



**Update Regarding USVSST Fund Estate Claim Processing**

**The USVSST Fund will no longer require proposed distribution plans and consents.** Instead, the USVSST Fund will require the Personal Representative to complete a [certification](#). For additional information, please see the Questions & Answers section at the bottom of this Update.

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**Demonstrating a new Applicant's authority to represent the estate of a decedent**

The Procedures for Personal Representatives described in the USVSST Fund's July 14, 2016, Federal Register Notice ([Notice](#)) remain the same. As of January 24, 2022, the USVSST Fund will implement a small number of different requirements, including requiring the new certification.

1. Personal Representatives who have been court-appointed as executors or administrators of a deceased victim's will or estate. *See* Notice at Part VII(1)(a).
  - a. *No change to existing requirement:* Personal Representatives must provide a copy of the court appointment.
  - b. **\*New\***: If the appointment document has expired or contains limitations or restrictions affecting the Personal Representative's continuing authority to file a claim with the USVSST Fund on behalf of deceased victim, the Personal Representative must explain the current legal authority to file the claim. The Personal Representative should identify and submit an explanation of any applicable laws.
  - c. **\*New\***: Personal Representatives must provide the new certification.
2. Personal Representatives who are named as executor or administrator in the deceased victim's will. *See* Notice at Part VII(1)(b).
  - a. *No change to existing requirement:* Personal Representatives must provide a copy of the testamentary document.
  - b. **\*New\***: Personal Representatives must provide the new certification.

3. Personal Representatives who are the first person in the line of succession established by the laws of the deceased victim's domicile governing intestacy. *See Notice at Part VII(1)(c).*
  - a. *No change to existing requirement:* the Personal Representative must identify and submit an explanation of any applicable laws to support the authority to file a claim on behalf of the deceased victim.
  - b. **Clarification:** If any other individuals share priority with the Personal Representative in the line of succession established by the laws of the deceased victim's domicile governing intestacy, those individuals must consent to the Personal Representative.
  - c. **\*New\*:** Personal Representatives must provide the new certification.

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#### Update Regarding USVSST Fund Estate Claim Processing: Questions & Answers

#### **1. The USVSST Fund Special Master already found the estate claim I filed eligible. Do I need to submit anything else for the claim to be considered for future payment rounds?**

Eligible claimants do not need to resubmit applications in order to be considered for future payment rounds. All claimants have a continuing [obligation to update claim information](#), including any changes in Personal Representative (PR). If the identity of the PR changes, the new PR must submit new material demonstrating the new PR's authority to act for the estate. At that time, the new requirements described in this Update will apply to the claim. *See also* Question 5, below.

#### **2. An individual previously filed a claim with the USVSST Fund that was found eligible. The individual has died, and I am the Personal Representative who needs to convert the claim to an estate claim. Do the new requirements apply?**

Yes, the new requirements apply to any new Personal Representative for an estate claim to the USVSST Fund.

#### **3. I submitted a new estate claim to be considered for future payment rounds. Do the new requirements apply?**

Yes, the new requirements apply to any new Personal Representative for an estate claim to the USVSST Fund. If you filed a new estate claim and submitted a Proposed Distribution Plan (PDP) by January 24, 2022, the USVSST Fund will review the PDP. If you did not submit a PDP by January 24, 2022, you should provide a Certification of Personal Representative instead.

**4. I am the Personal Representative for an estate claim. The USVSST Fund allocated an award for the claim but has not yet issued payment because I have not provided a Proposed Distribution Plan (PDP) and consents. Do I still have to provide the PDP and consents?**

If the USVSST Fund has not issued an allocated award because the Personal Representative has not provided a PDP and consents, the Personal Representative may **either** (1) provide the Certification of Personal Representative included in this Update, **or** (2) provide the PDP and consents.

**5. The USVSST Fund already approved the Proposed Distribution Plan (PDP) I submitted. Do I need to submit anything else?**

Eligible claimants do not need to resubmit applications in order to be considered for future payment rounds. All claimants have a continuing [obligation to update claim information](#), including any changes to a previously approved PDP. If a change to the previously approved PDP is necessary, the PR should submit the Certification of Personal Representative in lieu of a revised PDP. The PR does not need to provide a new PDP. *See also* Question 1, above.