#### 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, DirectorCompensation Service |

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