible Minor Child	Child	662553223	01/01/2005	
d	O	05/28/2014	minor childfive	Not an Award Dependent	06/01/2016	05/01/2016	School Attendance Terminates	Child	662553223	01/01/2005	
	O	05/28/2014	minor childfive	School Child	01/01/2023	01/01/2023	School Attendance Begins	Child	662553223	01/01/2005	
	O	08/08/2014	spouse man	Spouse	02/01/2014	01/05/2014	Dependency Established	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980	
	O	08/08/2014	spouse man	Not an Award Dependent	07/01/2014	06/02/2014	Marriage Terminated	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980	
	0	09/18/2014	minor child	Minor Child	05/15/2005	05/15/2005	Eligible Minor Child	Child	332522141	01/02/1996	
	O	09/18/2014	minor child	Not an Award Dependent	01/02/2014	01/02/2014	Turns 18	Child	332522141	01/02/1996	
	O	09/18/2014	minor childthree	Minor Child	06/01/2005	05/15/2005	Eligible Minor Child	Child	336625912	01/02/1996	
	۲	09/18/2014	minor childthree	Not an Award Dependent	01/02/2014	01/02/2014	Tums 18	Child	336625912	01/02/1996	
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	E minor o	child	Award Status	5		Decision			Award Effective	Date	
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	minor o	childthree									

- 3. If the person does not have a SSN assigned or is a foreign national, select the reason that no SSN exists.
- 4. Enter the **Event Date**. In this case we are working on an original award and will use the effective date of the rating, 09/01/2010.
- 5. Select the Award Status of Spouse.
- 6. Select the **Decision** of Dependency Established.
- Once the Decision is selected, the system will automatically record the Award Effective Date. This field can be modified if needed, but should be the 1st of the month following the Event Date.
- 8. Select the **Accept** button to update the grid.
- 9. Select the **Done** button to save the decision and close the screen.

	4		Done 5		Retu	m to 1	ons		7		
	07/09/20)13	Spouse			Dependency	Established		08/01/2013	ard Effective Date	
	Event Da	ite	Award Status	5	ا ا	Decision		A	ward Effective I	Date	
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	0	09/18/2014	minor child	Minor Child	05/15/2005	05/15/2005	Eligible Minor Child	Child	332522141	01/02/1996	
	0	08/08/2014	spouse man	Not an Award	07/01/2014	06/02/2014	Established Marriage Terminated	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980	
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,,	0	05/28/2014	minor childfive	Minor Child	02/01/2014	01/01/2014	Eligible Minor	Child	662553223	01/01/2005	

Dependency - Add a minor child

As with every dependency action, you will need to add the reported family member to the Corporate Record before attempting to pay for the dependent in VBMS-A.

Select Dependency in the column of decision screens to open the Dependency decision screen.

☆ V	• /			_	Veter	an: Any Wo Man SSN: 488888881	File Number: 4888888881 Compensation	on/Pension Li
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Award Adjustments	/							
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Dependency	Available Claims:				Selected Claims:			
Dependency	Claim Types 🔺	Name	Claim Date	•	Claim Types	Name	Claim Date	÷
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	Revert to Last Auth Award	Priors	Return to All Awards					

- 1. Select the **Add** button.
- 2. Select the **Person** for whom a dependency decision will be made.

The system will list all dependents that have been previously established as family members through Share or Participant Profile. In this case, Jimmy Jones is a minor child of the Veterans.

The Relationship Type, Date of Birth, and SSN information will be automatically populated based on the information entered into the Corporate Record through Share or Participant Profile.

- /																
Dependency	Select	÷	Decision Date	Person 🔺	Award Status	Award Eff. Dt.	Event Date	ŧ	Decision 4	Relationship	\$ SSN	ŧ	Date of Birth \$	File Number 🜲	bbA	-
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Military Eligibility	O	0	15/13/2014	minor childfour	Minor Child	01/01/2014	12/15/2013		Eligible Minor Child	Child	225381121		08/15/2005		Undo	
Military Payment Info	O	0	5/13/2014	minor childfour	Not an Award Dependent	08/15/2023	08/15/2023		Tums 18	Child	225381121		08/15/2005		History	
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	O	0	8/08/2014	spouse man	Spouse	02/01/2014	01/05/2014		Dependency Established	Spouse	665289921		01/01/1980			
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	0	08/08/2014	spouse man	Not an Award Dependent	07/01/2014	06/02/2014	Marriage Terminated	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980	
	0	09/18/2014	minor child	Minor Child	05/15/2005	05/15/2005	Eligible Minor Child	Child	332522141	01/02/1996	
	0	09/18/2014	minor child	Not an Award Dependent	01/02/2014	01/02/2014	Turns 18	Child	332522141	01/02/1996	
	0	09/18/2014	minor childthree	Minor Child	06/01/2005	05/15/2005	Eligible Minor Child	Child	336625912	01/02/1996	
	0	09/18/2014	minor childthree	Not an Award Dependent	01/02/2014	01/02/2014	Turns 18	Child	336625912	01/02/1996	
	۲	10/02/2014	spouse man	Spouse	08/01/2013	07/09/2013	Dependency Established	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980	
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\odot	05/28/2014	minor childfive	School Child	01/01/2023	01/01/2023	School Attendance	Child	662553223	01/01/2005	
O	08/06/2014	spouse man	Spouse	02/01/2014	01/05/2014	Dependency Established	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980	
O	08/08/2014	spouse man	Not an Award Dependent	07/01/2014	06/02/2014	Marriage Terminated	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980	
O	09/18/2014	minor child	Minor Child	05/15/2005	05/15/2005	Eligible Minor Child	Child	332522141	01/02/1996	
0	09/18/2014	minor child	Not an Award Dependent	01/02/2014	01/02/2014	Turns 18	Child	332522141	01/02/1996	
O	09/18/2014	minor childthree	Minor Child	06/01/2005	05/15/2005	Eligible Minor Child	Child	336625912	01/02/1996	
O	09/18/2014	minor childthree	Not an Award Dependent	01/02/2014	01/02/2014	Turns 18	Child	336625912	01/02/1996	
۲	10/02/2014	spouse man	Spouse	08/01/2013	07/09/2013	Dependency Established	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980	
Depend Persor	ency Decisions: n	Relations	hip Date	of Birth	File Numl	per SSN	F	Reason for No	SSN	Accept
mino	r child	Child	01/	02/1996	—	33252	22141		-	Abandon
Event	Date	Award Status	5		Decision		A	ward Effective	Date	
09/01	/2011	Minor Child		•	Eligible Mino	r Child	•	10/01/2011		6
3		Done		Retu	urn to Record De	ecsions				

- 3. Enter the **Event Date**. In this case we will use the effective date of 09/01/2011.
- 4. Select the Award Status of Minor Child.
- 5. Select the **Decision** of Eligible Minor Child.
- 6. Once the Decision is selected, the system will automatically record the **Award Effective Date**. This field can be modified if needed.
- 7. Select the **Accept** button to update the grid.
- 8. Select the **Done** button to save the decision and close the screen.

Note that the system will automatically add a line to remove the minor child on their 18th birthday.

Dependency – Change minor child to school child or add a school child

For a situation where a minor child was already an award dependent through the 18th birthday and is now attending college, it may be necessary to pay the additional minor child benefit through the end of the month in which the child turned 18.

Select the Dependency button in the column of decision screen buttons to open the Dependency decision screen.

1

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	Generate Award	Review Current/Proposed	Suspend/Resume	Awa	ard History		Decision History	Diaries		
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Dependency and Compensation



Dependency and Compensation

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Dependency and Compensation

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There will now be three lines for the dependent in the grid. One for the original add date, one for the change of status from a minor child to a school child, and one for the removal from the award for either school ending or turning 23.

Select "Done" to save the decision.

Dependency – Adding school child

Because adding a school child is basically the same as changing to a school child it was not included as a separate step-by-step action.

- 1. Select Add button and select **Person** to add as a school child.
- 2. Fill in Dependency Decisions section (**Event Date** is date school attendance begins; **Award Status** is school child, etc...then select Accept)
- 3. Select Ok on pop-up message; then input the date school attendance terminates and select Accept button)
- 4. Screen will look the same as above "except" it will not have the Minor Child line

Dependency - Add a helpless child

- 1. Before adding a helpless child through the dependency screen, first check to make sure that there is a rating decision to support the payment.
- 2. Select the **Rating** button on the Record Decisions screen.
- 3. View the Family Member Ratings tab.
- 4. A helpless child decision should display as shown below.
- 5. Select Return to Record Decisions to get out of Rating screen

d Decisions - Ratin	g				K		
Main	Combined Rating Award	Disability Decisions	Other Decisions	SMC Decisions	Family Member Rating	Death Decisions	
ments	Competency						
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ions	Other (Helpless Child, Spouse	/Parent, A&A)					
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Dependency and Compensation

Select the Dependency button in the row of decision screen buttons to open the Dependency decision screen.

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- 1. Select the **Add** button.
- 2. Select the **Person** for whom the dependency decision will be made.

The system will automatically populate Dependency Decisions section based on the information previously entered in the Corporate Record.

- 3. Enter the **Event Date**. In this case we are working a helpless child rating and will use the effective date of the rating, 07/04/2006.
- 4. Select the Award Status of Helpless Child.
- 5. Select the **Decision** of Rated Helpless.
- 6. Once the Decision is selected, the system will automatically record the **Award Effective Date**. This field can be modified if needed.
- 7. Select the Accept button to update the grid.
- 8. Select the **Done** button to save the decision and close the screen.

pendency	Select	Decision Date	Person 🔺	Award Status \$	Award Eff. Dt. 🔺	Event Date	Decision	Relationship	¢ SSN ¢	Date of Birth \$	File Number \$	· · · · ·
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1	0	08/08/2014	spouse man	Spouse	02/01/2014	01/05/2014	Dependency Established	Spouse	665289921	01/01/1980		
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	0	09/18/2014	minor child	Not an Award Dependent	01/02/2014	01/02/2014	Turns 18	Child	332522141	01/02/1996		
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Dependency - Helpless child attends school

For compensation, a greater rate is payable if a helpless child attends an approved school after age 18. To pay the additional benefit while the child is in school, complete the following steps on the Dependency decision screen.

- 1. Select the **Add** button.
- 2. Select the helpless child under **Person**.
- 3. Enter the **Event Date** equal to; the first day of school attendance after turning18, or the 18th birthday if attending school when they turn age 18.
- 4. Select the Award Status of School Child.
- 5. Select the **Decision** of School Attendance Begins.
- 6. Once the Decision is selected, the system will automatically record the **Award Effective Date**. This field can be modified if needed.

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	٥	04/25/2014	Helpless childtwo	Helpless Child	11/01/2013	10/01/2013	Rated Helpless	Child	663828193	01/01/1994		Edit
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7. Select the Accept button.

8. A prompt will display to notify that the school termination date must be entered.

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- 9. Enter the date the child is expected to graduate in the **Event Date** field
- 10. The system will automatically input the first of the following month as the **Award Effective Date**.

Note: if the school attendance continued beyond the child's 23rd birthday, the system would automatically input the 23rd birthday.

Unfortunately, if you were to stop here, the system would stop paying for the child <u>entirely</u>– (See next page).

To continue paying for the child at the helpless rate:

- 11. Select the data line indicating the dependent is no longer an award dependent.
- 12. Select the **Edit** button.
- 13. Change the Award Status to Helpless Child.
- 14. Change the **Decision** to Rated Helpless.
- 15. Change the Event Date and **Awd Eff Dt** to the 23rd birthday (or date school attendance terminates if the child is under age 23.
- 16. Select Accept to update the grid.
- 17. Select **Done** to save the decision and close the screen.

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Dependency - Add spouse aid & attendance

Before paying the additional amount for Aid and Attendance for a spouse, first check to make sure that there is a rating decision to support the payment.

- 1. Select the **Rating** button.
- 2. View the Family Member Ratings tab.

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On the Dependency screen:

- 1. Select the Add button.
- 2. Select the spouse from the **Person** drop down menu.
- 3. Enter the **Event Date** which should be equal to the effective date of A&A per the rating decision.
- 4. Select the **Status** of AA Spouse.
- 5. Select the **Decision** of Rated A&A.
- 6. Once the Decision is selected, the system will automatically record the **Award Effective Date**. This field can be modified if needed but should be the first of the month following A&A grant.
- 7. Select the Accept button to update the grid.
- 8. Select the **OK** button to save the decision and close the screen.

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Dependency and Compensation

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The screen is shown below after adding the Aid and Attendance decision.

Variation:

If A&A had been granted back to the date the spouse was added to the award (in this case the original date of claim), it would be necessary to select the line establishing the spouse followed by the **Edit** button to change the **Award Status** to A&A spouse and the **Decision** to Rated A&A.

Dependency – Remove a Dependent

Remove any dependent from the initial eligibility date:

To remove a dependent effective the date they were initially added to the award, use the following steps on the Dependency screen:

- 1. Select the line in the grid that initially established the dependent
- 2. Select the **Delete** button.
- 3. Select the Accept button.
- 4. Select **Yes** to the prompt displayed to confirm the decision to delete the decision.
- 5. Select **Done** to save the decision and close the screen.

Remove spouse or helpless child dependent after the initial eligibility date:

- 1. To remove a dependent spouse after the initial eligibility date for the dependency:
- 2. Select the **Add** button.
- 3. Select the spouse or helpless child from the **Person** drop-down menu.
- 4. Select the Award Status of Not an Award Dependent.
- 5. Select the **Decision** that supports removing the dependent.
- 6. Enter the **Award Effective Date** that the dependent is to be removed from the award.
- 7. Select **Accept** to update the grid.
- 8. Select **Done** to save the decision and close the screen.

Remove minor child or school child dependent after the initial eligibility date:

To remove a dependent child after the initial eligibility date for the dependent but prior to the established end date (age 18, end of school attendance):

- 1. Select the line in the grid that removes the award dependent.
- 2. Select the **Edit** button.
- 3. Record the **Event Date**.
- 4. Update the Award Status.
- 5. Select the **Decision** that supports removing the dependent.
- 6. Record the Award Effective Date.
- 7. Select **Accept** to update the grid.
- 8. Select **Done** to save the decision and close the screen.