

Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) Process: Ensuring the next of kin (NOK) is aware of and, if eligible, receives DEA benefit

Description

DEA provides education benefits for up to 45 months to eligible survivors (son, daughter, or spouse) of Veterans and Soldiers. Eligibility is determined by criteria in Chapter 35 of Title 38 U.S. Code. These benefits include degree and certification programs, apprenticeships, and on-the-job-training.

Regulations and Supporting Resources

[A Survivor's Guide to Benefits – Taking Care of Our Families](#)

[AR 600-8-1, Army Casualty Program](#)

Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations Center (CMAOC) – Casualty Assistance Officer (CAO) Training Guide

[Military Benefits Website – Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance \(DEA\)](#)

[U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs \(VA\) Website – Survivor and Dependents Assistance \(DEA\)](#)

[VA PAM 22-73-3, Dependents' Educational Assistance Program \(DEA\)](#)

Documents and Forms

[VA Form 22-1990, Application for VA Education Benefits](#)

[VA Form 22-5490, Dependents' Application for VA Education Benefits](#)

Related Processes

[Casualty Assistance Process](#)

Points of Contact

Division: Soldier Family Support and Services Division (ARNG-HRS)

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