2026 Special Monthly Compensation Rates

Special Monthly Compensation (SMC) is an additional tax-free benefit that can be paid to Veterans, their spouses, surviving spouses and parents. For Veterans, Special Monthly Compensation is a higher rate of compensation paid due to special circumstances such as the need of aid and attendance by another person or a specific disability, such as loss of use of one hand or leg. For spouses and surviving spouses, this benefit is commonly referred to as aid and attendance and is paid based on the need of aid and attendance by another person.

Below is the VA chart for amount paid for different SMC conditions, effective 12/01/2025. When determining the SMC, remember that SMC(K) applies to ratings below 100%, and is added to the compensation award on a per issue basis.

SMC (K) : Loss or use of an extremity or creative organ or buttocks, or blindness in one eye, or mute, or total deaf, or loss of 25% of breast(s), or radiation of breast: $139.87 per issue
SMC (L) : A&A, or both feet, or 1 hand/1 foot, or blind in both eyes, or Bedridden
SMC (L 1/2): Foot or Hand + Other Knee or Other Elbow, or blind + total blind, or blindness + 1 foot
SMC (M) : 2 hands/knees, or elbow + knee, or foot/hand + hip/shoulder, or blind 2 eyes]
SMC (N) : loss/loss of use of 2 arms/legs, or blind w/no light 2 eyes
SMC (N 1/2) : loss/loss of use 1 elbow+1 arm, or blind/lost eyes + 1 foot
SMC (O/P) : 2 or more of above, or [bilateral deafness (SC in at least 1 ear) =>60% and SC blindness], or loss of both arms no prosthetics or [100% SC deafness 1 ear or (1 SC) bilateral hearing =>40% and SC blindness light sensitivity only]
SMC(Q) is a rate last given in 1968 – it is no longer awarded: $67.00
SMC (R.1) : SMC (N/O) + A&A
SMC (R.2) : SMC (O) + needs A&A otherwise they would be in a nursing home/Hospital
SMC (S) : 100% SC + 60% SC, or SC housebound
SMC (T) : TBI AND requires A&A otherwise Hospital AND not SMC(O) qualified

Dependent Status	L	L 1/2	M	M 1/2	N	N 1/2	O/P	R.1	R.2/T	S
Veteran	4,900.83	5,154.00	5,408.55	5,780.00	6,152.64	6,514.00	6,877.12	9,826.88	11,271.67	4,408.53
Veteran with spouse	5,120.42	5,373.59	5,628.14	5,999.59	6,372.23	6,733.59	7,096.71	10,046.47	11,491.26	4,628.12
Veteran with Spouse and One Parent	5,296.66	5,549.83	5,804.38	6,175.83	6,548.47	6,909.83	7,272.95	10,222.71	11,667.50	4,804.36
Veteran with Spouse and Two Parents	5,472.90	5,726.07	5,980.62	6,352.07	6,724.71	7,086.07	7,449.19	10,398.95	11,843.74	4,980.60
Veteran with One Parent	5,077.07	5,330.24	5,584.79	5,956.24	6,328.88	6,690.24	7,053.36	10,003.12	11,447.91	4,584.77
Veteran with Two Parents	5,253.31	5,506.48	5,761.03	6,132.48	6,505.12	6,866.48	7,229.60	10,179.36	11,624.15	4,761.01
Veteran with Spouse and One Child	5,281.24	5,534.41	5,788.96	6,160.41	6,533.05	6,894.41	7,257.53	10,207.29	11,652.08	4,788.94
Veteran with One Child	5,047.68	5,300.85	5,555.40	5,926.85	6,299.49	6,660.85	7,023.97	9,973.73	11,418.52	4,555.38
Veteran with Spouse, One Parent and One Child	5,457.48	5,710.65	5,965.20	6,336.65	6,709.29	7,070.65	7,433.77	10,383.53	11,828.32	4,965.18
Veteran with Spouse, Two Parents and One Child	5,633.72	5,886.89	6,141.44	6,512.89	6,885.53	7,246.89	7,610.01	10,559.77	12,004.56	5,141.42
Veteran with One Parent and One Child	5,223.92	5,477.09	5,731.64	6,103.09	6,475.73	6,837.09	7,200.21	10,149.97	11,594.76	4,731.62
Veteran with Two Parents and One Child	5,400.16	5,653.33	5,907.88	6,279.33	6,651.97	7,376.45	7175.54	10,326.21	11,771.00	4,907.86
Additional A/A spouse (Veteran SC =>30%)	201.41	201.41	201.41	201.41	201.41	201.41	201.41	201.41	201.41	201.41
Add for Each Additional Child Under Age 18	109.11	109.11	109.11	109.11	109.11	109.11	109.11	109.11	109.11	109.11
Each Additional Schoolchild Over Age 18	352.45	352.45	352.45	352.45	352.45	352.45	352.45	352.45	352.45	352.45