

## MILPERSMAN 1741-030

### FAMILY SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE (FSGLI)

<b>Responsible Office</b>	NAVPERSCOM (PERS-13)	Phone:	DSN	882-2501
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<b>References</b>	(a) 38 U.S.C. §1967 (b) Family SGLI Procedural Guide of 12 May 2014 (c) 38 CFR §9.1 (d) BUPERSINST 1001.39F
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#### 1. Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (FSGLI).

Reference (a) established family coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) Program, effective 1 November 2001. As described in reference (a), FSGLI coverage is automatic for spouses, qualifying biological and adopted children, and stepchildren of Service members participating in SGLI (other than a dependent who is also a member of a uniformed Service). General program information is available in reference (b), available at the following Web address:  
[http://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/fsgli\\_guide\\_toc.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/INSURANCE/fsgli_guide_toc.asp)

a. Dependent children of all active duty, Ready Reserve, and National Guard members who have full time SGLI coverage are automatically covered for a maximum of \$10,000 (coverage is free), and may not be declined or reduced. Per reference (a), if a dependent child is eligible for coverage under more than one Service member, that child must be insured by the coverage of the member who qualified for SGLI coverage first; unless that member does not have the legal physical custody of the child. In this case, the member who has the legal physical custody of the child must have the coverage of the child.

b. Spouses are covered for \$100,000, or the member's SGLI coverage level, if it is less than \$100,000, and may be reduced

or declined entirely by the member. Members may elect spousal coverage in increments of \$10,000 but must not exceed the Service member's SGLI coverage level. An attempt to increase the spouse's coverage after a declination or reduction will require completion of the health questionnaire, and, depending on the responses, may also require supporting health documentation.

c. Premiums for spousal coverage are deducted from the member's pay unless coverage is declined. Premium deductions are based on the member's information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Use SGLV 8286A Spouse Coverage Election and Certificate to decrease, decline, or to increase or re-establish previously decreased or declined coverage.

d. Per reference (a), military members married to other military members, on or after 2 January 2013, will not be automatically enrolled in FSGLI. Service members wishing to enroll their military spouse in FSGLI must ensure that both of their DEERS information reflected married to military member status first, and must complete and submit an SGLV 8286A to their personnel support detachment (PSD) or personnel office for processing.

e. Stillborn children are covered under FSGLI.

(1) Per reference (c), a member's stillborn child means a member's natural child whose death occurs before expulsion, extraction, or delivery, and;

(a) whose fetal weight is 350 grams or more; or

(b) if fetal weight is unknown, duration in utero is at least 20 completed weeks of gestation calculated from the date of last normal menstrual period to the date of expulsion, extraction, or delivery.

(2) The term does not include any fetus or child extracted for purposes of an abortion.

(3) In cases where a stillborn child is eligible for coverage under more than one member, the child would be insured by the coverage of the child's SGLI-covered biological mother.

2. **Members Covered.** FSGLI coverage provides life insurance for the spouse and dependent child(ren) of all active duty and Ready Reserve members who have SGLI coverage. FSGLI coverage cannot exceed the amount of SGLI coverage on the sponsor.

3. **Automatic Coverage**

a. FSGLI coverage is automatic for Service members with SGLI coverage who

(1) were married or had dependent child(ren) when the program began on 1 November 2001.

(2) enter onto active duty or Ready Reserve, and are married to a non-military spouse or have dependent child(ren).

(3) marry a non-military spouse, or gain dependent child(ren) during service.

(4) married a military spouse before or during the period of automatic spousal enrollment, 1 November 2001 to 1 January 2013.

b. Entry onto active duty or Ready Reserve is defined as a

(1) civilian who enters regular active duty.

(2) civilian who enters Ready Reserve.

(3) Ready Reserve member who is mobilized to active duty status.

(4) Ready Reserve member who is demobilized and returns to Ready Reserve status.

(5) member who completes active duty and is assigned to Ready Reserve status.

**Note:** The automatic coverage feature of FSGLI applies to any of the above duty statuses - no matter if they have declined or reduced coverage previously. SGLV 8286A does not need to be completed for coverage; however, a personnel or payroll action may be necessary in some of these situations to initiate premium collection. FSGLI premium collection discrepancies for **active duty** personnel should be addressed at the Service member's local PSD or personnel office.

FSGLI premium discrepancies for **reserve personnel** may be addressed through the Service member's Navy Reserve activity/Navy operational support center command PASS coordinator, who will coordinate with the responsible servicing PSD.

If no coverage or less than maximum coverage is desired, the member must complete an SGLV 8286A every time of entry into a new duty status. For example, a drilling reservist who originally declined coverage and wishes to maintain that status must decline coverage upon mobilization, and then again upon demobilization (using SGLV 8286A).

4. **Military-Married-to-Military Couples**. Military-married-to-military couples are required to register their active duty or Ready Reserve spouse in DEERS. DEERS will update each member's record to reflect the marriage. Members seeking to enroll their military spouse in FSGLI must complete SGLV 8286A. Per reference (a), FSGLI coverage is not automatic for military-married-to-military couples.

5. **FSGLI Premiums**. The Service member pays premiums for the spousal coverage. Dependent child coverage is free.

a. **Due Date**. Premiums for spousal coverage are due the month of the event that causes coverage to occur (e.g., date of a marriage or date of application for increased coverage). Premiums due for individuals listed in paragraph 3 must be collected retroactively, if a delay occurs in entering a spouse into DEERS.

b. **Spouse Date of Birth (DOB) in DEERS**. FSGLI premium amount is based upon the spouse's DOB in DEERS. Entry of an accurate spouse's DOB must ensure proper premium amounts. If DEERS data on the spouse does not include a DOB, premiums will be collected at the maximum rate.

c. **Age Brackets**. Spousal premiums are based on age brackets. When a spouse moves to a new age bracket, the new higher premium will begin on the 1st day of the month following the birth month. Premium rates are published on the Veteran's Affairs (VA) FSGLI Web site.

d. **Change in Status**. The member must report changes to DEERS (such as divorce or death of a spouse) in order to stop premium collection as provided in paragraph 7.

6. **Volunteer Training Unit.** Members transferring to a volunteer training unit (VTU) status may continue SGLI and FSGLI coverage if premiums are paid. Premiums must be paid quarterly to Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS). Further information on SGLI and FSGLI coverage while in a VTU status can be found in reference (d).

7. **Termination of FSGLI.** The termination of spousal or dependent child coverage will occur as outlined below:

a. **Declination of SGLI By Service Member.** When a Service member declines SGLI coverage, a premium is due for the month the declination was made. No further premiums are due. The spouse and children will have 120 days of free coverage beginning on the date the declination was made. During this period, the spouse has the opportunity to convert the FSGLI spousal coverage into a commercial life insurance policy. Dependent child coverage cannot be converted to a commercial policy.

b. **Declination of FSGLI by Service Member.** When a Service member declines FSGLI spousal coverage, a premium is due for the month the declination was made. No further premiums are due. The spouse has 120 days of free coverage beginning on the date the declination was made. During this period, the spouse has the opportunity to convert the FSGLI spousal coverage into a commercial life insurance policy. Dependent child coverage is not affected by this declination.

c. **Death of Service Member.** When a Service member dies, the final premium is due for the month of the death. Covered spouses and children will have 120 days of free coverage beginning on the date of the Service member's death. During this period, the spouse has the opportunity to convert the FSGLI spousal coverage into a commercial life insurance policy. Dependent child coverage cannot be converted to a commercial policy.

d. **Discharge or Separation of Member.** When a Service member is discharged from active duty or separated from a Ready Reserve obligation, a final premium is due for the month the discharge or separation occurs. The spouse and child will have 120 days of free coverage beginning on the date of discharge or separation. During this period, the spouse has the opportunity to convert the FSGLI spousal coverage into a commercial life

insurance policy. Dependent child coverage cannot be converted to a commercial policy.

e. **Divorce.** When a Service member's marriage ends due to divorce, a final premium is due for the month of the divorce. The spouse has 120 days of free coverage beginning on the date of divorce. During this period, the spouse has the opportunity to convert the FSGLI spousal coverage into a commercial life insurance policy. Dependent child coverage is not affected by this declination.

f. **End of Dependent Child Qualification.** FSGLI dependent child coverage ends 120 days after the date the child no longer qualifies as an insurable dependent child of the Service member (i.e., the child's 18th birthday). Dependent child coverage cannot be converted to a commercial policy.

**Note:** Use of the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) FSGLI Web application, as discussed in paragraphs 8-11, does not negate the requirement to submit completed documents to the official military personnel file (OMPF) (see paragraph 12).

## 8. Declining Coverage

a. **Effective Date.** SGLV 8286A must be completed in order to decline FSGLI coverage. An election made on SGLV 8286A takes effect on the date the election is entered into the FSGLI Web application by the Service member's PSD or personnel office for commands not supported by Pay/Personnel Administrative Support System (PASS). Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM), Personnel Service Operations/Navy Pay and Personnel Center (NPPSC) (PERS-23) and RPAT are points of contact (POCs) for resolution of declination discrepancies.

b. **Documenting Declination.** If a Service member elects to decline SGLI coverage, the Service member should also decline FSGLI spousal coverage by completing SGLV 8286A. Although FSGLI spousal coverage cannot continue after a Service member elects to decline SGLI coverage, completion of SGLV 8286A facilitates the administrative actions necessary to stop the deduction of FSGLI premiums, and documents the Service member's FSGLI termination.

c. **Divorce or Death Cases.** Do not make FSGLI coverage declinations via the DMDC FSGLI Web application for cases of divorce or death. Declinations in the case of divorce or death

erroneously made via the FSGLI Web application will require NAVPERSCOM (PERS-23) or RPAT intervention to correct. FSGLI coverage will be terminated after the sponsor's service and DEERS records are updated documenting the divorce or death.

9. **Restoration of FSGLI Coverage**. Terminated FSGLI coverage can be restored under the following circumstances:

a. Service member's change in duty status begins automatic maximum coverage. (If spouse is military, Service member must complete SGLV 8286A.)

b. Service member elects to restore SGLI coverage. (SGLV 8286A is required.)

c. Service member elects to restore FSGLI coverage, if SGLI is still in effect. (SGLV 8286A is required.)

(1) An SGLV 8286A must be completed in order to restore FSGLI coverage. The health of the spouse is a decisive factor in the restoration of FSGLI coverage and all health questions on the SGLV 8286A must be answered.

(2) An election to restore coverage made on SGLV 8286A takes effect on the date the election is entered into the DMDC FSGLI Web application by the Service member's PSD or personnel office (for commands not supported by PASS) - if "good health" is not an issue. If a determination of "good health" is necessary by the Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (OSGLI), the coverage will not go into effect until an affirmative decision is made and the election is entered. A premium is due for the month the election is entered.

10. **Reducing FSGLI Coverage Level**. A Service member may reduce coverage on his or her spouse in increments of \$10,000. Spousal coverage cannot exceed the level of the member's SGLI coverage. The dependent child coverage level is fixed at \$10,000 and cannot be reduced. An election made on SGLV 8286A takes effect on the date the election is entered into the DMDC FSGLI Web application by the Service member's PSD or personnel office (for commands not supported by PASS). A premium is due for the higher amount of coverage the month the election is made. NAVPERSCOM (PERS-23) and RPAT are POCs for resolution of discrepancies associated with reducing coverage.

11. **Increasing FSGLI Coverage Level.** FSGLI coverage can be increased, after it has been decreased, under the following circumstances:

a. **Service Member's Change in Duty Status Begins Automatic Maximum Coverage.** (SGLV 8286A is not required for non-military spouses. If spouse is military, Service member must complete SGLV 8286A)

b. **Service Member Elects to Increase SGLI Coverage.** (SGLV 8286A is required.)

c. **Service Member Elects to Increase FSGLI Coverage (if SGLI is still in effect).** (SGLV 8286A is required.)

(1) SGLV 8286A must be completed in order to increase FSGLI coverage. The health of the spouse is a decisive factor in increasing FSGLI coverage and all health questions on the SGLV 8286A must be answered.

(2) An election to increase coverage made on SGLV 8286A takes effect on the date the election is entered into the DMDC FSGLI Web application by the Service member's PSD or personnel office (for commands not supported by PASS) - if "good health" is not an issue. If a determination of "good health" is necessary by OSGLI, the increased coverage does not go into effect until an affirmative decision is made and the election is entered. A premium is due for the higher coverage level for the month the election is made.

12. **Retention and Distribution.** Upon receipt of a completed SGLV 8286A signed by the Service member, the personnel clerk must complete the section labeled "For Branch of Service Use Only", and process as follows:

a. Forward the original to the supporting PSD or personnel office for submission to the OMPF via e-submission. The PSD or personnel office must maintain the copy until e-submission receipt/acceptance by NAVPERSCOM is verified.

b. Provide one copy to the Service member for personal use.

c. Provide one copy to the Service member's command. The supported command may maintain the copy with NAVPERS 1070/602 Dependency Application/Record of Emergency Data in the command correspondence file.

13. **FSGLI Conversion.** Under certain circumstances, when FSGLI coverage ends, there are 120 days of free coverage and the spouse can convert the spousal FSGLI coverage to a commercial life insurance policy. If the insurance is converted within the 120-day period, proof of good health is not needed. Dependent child coverage cannot be converted. The spouse can get information about conversion by contacting OSGLI via the following means:

<b>Telephone number:</b>	1-800-419-1473
<b>Address:</b>	OSGLI 3RD Floor, NE Wing 80 Livingston Avenue Roseland, NJ 07068-1733
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:SGLI.OSGLI@prudential.com">SGLI.OSGLI@prudential.com</a>
<b>Web site:</b>	<a href="http://www.insurance.va.gov/">http://www.insurance.va.gov/</a>

14. **DEERS Interaction With DFAS For FSGLI Premiums**

a. Once a month, FSGLI information flows from DFAS to DEERS, and then DEERS information flows back to DFAS. The timing of these data flows determines when actions entered in DEERS will actually effect the premium deductions from the Service member's pay at DFAS. The specific timing of these data exchanges are listed in the VA FSGLI Procedural Guide, Appendix C.

b. DFAS will deduct the premium amount from the Service member's pay based on the information in DEERS at the time DEERS sends the active/reserve/guard data and reserve/guard refund files to DFAS. If the information in DEERS at the time is inaccurate, the members pay may be affected.

15. **Claim Submittal.** Submit FSGLI claims to Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM), Casualty Assistance Branch (PERS-13) at: [MILL\\_FSGLI@navy.mil](mailto:MILL_FSGLI@navy.mil) (MILL underscore FSGLI at NAVY.MIL) using the following guidance:

a. **Forms.** The following forms are required for claims submittal:

- (1) SGLV-8283A Claim for Family Coverage Death

Benefits. (Form must be completed and signed by the Service member).

(2) Copy of Service member's latest DD 93 Record of Emergency Data (showing dependency).

**Note:** In case of infant death where the child is less than 120 days old, an official State-issued birth certificate is required.

(3) Copy of Service member's most current Leave and Earning Statement for the month in which the death occurred (required for proof of premium payments).

(4) Final death certificate (specifying cause of death).

**b. Special Documentation Requirements**

(1) **Overseas Deaths.** DD-2064 Certificate of Death Overseas must be obtained (if practical). In the event a DD-2064 is unattainable due to proximity of death, the original death certificate must be provided. The document should contain the cause and manner of death, and should be translated for authentication purposes.

(2) **Stillborn Deaths.** FSGLI provides coverage in the event of the stillborn death of dependent children. Per reference (c), "member's stillborn child" means the member's natural child whose death occurs before expulsion, extraction, or delivery, and whose fetal weight is 350 grams or more, or (if fetal weight is unknown) whose duration in utero was 20 or more completed weeks in gestation. Claims of this nature will require the following additional documentation:

(a) Certified certificate of fetal death or certificate of stillbirth containing fetal statistics (gestation age, weight, length), **or**

(b) Certificate of fetal death or certificate of stillbirth **and** hospital report of fetal death listing fetal statistics.

**Note:** A fetus or child that is extracted for purpose of abortion is excluded.

(3) **Dependent Children 18 Years of Age or Older:** As applicable, provide evidence to substantiate the following:

(a) **Disabled Child.** Prior to child attaining the age of 18, the child was declared permanently incapable of self-support.

(b) **Student.** Child was below the age of 23 years, and was actively pursuing a course of instruction at an approved educational institution. Acceptable evidence of student status is a letter from the educational institution, on their letterhead, showing that the child was enrolled.

**c. Other Considerations**

(1) **Beneficiary Involvement.** Prior to certification of insurance claims, beneficiary involvement in the death of the dependent must be ruled out. A Service member is not entitled as a beneficiary if he or she is convicted or pleads guilty to involvement in the death of the spouse or the dependent child. In such cases, the beneficiary or beneficiaries are determined as outlined in reference (d). Commands should contact NAVPERSCOM (PERS-13) if the Service member is suspected in the dependent's death to obtain further guidance.

(2) **Dependent Child Death in the Case of Dual Military Parents or Stepparents.** Per reference (a), a child eligible for coverage by more than one member is covered under the member whose eligibility for SGLI coverage occurred first. In the event of a stillborn death, if both parents are covered under the SGLI Program, coverage falls under the biological mother. Contact NAVPERSCOM (PERS-13) for assistance or additional guidance.

d. **Claim Processing.** Upon receipt of all applicable documents, NAVPERSCOM (PERS-13) will review and certify the claim, and forward it to the Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (OSGLI) for payment.

16. **Accelerated Benefit Option (ABO).** The ABO gives the Service member access to the death benefits of the FSGLI policy before the death of a terminally-ill spouse. The member may receive up to 50 percent of the face value of the spousal coverage through the ABO. The ABO is available in \$5,000 increments. In order to qualify for the ABO, the spouse must have a medical prognosis of life expectancy of 9 months or less.

Only the Service member can apply for ABO and the benefit will be paid only to the Service member.

17. **Beneficiary Financial Counseling Services (BFCS)**. BFCS is available to a Service member who claims the FSGLI upon the death of a spouse. BFCS provides free personal financial counseling to beneficiaries of FSGLI policies. The beneficiary will be notified of this benefit when they receive the payment of the proceeds of their FSGLI.

18. **Additional Information**. Additional information on FSGLI coverage and policies can be obtained from the following:

**Department of Veterans Affairs, Web site:**

(<http://www.insurance.va.gov>)

**or**

**Navy Casualty Assistance (PERS-13)**

**Web site:**

(<http://www.npc.navy.mil/SupportServices/CasualtyAssistance/>)