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

**Veterans Benefits Administration March 24, 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***: Minor editorial changes have also been made to * update incorrect or obsolete hyperlink references
* update section and topic titles to more accurately reflect their content
* renumber each topic based on the standard that the first topic in each section is Topic 1, and
* bring the documents into conformance with M21-1 and Knowledge Management (KM) standards.
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| Reason(s) for the Change | Citation |
| To explain that the effective date of a reopened or revised claim based on new and material evidence can be the date of receipt of the intent to file, as well as the date of claim.  | M21-1, Part III, Subpart iv, Chapter 2, Section B, Topic 1, Block c (III.iv.2.B.1.c) |
| To update the phrase “claim for earlier effective date” to “request for earlier effective date” to be consistent with what constitutes a claim. | III.iv.2.B.1.d |
| To clarify that the submission of new and material evidence alone is not sufficient to reopen a claim beginning March 24, 2015. | III.iv.2.B.3.a |
| To clarify the definition of clear and unmistakeable error (CUE) | III.iv.2.B.4.a |
| To clarify that a CUE is an allegation and not a claim as defined by VA regulations. | III.iv.2.B.4.eIII.iv.2.B.5.a |
| To clarify that a motion for reconsideration of a Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) decision is not governed by the *Standard Claims and Appeals Forms* regulation change. | III.iv.2.B.5.c |

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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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