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

**Veterans Benefits Administration May 26, 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 iii, “General Development and Dependency Issues.”  ***Notes***:   * The term regional office (RO) also includes pension management center (PMC), where appropriate. * Unless otherwise noted, the term “claims folder” refers to the official, numbered, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) repository – whether paper or electronic – for all documentation relating to claims that a Veteran and/or his/her survivors file with VA. * Minor editorial changes have also been made to * update incorrect or obsolete hyperlink references * update obsolete terminology, where appropriate * renumber each topic based on the standard that the first topic in each section is Topic 1 * reassign alphabetical designations to individual blocks, where necessary, to account for new and/or deleted blocks within a topic * update section and topic titles to more accurately reflect their content * clarify block labels and/or block text, and * bring the documents into conformance with M21-1 standards. |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| To add text to clarify that compensation payments for school attendance can continue to be paid unless direct payment to the child is warranted. | M21-1 Part III, Subpart iii, Chapter 6, Section B, Topic 1, Block a  (III.iii.6.B.1.a) |
| To clarify that, with some exceptions, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) may not concurrently pay a child Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and education benefits. | III.iii.6.B.1.d |
| To remove all notes which have been incorporated into new blocks III.iii.6.B.2.b and d. | III.iii.6.B.2.a |
| To add a new block for notes relocated from III.iii.6.B.2.a dealing with history of education benefits for dependents under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 33. | III.iii.6.B.2.b |
| To add a new block with a table to clarify the circumstances under which concurrent payment of education and disability or survivor benefits is appropriate. | III.iii.6.B.2.c |
| To add a new block for notes relocated from III.iii.6.B.2.a dealing with benefits adjustments before and after a child turns 18 or is permanently incapable of self-support. | III.iii.6.B.2.d |
| To include reference to the Marine Gunnery Sergeant David Fry Scholarship (38 U.S.C 3311). | III.iii.6.B.2.e |
| To include reference to the Marine Gunnery Sergeant David Fry Scholarship (38 U.S.C 3311). | III.iii.6.B.3.a |
| To require the uploading of snapshots of Benefits Delivery Network (BDN) M21 screens into the corresponding eFolder when BDN is used to verify the payment of DEA. | III.iii.6.B.3.b |
| * To change the response period from 60 to 30 days for requests for completion of *VA Form 21-674, Request for Approval of School Attendance*. * To provide instructions and references on the use of end product (EP) 690 when the potential for creation of an overpayment exists. * To clarify that a claimant may provide required information to a national call center (NCC) in lieu of *VA Form 21-674*. | III.iii.6.B.4.a |
| To clarify that a claimant may provide required information to an NCC in lieu of *VA Form 21-674*. | III.iii.6.B.5.a |
| * To provide instruction on the use of EP 690 when the potential for creation of an overpayment exists. * To clarify that a claimant may provide required information to an NCC in lieu of *VA Form 21-674b, School Attendance Report*. * To delete note box which repeated *VA Form 21-674b* information. | III.iii.6.B.5.b |
| To clarify that a claimant may provide required information to an NCC in lieu of *VA Form 21-8960, Certification of School Attendance or Termination*. | III.iii.6.B.6.b |
| To add a block that describes the actions ot take when the Hines Information Technology Center (ITC) is unable to issue a *VA Form 21-8960* to a beneficiary. | III.iii.6.B.6.d |
| * To provide instruction on the use of EP 690 when the potential for creation of an overpayment exists. * To change the response period from 60 to 30 days for requests for completion of *VA Form 21-674*. * To delete note box containing outdated information regarding a beneficiary’s option to certify school attendance by telephone, e-mail, or fax. | III.iii.6.B.6.e |
| * To provide instruction on the use of EP 693 when the potential for creation of an overpayment exists. * To clarify that a claimant may provide required information to an NCC in lieu of *VA Form 21-674*. | III.iii.6.B.6.f |
| To add a note stating users may verify a child’s receipt of DEA by accessing the BDN M21 screen and uploading a copy of the screen into the eFolder. | III.iii.6.B.6.g |
| * To provide instruction on the use of EP 690 when the potential for creation of an overpayment exists. * To update instructions for documenting the reason for a change in fiduciary. | III.iii.6.B.7.b |
| To add text that a claimant’s representative, if recognized as such by VA, may sign and submit *VA Form 21-674* to VA on a claimant’s behalf. | III.iii.6.B.7.c |
| To clarify that an election of education benefits under the Fry Scholarship is final. | III.iii.6.B.8.a |

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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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