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

**Veterans Benefits Administration May 1, 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 v, “General Authorization Issues and Claimant Notifications.”  ***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 hyperlink references * update the term “veteran” to “Veteran” * update obsolete terminology, where appropriate * renumber each topic based on the standard that the first topic in each section is Topic 1 * bring the documents into conformance with M21-1 standards. |

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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| * To delete introduction statement in Topic 1 and move to Block c. * To delete Important Sublabel and move after the If Then table in block c. | M21-1, Part III, Subpart v, Chapter 4, Section D, Topic 3, Block b  (III.v.4.D.1.c) |
| * To delete “subsistence allowance for vocational rehabilitation” from Block d. | III.v.4.D.1.d |
| * To clarify that missing information in blocks 10A, 10B and 10C of the *VA Form 21-526, Veterans Application for Compensation and/or Pension,* will not warrant additional development unless the evidence shows receipt of Federal Employees’ Compensation (FEC). * To add a note that *VA Form 21-526EZ, Application for Disability Compensation and Related Compensation Benefits,* and *VA Form 21-526b, Veteran’s Supplemental Claim for Compensation,* do not request any information on compensation from Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs (OWCP). | III.v.4.D.3.b |
| * To add a note that the steps outlined in Block c are to be followed even in cases where the FEC disability is unknown. * To add the directive that a copy of the rating decision must also be sent to the claimant when the claim is denied, but appeal rights are not necessary. * To add a note that in cases with multiple disabilities, the FEC disability can be denied and the other disabilities processed normally. * To change the mailing address to the OWCP based on phone call with the Customer Service Help Desk. | III.v.4.D.3.c |
| To replace BDN terminology with VBMS terminology. | III.v.4.D.3.e |
| To replace BDN terminology with VBMS terminology. | III.v.4.D.3.f |
| To replace BDN terminology with VBMS terminology. | III.v.4.D.3.h |
| * To replace BDN terminology with VBMS terminology based. * To remove reference of rating and award going to Central Office. | III.v.4.D.4.b |
| To replace BDN terminology with VBMS terminology. | III.v.4.D.4.d |
| * To replace BDN terminology with VBMS terminology. * To remove reference of rating and award going to Central Office. | III.v.4.D.4.e |
| * To replace BDN terminology with VBMS terminology. * To remove reference of rating and award going to Central Office. | III.v.4.D.4.f |

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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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