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

**Veterans Benefits Administration July 29, 2015**

**Washington, DC 20420**

#### Transmittal Sheet

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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 v, “General Authorization Issues and Claimant Notifications.”***Notes***: * 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
* 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.
 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| * To update the description of the automated decision letter (ADL) process.
* To clarify that ADL requires an award for all cases.
 | M21-1, Part III, Subpart v, Chapter 2, Section B, Topic 4, Block a (III.v.2.B.4.a) |
| To add a new Block b providing guidance on types of claims eligible for ADL processing. | III.v.2.B.4.b |
| To add a new Block c that describes the sections of the ADL. | III.v.2.B.4.c |
| To add a new Block e discussing the dependency development feature of ADL. | III.v.2.B.4.e |
| To add a new Block f providing guidance on entering dependency development in ADL. | III.v.2.B.4.f |
| To add a new Block g providing instructions on soliciting claims in ADL. | III.v.2.B.4.g |
| To add a new Block h providing guidance on adding award specific guidance in ADL. | III.v.2.G.4.h |
| To add a new Block i providing instructions on adding free text in ADL. | III.v.2.B.4.i |
| To delete (old) Topic 5, because it is an outdated exhibit of a compensation claim decision notice. | -- |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rescissions | None |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Authority | By Direction of the Under Secretary for Benefits |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signature | Thomas J. Murphy, DirectorCompensation Service |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Distribution | LOCAL REPRODUCTION AUTHORIZED |