



COMDTINST 6010.4  
23 MARCH 2015

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 6010.4

Subj: SPECIAL COMPENSATION FOR ASSISTANCE WITH ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING (SCAADL)

- Ref: (a) Section 439 of title 37, United States Code  
 (b) Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living (SCAADL), DoDI 1341.12  
 (c) Physical Disability Evaluation System, COMDTINST 1850.2 (series)  
 (d) Administrative Investigations Manual, COMDTINST M5830.1 (series)

1. PURPOSE. The statutory authority (Reference (a)) for payment of Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living (SCAADL) to eligible Active Duty (AD) and Reserve Component personnel is implemented by Reference (b). SCAADL is a voluntary special monthly compensation paid to service members who incur a permanent catastrophic injury or illness. SCAADL helps offset the economic burden borne by requiring a caregiver to provide non-medical care, support, and assistance for eligible members of the military. In order to qualify for SCAADL, a service member must have a permanent, catastrophic injury or illness incurred or aggravated in the line of duty and need assistance from another person to perform the personal functions required in everyday living, or require constant supervision. The policy is not retroactive and this program is voluntary for members.
2. ACTION. All Coast Guard unit commanders, commanding officers, officers-in-charge, deputy/assistant commandants, and chiefs of headquarters staff elements will comply with the provisions of this Instruction. Internet release is authorized.
3. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. None.
4. DISCLAIMER. This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule. It is intended to provide operational guidance for Coast Guard personnel and is not intended to nor does it impose legally-binding requirements on any party outside of the Coast Guard.

DISTRIBUTION – SDL No. 165

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NON-STANDARD DISTRIBUTION:

5. IMPACT ASSESSMENT. Commanding Officers will ensure awareness of the availability of SCAADL compensation. Coast Guard Personnel Service Command (PSC) will determine threshold eligibility, review applications and compute compensation for SCAADL.
  
6. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS.
  - a. The development of this Instruction and the general policies contained within it have been thoroughly reviewed by the originating office in conjunction with the Office of Environmental Management, and are categorically excluded (CE) under current USCG CE #1 from further environmental analysis, in accordance with Section 2.B.2. and Figure 2-1 of the National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures and Policy for Considering Environmental Impacts, COMDTINST M16475.1 (series). Because this Instruction contains guidance on, and provisions for, compliance with applicable environmental mandates, Coast Guard categorical exclusion #33 is appropriate.
  - b. This directive will not have any of the following: significant cumulative impacts on the human environment; substantial controversy or substantial change to existing environmental conditions; or inconsistencies with any Federal, State, or local laws or administrative determinations relating to the environment. All future specific actions resulting from the general policies in this Instruction must be individually evaluated for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Coast Guard NEPA policy, and compliance with all other environmental guidance provided within it for compliance with all applicable environmental laws prior to promulgating any directive. All applicable environmental considerations are addressed appropriately in this Instruction.
  
7. DISTRIBUTION. No paper distribution will be made of this Instruction. An electronic version will be located on the following Commandant (CG-612) web sites. Internet: <http://www.uscg.mil/directives/>, Intranet: <http://cgweb.comdt.uscg.mil/CGDirectives/Welcome.htm>, and CGPortal: <https://cgportal2.uscg.mil/library/directives/SitePages/Home.aspx>.
  
8. RECORDS MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS. This Instruction has been evaluated for potential records management impacts. The development of this Instruction has been thoroughly reviewed during the directives clearance process, and it has been determined there are records scheduling requirements, in accordance with Federal Records Act, 44 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) requirements, and the Information and Life Cycle Management Manual, COMDTINST M5212.12 (series). This policy does not have any significant or substantial change to existing records management requirements.
  
9. RESPONSIBILITIES.
  - a. Commandant (CG-1). Is the appeal authority for this Commandant Instruction. PSC-psd will forward (via email or interagency mail) all appeal packages to Commandant (CG-1).
  - b. Commanding Officers will:
    - (1) Collaborate with the Navy Safe Harbor non-medical case managers, primary care managers (PCMs), Health, Safety, and Work-Life Service Center (HSWL SC) medical case managers and unit leadership to identify Coast Guard members

under their command who are likely to be eligible for SCAADL (e.g., members undergoing a medical board).

- (2) Ensure the appropriate notification processes for wounded, injured or ill Coast Guard members are followed (e.g. inpatient hospitalization notifications). Wounded, injured or ill Coast Guard members or their legally designated guardians or legal representatives, and their families will be made aware of the potential availability of SCAADL compensation by Navy Safe Harbor non-medical case managers, PCMs and HSWL SC medical cases managers.

c. Members will:

- (1) Apply for SCAADL (if eligible). An application must consist of the Coast Guard member's written request (via email or first class mail) to Commander, Coast Guard Personnel Service Command (PSC-psd) for SCAADL, Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living Eligibility, DD Form 2948 and supporting medical documentation.
- (2) Notify (via email or phone) PSC-psd if their ability to manage their activities of daily living (ADL) worsens or improves. Member must notify (via email or phone) PSC-psd if they have been hospitalized for over one week. Failure to comply may result in the termination of compensation.
- (3) Not designate another military member as their primary caregiver for the purpose of receiving SCAADL.
- (4) Notify PSC-psd if they no longer meet eligibility requirements.
- (5) Keep PSC-psd updated with contact information following any change of residency or primary phone number.

d. Coast Guard Personnel Service Command (PSC) as delegated to PSC-psd will:

- (1) Ensure that the member has a medical board initiated in accordance with Reference (c).
- (2) Retain a copy of the Coast Guard member's completed application (Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living Eligibility, DD Form 2948 and supporting medical documentation) in an appropriate system of records.
- (3) Determine threshold eligibility. Upon receipt of a request from a Coast Guard member (or from his/her guardian or designated representative) to participate in the SCAADL program, PSC-psd will verify member's status (via DEERS) and determine the Coast Guard member's threshold eligibility for SCAADL by verifying that the Coast Guard member meets all the criteria. If the Coast Guard member does not meet the threshold eligibility requirements, PSC-psd must inform the Coast Guard member in writing (via email or first class mail) about his/her ineligibility and the procedures for appealing PSC's determination. The following criteria must be met for eligibility:
  - (a) The member has a permanent, catastrophic injury or illness in accordance with the definition in the Glossary of Reference (b). Written verification

must be obtained from a licensed DoD, VA or Coast Guard physician. Annual recertification must be completed by the licensed DoD, VA or Coast Guard physician.

- (b) The member needs assistance from another person to perform the personal functions required in everyday living or requires constant supervision and, in the absence of such care, would require hospitalization, nursing home care or other residential institutional care.
  - (c) The permanent catastrophic injury(ies) or illness(es) were incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in accordance with Reference (d).
  - (d) The member is an outpatient and no longer determined to be an inpatient at a military treatment facility, Veterans Administration (VA) medical center, civilian hospital, nursing home or other residential institutional care facility. Although individuals may be temporarily placed in an inpatient status during a given month for tests, examinations or treatment, they are eligible for the full monthly SCAADL payment provided they are in outpatient status for the majority of the month (more than 15 days). If the member is an inpatient for 16 or more days in a given month, the amount of compensation for that month will be prorated based on the number of days he/she is an inpatient, and a redetermination will be conducted to determine continued SCAADL eligibility.
  - (e) The member has designated a primary caregiver to provide nonmedical care, support and assistance with at least one of the activities of daily living as set forth in Reference (b). The primary caregiver may not be a member of the military.
  - (f) The member is not receiving any of the following:
    - 1) outpatient or in-home services to assist with activities of daily living or supervision to avoid harm to self or others from another Federal agency;
    - 2) a monthly caregiver stipend (paid directly to the member's primary caregiver) from the VA pursuant to Title 39, Sec 1720G as codified by the United States Code; or
    - 3) in-home assistance with activities of daily living (custodial care) paid with supplemental health care program funds and provided by a TRICARE-authorized home health agency.
  - (g) While receiving SCAADL, the member's primary caregiver is eligible to receive the respite benefit if qualified under TRICARE Operations Manual, 6010.51-M. Coast Guard members receiving other home health services under the TRICARE home health benefit remain eligible for SCAADL.
- (4) Review the Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living Eligibility, DD Form 2948. The Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living Eligibility, DD Form 2948 will be completed and certified by a DoD, VA or Coast Guard physician based on input from other sources as appropriate. Will ensure Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information is protected/safeguarded in accordance with the Department of Homeland

Security Handbook for Safeguarding Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information.

- (5) Approve or disapprove the application. Upon PSC's verification of all information, the member's application is complete and PSC will recommend its approval. PSC must disapprove the application if the member does not meet the required eligibility criteria.
  - (6) Compute compensation. After recommending approval of the application, PSC will compute the amount of monthly compensation the member is entitled to in accordance with Paragraph 5 of Reference (b), using information drawn from the member's complete application and the SCAADL Calculator (<http://militarypay.defense.gov/Tools/scaadlintro.html>). PSC will take care to ensure that the tier rating used in the calculation is consistent with the dependence level identified on the Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living Eligibility, DD Form 2948. PSC will retain the computation from the SCAADL Calculator with the application materials, either by printing the screen or otherwise documenting the results. PSC will forward (via first class mail) a copy of the complete application and the payment computation from the SCAADL Calculator to PPC.
    - (a) Per Reference (b), the amount of compensation for each member will be based on a three-tier system recognizing the variation in complexity of care required by the member and provided by the caregiver. The compensation matrix consists of three tiers based upon a clinical determination of the number of ADL needs of the member and the hours required by a caregiver to perform each ADL or significant mental health or behavior impairment of the Service member requiring continuous supervision. The member's DoD, VA or Coast Guard physician will utilize Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living Eligibility, DD Form 2948 to determine the level of dependency based on the degree to which the member is unable to perform one or more ADLs or the degree to which the member is in need of supervision or protection based on the symptoms or residuals of neurological or other impairment or injury. Based on the clinical evaluation and score, the member will be rated as follows:
      - 1) High Tier: Member who scores 21 or higher will be presumed to need a full-time caregiver, one who provides 40 hours of personal care services per week.
      - 2) Medium Tier: Member who scores 13-20 will be presumed to require 25 hours per week of caregiver assistance.
      - 3) Low Tier: Member who scores 1-12 will be presumed to require 10 hours per week of caregiver assistance.
  - (7) Perform periodic reviews of the member's situation to ensure entitlement to benefits from the SCAADL program is authorized.
10. FORMS / REPORTS. The forms referenced in this Instruction are available in USCG Electronic Forms on the Standard Workstation or on the Internet:

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<http://www.uscg.mil/forms/>; CG Portal:  
<https://cgportal2.uscg.mil/library/directives/SitePages/Home.aspx>; and Intranet:  
<http://cgweb.comdt.uscg.mil/CGForms>.

11. REQUEST FOR CHANGES. Units and individuals may recommend changes by writing via first class mail through the chain of command to:

COMMANDANT (CG-112)  
US COAST GUARD STOP 7907  
2703 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR AVE SE  
WASHINGTON DC 20593-7907

D. R. Callahan /s/  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Assistant Commandant of Human Resources