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How are SMC levels assigned?

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Go to your SMC letter below to learn more about the specific situations and combinations of situations that fall within that designation. We assign special monthly compensation (SMC) levels based on very specific combinations of situations like:

- Amputation of one or more limbs, hands, or feet
- Loss of sight or total blindness in one or both eyes
- Needing daily help with basic needs like eating, dressing, and bathing
- And others

[File for a disability increase](#)

SMC-L	—
You may receive an SMC-L designation if any of the below situations are true for you.	
You have:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Had both feet amputated, or• Had one foot amputated, and have lost the use of the other foot, or• Had one hand and one foot amputated, or• Had one foot amputated, and have lost the use of one hand, or• Had one hand amputated, and have lost the use of one foot	
Or you have:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lost the use of both feet, or• Lost the use of one hand and one foot	
Or you:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have lost sight in both eyes (blindness), or• Are permanently bedridden, or• Need daily help with basic needs (like eating, dressing, and bathing)	
SMC-L ½	—
SMC-M	—
SMC-M ½	—
SMC-N	—
SMC-N ½	—
SMC-O	—

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Need more help?

VA benefits hotline: [800-827-1000](tel:800-827-1000)

eBenefits technical support: [800-983-0937](tel:800-983-0937)

Chat with us: [VA chatbot](#)

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☐ No

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[How to add or remove a dependent >](#)

Find out how and when to add or remove a dependent spouse, child, or parent to your VA disability benefits.

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