

Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation (DCMWC)

Black Lung Monthly Benefit Rates for 2015

Benefit rates are set in accordance with Section 412(a)(1) of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act, which specifies that the rate for an individual Black Lung beneficiary is 37.5% of the base salary of a Federal employee at level GS-2, Step 1. President Obama has authorized a 1% increase in Federal salary rates for 2015. This increase became effective January 1, 2015. All necessary steps have been taken to ensure that Federal Black Lung beneficiaries receive their benefits in a timely manner.

The 2015 rates are as follows:

Part-C BLACK LUNG MONTHLY BENEFIT RATES (claims approved by the U.S. Department of Labor - payments received around the 15th of each month)

Primary beneficiary	\$638.10
Primary beneficiary and one dependent	\$957.20
Primary beneficiary and two dependents	\$1,116.70
Primary beneficiary and three or more dependents	\$1,276.20

Part-B BLACK LUNG MONTHLY BENEFIT RATES (claims originally approved by the Social Security Administration - payments received around the 3rd of each month)

Primary beneficiary	\$638.00
Primary beneficiary and one dependent	\$957.00
Primary beneficiary and two dependents	\$1,116.00
Primary beneficiary and three or more dependents	\$1,276.00

However, if the beneficiary has received an award under another state or Federal workers' compensation program, the amount of the monthly benefit payment may be less than the rate shown above.

Please contact the appropriate U.S. Department of Labor Black Lung [district office](#), if there are any questions concerning benefit rates or any other questions about Black Lung benefits.