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

**Veterans Benefits Administration September 19, 2014**

**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 M21-1MR, Part III, “General Claims Process,” Subpart iii, “General Development and Dependency Issues.”  ***Notes***:   * Minor editorial changes have also been made to * bring the documents into conformance with M21-1MR standards. |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation | Page(s) |
| To replace “natural” with “biological” when discussing children for manual consistency. | M21-1MR, Part III, Subpart iii, Chapter 5, Section G, Topic 40, Block c, Block d, and Block f (III.iii.5.G.40.c,d, and f) | 5-G-12, 5-G-13, and  5-G-16 |
| To add stepchild’s Social Security number as an item that must be requested, if not provided by the Veteran, to establish a stepchild. | III.iii.5.G.42.d | 5-G-24 |
| To incorporate stepchild removal guidance (actions to take when the stepchild’s biological/adoptive parent dies or separates from the Veteran and how to handle the Veteran’s response to notice of proposed adverse action), supplied by the May 2014 Compensation Service Bulletin. | III.iii.5.G.42.h-i | 5-G-26 through 5-G-33 |
| To add a block detailing what the steps to take the Veteran does not respond a notice of adverse action. | III.iii.5.G.42.j | 5-G-33 |

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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, Director  Compensation Service |

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