

Survivor Benefit Plan

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY 101



The certification process is now more convenient!

Turning 18 brings big decisions, especially if you are a Survivor Benefit Plan child-annuity recipient. SBP payments typically stop at age 18, but if you are enrolled full time in an accredited school, you are eligible until you turn 22, leave school or marry.



How to receive student payments after age 18:

Submit a [DD Form 2788 - Child Annuitant's School Certification](#), to [Defense Finance and Accounting Service, or DFAS](#), no earlier than the 45th day of the semester and no later than the last day of each school term/semester to continue payments without interruption.

Here are three ways to submit (keep a copy for your records):

1. Visit <https://go.usa.gov/xymaH> and upload a school certification form through [AskDFAS](#) on the DFAS.mil website. It is accessible on mobile browsers. Fill in required information and upload a PDF of your signed DD Form 2788.

2. By mail:
Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U.S. Military Annuitant Pay
8899 E. 56th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46249-1300

3. By fax:
800-982-8459

Payments to children are split in equal shares.

A helpful new checklist provides tips and step-by-step instructions to assist students and school officials with completing the form. Visit <http://go.usa.gov/xVe4z>.

Eligible dependent children must be:

- ✓ The service member's legal child.
- ✓ Under age 18 or, if attending an accredited school full time, under age 22.
- ✓ Unmarried.

Questions?

Find out more about SBP annuities on the [DFAS website](#) or speak with customer service at 216-522-5955 or 800-321-1080, or write to the address above.

The [Office of Financial Readiness](#) has more resources and tips. Follow FINRED on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) and look for more on [YouTube](#) and the [FINRED blog](#).



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