#### Department of Veterans Affairs M21-1, Part III, Subpart ii

**Veterans Benefits Administration August 24, 2015**

**Washington, DC 20420**

#### Transmittal Sheet

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| Changes Included in This Revision | The table below describes the changes included in this revision of Veterans Benefits Manual M21-1, Part III, “General Claims Process,” Subpart ii, “Initial Screening and Determining Veterans Status.” ***Notes***: Minor editorial changes have been made to * update incorrect or obsolete references
* update topic titles to more accurately reflect their content
* clarify block labels, and
* bring the document into conformance with M21-1 standards.
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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| * To move guidance related to the Beneficiary Identification & Records Locator Subsystem (BIRLS) and the Control of Veterans Records System (COVERS) from the block text to Steps 1 and 2 of the step/action table associated with the same block.
* To better organize the information by moving some content in Step 10 of the step/action table to a new Step 11 and renumber the steps appropriately.
 | M21-1, Part III, Subpart ii, Chapter 3, Section D, Topic 2, Block e(III.ii.3.D.2.e) |
| * To reorganize the information in Step 3 of the step/action table to provide better clarity and ease of understanding.
* To better organize the information by moving some content in Step 9 of the step/action table to new Step 10 and renumber the steps appropriately.
 | III.ii.3.D.3.a |
| To better organize the information by moving some content in Step 8 of the step/action table to new Step 9 and renumber the steps appropriately. | III.ii.3.D.4.a |
| To add a step/action table to complement the flowchart describing the procedures for Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) claims establishment.  | III.ii.3.D.5.a |
| To add a new Block b with an updated flowchart for VBMS claims establishment. | III.ii.3.D.5.b |
| To add a step/action table to complement the flowchart describing the procedures for Share claims establishment. | III.ii.3.D.6.a |
| To add a new Block b with an updated flowchart for Share claims establishment. | III.ii.3.D.6.b |

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| Rescissions | None |

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| Authority | By Direction of the Under Secretary for Benefits |

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| Signature | Thomas J. Murphy, DirectorCompensation Service |

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