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

**Veterans Benefits Administration June 25, 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 M21-1MR, 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 * Minor editorial changes have also been made to * remove references to rescinded portions of M21-1 * update incorrect or obsolete hyperlink references * update the term “notification letter” to “decision notice” * update obsolete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 rename Section C to “Education Benefits.” | M21-1, Part III, Subpart iii, Chapter 6, Section C (III.iii.6.C) |
| * To relocate the notes and reference from Block 1.c to a more logical location. * To add references for the need for a rating decision and Dependents’ Educational Assistance (DEA) eligibility for dependents of seriously injured service members. | III.iii.6.C.1.a |
| To update instructions for notifying Veterans of their dependents’ eligibility for DEA. | III.iii.6.C.1.b |
| * To add an exception for establishing eligibility for DEA when Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) is awarded under 38 U.S.C. 1151. * To relocate the notes and references to Block 1.a. | III.iii.6.C.1.c |
| To delete old Block 13.f containing obsolete BDN instructions. | III.iii.6.C.13.f (old) |
| * To add instructions for establishing a future diary for cases in which a beneficiary has elected Federal Employee Compensation (FEC) and his/her children are eligible for DEA. * To add references to Veterans Service Network (VETSNET) and Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) User Guides. | III.iii.6.C.1.f |
| To add a block that incorporates instructions from Fast Letter (FL) 10-03, *Chapter 35 Benefits for Dependents of Servicemembers*. | III.iii.6.C.1.g |
| To list the education benefits for which a Veterans dependents might be eligible and include references for more information on these benefits. | III.iii.5.C.2.a |
| * To delete the note that instructed ROs to send a *VA Form 21-674,* *Request for Approval of School Attendance*, to claimants when processing an application for DEA. (ROs no longer process applications for DEA.) * To incorporate the contents of old Block 16.e. * To add a reference to III.iii.6.B.6.g for using Share to determine whether a child is receiving education benefits for users that do not have access to the Benefits Delivery Network (BDN). * To include reference to education benefits under 38 U.S.C. 3311 (Marine Gunnery Sergeant David Fry Scholarship). | III.iii.6.C.2.b |
| To make revisions for the incorporation of instructions from FL 10-03. | III.iii.6.C.2.d |
| To add a reference for more information on rating determinations of DEA eligibility. | III.iii.6.C.2.e |
| To delete old Topic 15, as it contained instructions for processing DEA awards in BDN. (ROs no longer process DEA awards.) | III.iii.6.C.15 (old) |
| To delete old Block 16.a, as it contained instructions for processing DEA awards, which is no longer an RO responsibility. | III.iii.6.C.16.a (old) |
| To remove the statement that the Manila RO maintains its own DEA files. | III.iii.6.C.3.a |
| To remove instructions and references pertaining to the processing of DEA awards, since this is no longer an RO responsibility. | III.iii.6.C.3.b |
| To add text referring to education benefits under 38 U.S.C. 3311 (Fry Scholarship). | III.iii.6.C.3.c |

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| Rescissions | FL 10-03 |

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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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