

**BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY
OF THE AIR FORCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
POLICY DIRECTIVE 34-11**



30 MAY 2023

Services

WOUNDED WARRIOR SUPPORT

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This Department of the Air Force Policy Directive (DAFPD) implements Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 1300.24, *Recovery Coordination Program (RCP)*, DoDI 1300.25, *Guidance for the Education and Employment Initiative (E2I) and Operation Warfighter (OWF)*, DoDI 1300.27, *Guidance on the Use of Service Dogs by Service Members*, DoDI 1341.12, *Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living (SCAADL) Program*, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense: *Interagency Complex Care Coordination Requirements for Service Members and Veterans* and Joint Travel Regulation (JTR), paragraph 0332, *Designated Individual and Non-Medical Attendant Traveling to a Wounded, Ill, or Injured Service Member or Civilian Employee*. This DAFPD establishes policy for Department of the Air Force Wounded Warrior Support and applies to military members of the Regular Air Force, United States Space Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve. In collaboration with the Chief of the Air Force Reserve, Director of the Air National Guard, and the Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Human Capital (SF/S1), the Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel, and Services (AF/A1) develops policy for Wounded Warrior Support. Refer recommended changes to the office of primary responsibility (OPR) using Department of the Air Force (DAF) Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route DAF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Ensure all records generated as a result of processes prescribed in this publication adhere to Air Force Instruction (AFI) 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and are disposed in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule, which is located in the Air Force Records Information Management System. This DAFPD may not be supplemented.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This directive was updated to include members of the United States Space Force and amend the title of this directive to reflect the fact that the DAF Wounded Warrior Program provides non-medical support to ill and injured Airmen and Guardians. Throughout this directive, the term Airmen is used to refer to Air Force uniformed service members while the term Guardian is used to refer to Space Force uniformed service members.

1. Policy.

1.1. The Department of the Air Force Warrior and Survivor Care Services shall include Wounded Warrior Support, by executing the following:

1.1.1. A Department of the Air Force Recovery Coordination Program for wounded, ill, and injured Airmen and Guardians to ensure support to affected Airmen and Guardians and their families through recovery, rehabilitation, reintegration and, where necessary, to assist Airmen and Guardians' transition for separation from the Air Force or Space Force.

1.1.2. Guidance specific to meeting the coordination requirements agreed upon between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs in supporting a seamless handoff and transition of wounded, ill, and injured Airmen or Guardians and their families between the Departments in accordance with MOU between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.

1.2. Provide Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living (SCAADL) payments to eligible Airmen or Guardians. The SCAADL program provides a special monthly compensation to permanently, catastrophically wounded, ill, and injured, and otherwise eligible Airmen and Guardians to compensate their designated caregiver for the time and assistance provided.

1.3. Issue guidance pertaining to the use of Service Dogs by Airmen and Guardians that is consistent with the 28 CFR Part 36, *Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability by Public Accommodations and in Commercial Facilities* and Department of Defense policies.

1.4. Implement and execute travel and reimbursement processes for the Department of the Air Force Casualty Emergency Family Member Travel Program for all eligible designated travelers.

1.5. Specify that publicly releasable information regarding the death, combat, or non-combat related injury or illness of an Airman or Guardian will not be made prior to notification of the member's next of kin or designated family representative, unless required by law, executive order, Department of Defense regulation, or court order.

2. Roles and Responsibilities.

2.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (SAF/MR) provides policy oversight and program advocacy.

2.2. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller (SAF/FM) conducts financial oversight at all organizational levels.

2.3. The Department of the Air Force Inspector General (SAF/IG) ensures installation Inspector General offices inspect base housing accommodations for Department of the Air Force Wounded Warriors living in or moving into base housing.

2.4. The Air Force Surgeon General (AF/SG) shall:

2.4.1. Ensure, by working through the local medical treatment facilities, a licensed DAF or DoD physician certifies initial, or any changes to, eligibility for the DAF Wounded Warrior Program in accordance with DoDI 1341.12.

2.4.2. Ensure, by working through the local medical treatment facilities, a licensed DoD physician certifies eligibility of Airmen or Guardians who qualify for SCAADL and for identifying and submitting any changes in eligibility.

2.5. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services (AF/A1) shall:

2.5.1. Serve as focal point for all Department of the Air Force Warrior and Survivor Care programs, bringing together key staff agencies and field activities to provide immediate information and assistance to wounded Airmen and Guardians, commanders, and Department of the Air Force senior leadership.

2.5.2. Provide implementing guidance and procedures for the Department of the Air Force Warrior and Survivor Care programs identified in [paragraph 1](#).

2.5.3. Serve as the sole reporting authority for the Recovery Coordination Program.

FRANK KENDALL
Secretary of the Air Force

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

28 CFR Part 36, *Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability by Public Accommodations and in Commercial Facilities*

DoDI 1300.24, *Recovery Coordination Program (RCP)*, 1 December 2009

DoDI 1300.25, *Guidance for the Education and Employment Initiative (E2I) and Operation WARFIGHTER (OWF)*, 25 March 2013

DoDI 1300.27, *Guidance on the Use of Service Dogs by Service Members*, 7 January 2016

DoDI 1341.12, *Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living (SCAADL) Program*, 31 October 2019

AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, 23 March 2020

Joint Travel Regulation, paragraph 0332, *Designated Individual and Non-Medical Attendant traveling to a Wounded, Ill, or Injured Service member or Civilian Employee*, 1 September 2022

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense: *Interagency Complex Care Coordination Requirements for Service Members and Veterans*, 29 July 2014

Prescribed Forms

None

Adopted Forms

DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFI—Air Force Instruction

DAF—Department of the Air Force

DAFPD—Department of the Air Force Policy Directive

DoD—Department of Defense

DoDI—Department of Defense Instruction

E2I—Education and Employment Initiative

MOU—Memorandum of Understanding

OPR—Office of Primary Responsibility

OWF—Operation WARFIGHTER

RCP—Recovery Coordination Program

SCAADL—Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living

USSF—United States Space Force

Office Symbols

AF/A1—Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower, Personnel and Services

AF/A1SA—Airmen and Family Care

AF/SG—Air Force Surgeon General

SAF/FM—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller

SAF/IG—Air Force Inspector General

SAF/MR—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs

SF/S1—Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Human Capital

Terms

Department of the Air Force Wounded Warrior Program—The Department of the Air Force Wounded Warrior program works together with the Military & Family Readiness Centers and the Air Force Medical Service to provide concentrated non-medical support for combat and non-combat wounded, ill and injured Airmen and Guardians (and their families) as they recover and transition back to duty or into civilian life. The Department of the Air Force defines a wounded warrior as any Airman or Guardian who is seriously wounded, ill, or injured that may require a Medical Evaluation Board/Physical Evaluation Board to determine fitness for duty. Combat wounded Airmen or Guardians not returned to duty are automatically enrolled.

Recovery Coordination Program (RCP)—Program designated to develop reforms to existing care management processes within the DoD and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Special Compensation for Assistance with Activities of Daily Living (SCAADL)—SCAADL provides a special monthly compensation to permanently, catastrophically wounded, ill, and injured, and otherwise eligible, Airmen and Guardians to compensate their designated caregiver for the time and assistance provided.