

## Eligibility criteria for family and dependants

You may be able to get support if you're the spouse, partner, child or dependant of someone with Qualifying Service.



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Qualifying Service explained (<https://www.veteransaffairs.mil.nz/eligibility/qualifying-service/>)

Support for your family and whānau (<https://www.veteransaffairs.mil.nz/get-support/family-and-whanau/>)

### How we define certain family members

How we define certain family members is prescribed by the Veterans' Support Act 2014 and our policies.

#### How we define 'spouse' and 'partner'

We define a:

- **spouse** as a person who is legally married to someone with Qualifying Service, and
- **partner** as the civil union or de facto partner of someone with Qualifying Service.

#### How we define 'child'

We define a **child** to be, in relation to a person with Qualifying Service:

- their natural child
- their adopted child
- the child of their spouse or partner, or
- someone they have acted as a parent to.

#### How we define 'dependant'

We define a **dependant** to be someone who meets any of the following three circumstances.

Someone—not a spouse, partner, or child—who:

- is under 18 years of age

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- is wholly or primarily dependent on a person with Qualifying Service for financial support, and
- ordinarily resides with the person with Qualifying Service.

Someone—not a spouse, partner, or child—who:

- is 18 years of age or older
- is under the care of a person with Qualifying Service, and
- ordinarily resides with the person with Qualifying Service because they are unable to live independently due to impairment, illness or advanced age.

Someone who:

- is the child of a person with Qualifying Service
- is 18 years of age or older
- is under the care of the person with Qualifying Service, and
- is unable to live independently due to impairment, illness or advanced age.