

ARE YOU THE SAME-SEX SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A DECEASED VETERAN?

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS!



Are you the survivor of a deceased veteran?

The VA has changed the way it awards benefits for same-sex and LGBTQ+ survivors of lost veterans. Now, the spouses, children, or parents of those who served in the military have new ways to qualify for **Disability and Indemnity Compensation**.



Did the veteran...

- Die in service, whether stateside or overseas?
- Have a service-connected illness or injury that contributed to their cause of death?
- Die while eligible or having received VA disability benefits rated as totally disabling (100% rating or the equivalent)?



Were you and the veteran married for at least 1 year, married within 15 years of their discharge, or did you have a child together?

Even if your spouse died before your marriage was officially recognized by law, **marriage-like** relationships may still allow you to qualify. Marriage-like relationships may be determined by the existence of a commitment ceremony, religious rites, or other partnership documentation.

Don't sacrifice the benefits your partner earned. If you meet any of these qualifications, or are unsure if you meet them, we can help!

The **Veterans Legal Clinic at Harvard Law's Legal Services Center** is committed to assisting LGBTQ+ survivors in any way they can. If you have questions about the VA's new policy or would like to apply for legal assistance, contact the client intake line at:



617 • 390 • 2525



VeteransLegalClinic@law.harvard.edu