

Railroad Retirement Board

§ 216.62

(e) Have attained age 62 but be under retirement age. The annuity is reduced for each month the spouse is under retirement age at the time the annuity begins.

§ 216.53 What is required for payment.

An eligible spouse or divorced spouse must:

- (a) Apply to be entitled to an annuity; and
- (b) Give up the right to return to work for a railroad employer.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 3220-0016 and 3220-0042)

§ 216.54 Who is an employee's wife or husband.

An employee's wife or husband is an individual who—

- (a) Is married to the employee; and
- (b) Has been married to the employee for at least one year immediately before the date the spouse applied for annuity;
- (c) Is the natural parent of the employee's child;
- (d) Was entitled to an annuity as a widow(er), a parent, or a disabled child under this part in the month before he or she married the employee; or
- (e) Could have been entitled to a benefit listed in paragraph (d) of this section, if the spouse had applied and been old enough in the month before he or she married the employee.

Subpart G—Widow(er), Surviving Divorced Spouse, and Remarried Widow(er) Annuities

§ 216.60 General.

The Railroad Retirement Act provides annuities for the widow(er), surviving divorced spouse, or remarried widow(er) of an employee. The deceased employee must have completed 10 years of railroad service and have had a current connection with the railroad industry at the time of his or her death. A widow(er), surviving divorced spouse, or remarried widow(er) may receive an annuity based on age, on disability, or on having a child of the employee in his or her care.

§ 216.61 Who is eligible for an annuity as a widow(er).

(a) A widow(er) of an employee who has completed 10 years of railroad service and had a current connection with the railroad industry at death is eligible for an annuity if he or she:

- (1) Has not remarried; and either
- (2) Has attained retirement age;
- (3) Is at least 50 but less than 60 years of age and became disabled as defined in part 220 of this chapter before the end of the period described in § 216.68 (this results in a reduced annuity);
- (4) Is less than retirement age but has in his or her care a child who either is under age 18 (16 with respect to the tier I component) or is disabled and who is entitled to an annuity under subpart H of this part; or
- (5) Is at least 60 years of age but has not attained retirement age. (In this case, all components of the annuity are reduced for each month the widow(er) is age 62 or over but under retirement age when the annuity begins. For each month the widow(er) is at least age 60 but under age 62, all components of the annuity are reduced as if the widow(er) were age 62).

§ 216.62 Who is eligible for an annuity as a surviving divorced spouse.

(a) A surviving divorced spouse of an employee who completed 10 years of railroad service and had a current connection with the railroad industry at death, is eligible for an annuity if he or she:

- (1) Is unmarried;
- (2) Is not entitled to an old-age benefit under the Social Security Act that is equal to or higher than the surviving divorced spouse's annuity before any reduction for age; and either
- (3) Has attained retirement age;
- (4) Is at least 50 years of age but less than retirement age and is disabled as defined in part 220 of this chapter before the end of the period described in § 216.68 (this results in a reduced annuity.);
- (5) Is less than retirement age but has in his or her care a child who either is under age 16 or is disabled and who is entitled to an annuity under subpart H of this part; or
- (6) Is at least 60 years of age but has not attained retirement age. In this

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case, the annuity is reduced for each month the surviving spouse is under retirement age when the annuity begins.

(b) A disabled surviving spouse's annuity is converted to an annuity based on age beginning the month he or she becomes 60 years old. The annuity rate does not change.

(c) If a surviving divorced spouse marries after attaining age 60 (or age 50 if he or she is a disabled surviving divorced spouse), such marriage shall be deemed not to have occurred.

§216.63 Who is eligible for an annuity as a remarried widow(er).

(a) A widow(er) of an employee who completed 10 years of railroad service and had a current connection with the railroad industry at death is eligible for an annuity as a remarried widow(er) if he or she:

(1) Remarried either:

(i) After having attained age 60 (after age 50 if disabled); or

(ii) Before age 60 but the marriage terminated;

(2) Is not entitled to an old-age benefit under the Social Security Act that is equal to or higher than the full amount of the remarried widow(er)'s annuity before any reduction for age; and

(3) Has attained retirement age;

(4) Is at least 50 but less than 60 years of age and is disabled as defined in part 220 of this chapter before the end of the period described in §216.68 (this results in a reduced annuity);

(5) Has not attained retirement age but has in his or her care a child who either is under age 16 or is disabled, and who is entitled to an annuity under subpart H of this part; or

(6) Is at least age 60 but has not attained retirement age. (In this case, the annuity is reduced for each month the remarried widow(er) is under retirement age when the annuity begins.)

(b) An individual entitled to a widow(er)'s annuity may be entitled to an annuity as a remarried widow(er) if he or she:

(1) Remarries after having attained age 60 (after age 50 if he or she has been determined to be disabled prior to his or her remarriage) and is not a surviving divorced spouse; or

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(2) Is entitled to an annuity based upon having a child of the employee in his or her care and marries an individual entitled to a retirement, disability, widow(er)'s, mother's, father's, parent's, or disabled child's benefit under the Railroad Retirement Act or Social Security Act.

§216.64 What is required for payment.

An eligible widow(er), surviving divorced spouse, or remarried widow(er) must:

(a) Apply to be entitled for an annuity; and

(b) Submit evidence requested by the Board to support his or her application.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 3220-0030)

§216.65 Who is an employee's widow(er).

An individual who was married to the employee at the employee's death is the deceased employee's widow(er) if he or she:

(a) Was married to the employee for at least 9 months before the day the employee died;

(b) Is the natural parent of the employee's child;

(c) Was married to the employee when either the employee or the widow(er) adopted the other's child, or they both legally adopted a child who was then under 18 years old;

(d) Was married to the employee less than 9 months before the employee died but, at the time of marriage, the employee was reasonably expected to live for 9 months; and

(1) The employee's death was accidental;

(2) The employee died in the line of duty while he or she was serving active duty as a member of armed forces of the United States; or

(3) The surviving spouse was previously married to the employee for at least 9 months;

(e) Was entitled in the month before the month of marriage to either:

(1) A benefit under section 202 of the Social Security Act as a widow, widower, spouse (divorced spouse, surviving divorced spouse), father, mother, parent, or disabled child; or

(2) An annuity under the Railroad Retirement Act as a widow, widower,