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How we assign SMC levels L

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

Go to your SMC letter below to learn more about the specific

situations and combinations of situations that fall within that

And others

- Needing daily help with basic needs like eating, dressing, and bathing
- File for a disability increase On this page
- **→** SMC-L 1/2

↓ SMC-M **→** SMC-M 1/2

↓ SMC-N

→ SMC-N 1/2

↓ SMC-L

- **↓** SMC-O
- **SMC-L**
- You have: 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

Or you have: Lost the use of both feet, or Lost the use of one hand and one foot

Or you: • Have lost sight in both eyes (blindness), or

Had one foot amputated, and have lost the use of the other knee, or

Had one knee amputated, and have lost the use of one hand

Lost the use of one foot, and have had one elbow amputated, **or**

Lost the use of one knee, and have had one hand amputated, or

Blindness in both eyes, and have lost the use of one foot (rated as less than 50% disabling)

Had one hand amputated, and have lost the use of one foot

You may receive an SMC-L designation if any of the below situations are true for you.

- Are permanently bedridden, **or**
- Need daily help with basic needs (like eating, dressing, and bathing)
- ↑ Back to top **SMC-L** ½
- You may receive an SMC-L 1/2 designation if any of the below situations are true for you. You have:

Had one foot and one elbow amputated, or Had one foot amputated, and have lost the use of one elbow, or Had one knee and one hand amputated, or

Or you have: Lost the use of one foot, and have had the other knee amputated, or

Lost the use of one foot and one elbow, or

Lost the use of one knee and one hand

Had one foot and the other knee amputated, or

- Or you have: Blindness in one eye and total blindness in the other eye with only the ability to perceive
- **SMC-M**

You have:

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light, or

Had one knee amputated, and have had one arm amputated so close to the shoulder that you can't wear a prosthesis, or Had one elbow amputated, and have had one leg amputated so close to the hip that you

Had one hand amputated, and have lost the use of one elbow

Lost of use of one hand, and have had one elbow amputated, or

Physically lost the other eye, and have total deafness in one ear, or

In one eye, and have physically lost the other eye, **or**

Or you have blindness in one eye, and you have:

both ears (rated as 30% or more disabling), or

of one foot (rated as 50% or more disabling), or

You may receive an SMC-M designation if any of the below situations are true for you.

Or you have: Lost the use of one knee, and have had one leg amputated so close to the hip that you can't wear a prosthesis, or

you can't wear a prosthesis, or

can't wear a prosthesis, or

Had one hand and one elbow amputated, or

can't wear a prosthesis, **or**

can't wear a prosthesis, or

Lost the use of one hand and of one elbow Or you have total blindness with only the ability to perceive light:

amputated, or

Or you have blindness in both eyes:

Had one foot amputated, or

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SMC-M ½

And total deafness in one ear, **or**

Total blindness without the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have total deafness in one ear, or Total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have deafness in

Total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have had one foot

Total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have lost the use

In both eyes, and have lost the use of one foot (rated as less than 50% disabling)

- Total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have had one hand amputated, or Total blindness with the only ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have lost the use of one hand
- That requires you to have daily help with basic needs (like eating, bathing, and dressing), and have lost the use of one foot (rated as less than 50% disabling)

Lost the use of one foot (rated as 50% or more disabling)

Or you have blindness in both eyes, and you have:

- Deafness in both (rated as 30% or more disabling), or Had one hand amputated, or Lost the use of one hand, or
- You may receive an SMC-M 1/2 designation if any of the below situations are true for you. You have:

Had one knee amputated, and have had one leg amputated so close to the hip that you

Had one knee amputated, and have had one arm amputated so close to the shoulder that

Had one elbow amputated, and have had one leg amputated so close to the hip that you

Had one hand and one elbow amputated, or Had one hand amputated, and have lost the use of one elbow

wear a prosthesis, or

amputated, or

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SMC-N

You have:

Or you have:

disabling), or

disabling), or

Had both elbows amputated, or

prosthesis on either, or

you can't wear a prosthesis

Physically lost both eyes, **or**

hand amputated, or

you can't wear a prosthesis, **or**

Or you have:

can't wear a prosthesis, or

can't wear a prosthesis, or

you can't wear a prosthesis, or

Lost the use of one elbow, and have had one leg amputated so close to the hip that you can't wear a prosthesis, or Lost of use of one hand, and have had one elbow amputated, or Lost the use of one hand and of one elbow

In both eyes, and have lost the use of one foot (rated as less than 50% disabling)

Physically lost the other eye, and have total deafness in one ear, or

Or you have total blindness with only the ability to perceive light:

In one eye, and have physically lost the other eye, or

Or you have blindness in one eye, and you have:

of one foot (rated as 50% or more disabling), or

Total blindness without the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have total deafness in one ear, or Total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have deafness in both ears (rated as 30% or more disabling), or Total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have had one foot

Total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have lost the use

Total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have had one

Total blindness with the only ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have lost the use of one hand Or you have blindness in both eyes: And total deafness in one ear, **or**

That requires you to have daily help with basic needs (like eating, bathing, and dressing),

and have lost the use of one foot (rated as less than 50% disabling)

Had one hand amputated and one arm amputated so close to the shoulder that you can't wear a prosthesis Or you have: Lost the use of both elbows, **or**

Or you have total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in one eye, and you have:

Total blindness without the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have deafness in

Total blindness without the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have lost the use of

Physically lost the other eye, and have lost the use of one foot (rated as less than 50%

Or you have total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in both eyes, and you have:

Physically lost the other eye, and have deafness in both ears (rated as 10% or 20%

Have total blindness without the ability to perceive light

both ears (rated as 10% or 20% disabling), or

one foot (rated as less than 50% disabling)

Or you have blindness in one eye, and you have:

both ears (rated as 30% or more disabling)

(like dressing, eating, or bathing), and you have:

Had one hand amputated, **or**

you can't wear a prosthesis, or

you can't wear a prosthesis, or

Lost the use of one foot (rated as 50% or more disabling)

• Deafness in both ears (rated as 30% or more disabling), **or**

You may receive an SMC-N designation if any of the below situations are true for you.

Deafness in both ears (rated as 30% or more disabling), or Had one hand amputated, or Lost the use of one foot, **or** Lost the use of one hand, or Had one foot amputated, **or**

disabling), or

SMC-N ½

disabling), or

less than 50%)

lost the other eye, and you have:

Had one foot amputated, **or**

Had one hand amputated, or

Had one hand amputated, or

Lost the use of one hand

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SMC-O

You have:

bowels

Or you have:

Lost the use of one hand

You have:

Lost the use of one hand, or Had one foot amputated, or Lost the use of one foot (rated as 50% disabling) ↑ Back to top

Lost the use of one elbow, and have had one arm amputated so close to the shoulder that

Total blindness without the ability to see light, and have lost the use of one foot (rated as

Or you have total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in one eye, have physically

Or you have total blindness with only the ability to perceive light in one eye and total

You may receive an SMC-O designation if any of the below situations are true for you...

Had both arms amputated so close to the shoulder that you can't wear a prosthesis, **or**

Complete paralysis of both legs that's resulted in being unable to control your bladder or

Physically lost both eyes, and have lost the use of one foot (rated as less than 50%

blindness without the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and you have: Deafness in both ears (rated as 30% or more disabling), or Had one foot amputated, **or** Lost the use of one foot (rated as 50% or more disabling), or

Deafness in both ears (rated as 30% or more disabling), or

Lost the use of one foot (rated as 50% or more disabling), or

Hearing loss in both ears (with at least one ear's deafness caused by military service) that's rated as 40% or more disabling, and you have blindness in both eyes with only the ability to perceive light, or Total deafness in one ear as well as blindness in both eyes with only the ability to perceive light

Deafness in both ears (rated as 30% or more disabling), **or**

Lost the use of one foot (rated as 50% or more disabling), or

Deafness in both ears (rated as 30% or more disabling), or

Lost the use of one foot (rated as 50% or more disabling), or

Had one foot amputated, or

Had one hand amputated, or

Had one foot amputated, or

Had one hand amputated, or

Lost the use of one hand

File for a disability increase

Need more help?

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Or you have physically lost both eyes, and you have:

Lost the use of one hand

VA benefits hotline: <u>800-827-1000</u> eBenefits technical support: 800-983-0937

Veteran Programs and

Services

View 2020 SMC rates.

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Had one knee amputated, and have had one leg amputated so close to the hip that you Lost the use of one knee, and have had one arm amputated so close to the shoulder that Lost the use of one elbow, and have had one leg amputated so close to the hip that you In one eye, and have total blindness without the ability to perceive light in the other eye, or

Lost the use of one knee, and have had one leg amputated so close to the hip that you can't Lost the use of one knee, and have had one arm amputated so close to the shoulder that In one eye, and have total blindness without the ability to perceive light in the other eye, or

Had both legs amputated so close to the hip that you can't wear a prosthesis, or Had one arm and one leg amputated so close to the shoulder and hip that you can't wear a Lost the use of one hand, and have had one arm amputated so close to the shoulder that

Physically lost the other eye, and have deafness in both ears (rated as 30% or more Total blindness without the ability to perceive light in the other eye, and have deafness in Or you have blindness in both eyes that requires you to have daily help with basic needs You may receive an SMC-N 1/2 designation if any of the below situations are true for you. Had one elbow amputated, and have had one arm amputated so close to the shoulder that

Hearing loss in both ears (with at least one ear's deafness caused by military service) that's rated as 60% or more disabling, and you have blindness in both eyes, or Or you have total blindness without the ability to see light, and you have:

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