



## **DELTA DISABLED PILOTS AND SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION**

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**[www.ddpsa.org](http://www.ddpsa.org)**

**NEWS RELEASE MAY 13, 2015**

### **VARIABLE BENEFIT INCREASE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2015**

Survivor Monthly Income Benefits and Long Term Disability (LTD) Benefits have a variable benefit feature. One-half of the initial benefit is subject to variable increases on April 1<sup>st</sup> each year and is influenced by investment performance of the D&S Trust in the previous calendar year. The amount of the change is determined by a formula based upon investment performance over the previous five years. More information about variable increases is available through “click here” links on the DDPSA website under (1) the Survivor page, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph (How Much Can A Surviving Spouse Receive?) and (2) the Disability page, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph (Disability Benefits).

On April 1, 2015, the formula increased by 2.3%. Generally this is the amount of the increase that will be applied to the variable portion of survivor and LTD benefits. However, some survivors and LTD pilots will not receive an increase because the index for their benefit (called the Variable Benefit Unit) was higher when they commenced receiving benefits than the figure as of April 1, 2015. Variable Benefit Unit values dating back to 1980 can be viewed through “click here” links on the DDPSA website under the pages entitled “Survivor” and “Disability”.

The SURVIVOR BENEFITS WORKSHEET that is posted on the DDPSA website has been updated to be applicable for pilot deaths that occur between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016.