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

**Veterans Benefits Administration May 6, 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 iv, “General Rating Process.”***Notes***: * The term “regional office” (RO) also includes pension management center (PMC), where appropriate.
* Minor editorial changes have also been made to
* update incorrect or obsolete references
* update obsolete terminology, where appropriate
* reassign alphabetical designations to individual blocks, where necessary, to account for new and/or deleted blocks within a topic
* clarify block labels and/or block text, and
* bring the document into conformance with M21-1 standards.
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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| * To delete information on Veteran Service Center Manager (VSCM) and Pension Management Center Manager (PMCM) responsibilities for Rating Veteran Service Representative (RVSR) training, which does not relate to adjudication concepts, policies and procedures.
* To add material on VSCM/PMCM responsibilities relating to the rating activity consistent with other M21-1 sections.
* To add references.
 | M21-1, Part III, Subpart iv, Chapter 1, Topic 1, Block a (III.iv.1.1.b) |
| To add a new Block c on the definition of the rating activity based on material relocated from III.ii.7.3.a | III.iv.1.1.c |
| To add a new Block d on the specific decision making responsibilities of the rating activity based on material relocated from III.ii.7.3.b | III.iv.1.1.d |
| * To delete the following from topic 1
* the definition of the rating schedule in former Block a, as off-topic.
* the guidance on benefits of temporary rating assignments in former Block d; it does not cover adjudication concepts, policies and procedures, and the concept of temporary rating activity assignments is addressed elsewhere in topic 1.
* the guidance on rotating rating assignments from former Block e; it does not cover adjudication concepts, policies and procedures, is inconsistent with other M21-1 references and is obsolete.
* To delete the guidance on jurisdiction in rating decisions in former Block f; this is being enhanced in new blocks in the same topic.
* To delete former Topic 2 on the medical member of the rating activity as obsolete.
* To delete former Topic 3 on the constructive notice rule as off topic and redundant of III.iv.2.A.
 | III.iv.1 |

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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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