Pension and fiduciary service

PMC VSR Advanced Core Course  
Phase 6: Practical Application and Experience

Process Parents’ DIC Claims

**Appendix A**

June 2024

Example Claim 1 Practice Exercise

**Directions**: Review the example claim. Use the job aids listed on the trainee guide to help you answer the questions. **Provide a rationale for each answer.**

On November 03, 2021, VA receives a VA Form 21P-535, from the surviving mother of Bill Veteran. Susan, the mother, indicates she is the only surviving parent and she is not married. The application claims the Veteran served honorably in the Army from 4/14/52 until 4/15/54. Her only income is $250 monthly in Social Security retirement income.

Evidence was submitted with the application for benefits including a copy of the Veteran’s death certificate showing he passed away from ALS. A copy of the Veteran’s DD Form 214 showing his honorable discharge from the Army on 4/15/54 was also received. FTI and SSA confirm the income report.

1. Is there sufficient information to decide the claim?
2. Does the claim require a rating decision?
3. Does Susan qualify for Parents DIC, and if so, what rate would she receive?

Example Claim 2 Practice Exercise

**Directions**: Review the example claim. Use the job aids listed on the trainee guide to help you answer the questions. **Provide a rationale for each answer.**

On May 09, 2021, VA receives a VA Form 21P-535, from the surviving father of Kris Veteran. Jerry, the father, checked only DIC and did not indicate whether or not he is married or the status of the mother. The application claims the Veteran served honorably in the Navy from 09/02/52 until 09/02/74. His only income is $300 monthly in Social Security retirement income, $ 2,200 monthly retirement income, and $6,000 annual IRA distributions.

Evidence was submitted with the application for benefits including a copy of the Veteran’s death certificate showing he passed away from CAD. A copy of the Veteran’s DD Form 214 showing his honorable discharge from the Navy on 09/02/74 was also received. FTI and SSA confirm the income report.

1. Is there sufficient information to decide the claim?
2. Does the claim require a rating decision?
3. Does Jerry qualify for Parents DIC, and what is his income for VA purposes?

Example Claim 3 Practice Exercise

**Directions**: Review the example claim. Use the job aids listed on the trainee guide to help you answer the questions. **Provide a rationale for each answer.**

On April 3, 2021, VA receives a VA Form 21P-535, from the surviving father of Malachi Veteran. Marvin, the father, indicated that the Veteran’s mother died and he has not remarried. The application claims the Veteran served honorably in the Navy from 01/15/87 until 08/22/99. He did not provide an income statement.

Evidence was submitted with the application for benefits including a copy of the Veteran’s death certificate showing he passed away from Sarcoidosis. A copy of the Veteran’s DD Form 214 showing his honorable discharge from the Navy on 08/22/99 was also received.

1. Is there sufficient information to decide the claim?

Example Claim 4 Practice Exercise

**Directions**: Review the example claim. Use the job aids listed on the trainee guide to help you answer the questions. **Provide a rationale for each answer.**

On July 17, 2022, VA receives a VA Form 21P-535, from the surviving mother of Joel Veteran. Linda, the mother, indicates she is the only surviving parent and she is not married. The application claims the Veteran served honorably in the Marine Corp from 02/14/90 until 12/5/95. Her only income is $209 monthly in Social Security retirement income.

Evidence submitted with the application for benefits included DD Form 1300 confirming the Veteran died in service. A review of the file confirms the claimed service and shows the mother once received benefits in the 1980s but hasn’t in many years. FTI and SSA confirm the spouse’s income report.

1. Is there sufficient information to decide the claim?
2. Does the claim require a rating decision?

Example Claim 5 Practice Exercise

**Directions**: Review the example claim. Use the job aids listed on the trainee guide to help you answer the questions. **Provide a rationale for each answer.**

On October 10, 2021, VA receives a VA Form 21P-535, from the father of Justin Veteran. James, the father, indicated that the Veteran’s mother died and he has not remarried. An application was received by Kareem, claiming to have been the stepfather of the Veteran and having been the last person to have acted as the father of the Veteran. Both submitted complete income statements.

Evidence was submitted with the application for benefits including a copy of the Veteran’s death certificate showing he passed away from Liver disease. A copy of the Veteran’s DD Form 214 showing his honorable discharge from the Air Force on 05/07/99 was also received.

1. Is there sufficient information to decide the claim?