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

**Veterans Benefits Administration July 23, 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. * 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 references * update the term “veteran” to “Veteran” * update obsolete terminology, where appropriate * 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 document into conformance with M21-1 standards. |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| * To clarify the rating activity’s responsibility to review claims which fall under their jurisdiction. * To provide a reference to the M21-1 reference that lists the issues which require a rating decision. | M21-1, Part III, Subpart iv, Chapter 2, Section A, Topic 1, Block a (III.iv.2.A.1.a) |
| To remove old III.iv.2.A.1.b due to the information already being incorporated in III.ii.7.3.b. | --- |
| To consolidate into a new Block, information from Topic 2, Blocks a and c about the rating activity’s responsibility to ensure VA has met its duty to notify requirements. | III.iv.2.A.2.a |
| To consolidate into a new block, information from Topic 2, Blocks a, b, and d about the rating activity’s responsibility to ensure VA has met its duty to assist requirements. | III.iv.2.A.2.b |
| To delete old III.iv.2.A.2.a-d. | --- |
| To provide a reference to the M21-1 citation that provides information on how to prepare an administrative denial. | III.iv.2.A.3.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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