

Adjudication Manual Changes

January 2024

[M21-1, Part III, Subpart ii, Chapter 2, Section A - General Information on Service Records](#) (III.ii.2.A)

Updated guidance indicating all records previously held by RMC have been scanned and uploading to the corresponding Veterans' eFolders.

01/25/2024

[M21-1, Part III, Subpart ii, Chapter 2, Section B - Procedures for Obtaining Service Treatment Records \(STRs\)](#) (III.ii.2.B)

Updated procedures for obtaining STRs.

01/25/2024

[M21-1, Part III, Subpart ii, Chapter 2, Section C - Clinical Records, Personnel Records, and Coast Guard Records](#) (III.ii.2.C)

Updated guidance for obtaining clinical records and personnel records.

01/25/2024

[M21-1, Part III, Subpart ii, Chapter 2, Section D - Control and Follow-Up of Requests for Service Records](#) (III.ii.2.D)

Updated procedures for controlling and following up on requests for service records.

01/25/2024

[M21-1, Part III, Subpart ii, Chapter 2, Section E - Service Record Address Codes and Addresses for Military Records Centers and Other Agencies](#) (III.ii.2.E)

Updated address codes and sources for service information.

01/25/2024

[M21-1, Part III, Subpart ii, Chapter 2, Section F - Fire-Related Records, Supplementary or Substitute Records, and Records for Unique Situations](#) (III.ii.2.F)

Updated to remove outdated instructions regarding PIES request codes.

01/25/2024

[M21-1, Part III, Subpart ii, Chapter 2, Section G - Record Exchanges Between the Department of Veterans Affairs \(VA\) and the Service Departments](#) (III.ii.2.G)

Updated and/or remove outdated guidance regarding transfer of records between VA and military review boards.

01/25/2024

[**M21-1, Part VIII, Subpart iii, Chapter 7, Section B - Development and Examination Requests for Claims Based on Exposure to Asbestos**](#) (VIII.iii.7.B)

Updated to remove outdated PIES request code and FDC exclusion information.

01/25/2024

[**M21-1, Part VIII, Subpart iii, Chapter 8, Section A - Developing Claims Based on Exposure to Contaminants in the Water Supply at Camp Lejeune**](#) (VIII.iii.8.A)

Updated to remove outdated instructions regarding PIES request codes.

01/25/2024

[**M21-1, Part VIII, Subpart iv, Chapter 2, Section C - Development and Examination Request for Claims Based on Former Prisoner of War \(FPOW\) Status**](#) (VIII.iv.2.C)

Updated to remove outdated instructions regarding PIES request codes.

01/25/2024

[**M21-1, Part X, Subpart i, Chapter 4, Section C - Development of Philippine Claims**](#) (X.i.4.C)

Updated instructions for verifying service as a regular or Special Philippine Scout.

01/25/2024

[**M21-1, Part XII, Subpart i, Chapter 1, Section A - Overview of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation \(DIC\)**](#) (XII.i.1.A)

Updated instructions for obtaining pay grade data.

01/24/2024

[**M21-1, Part X, Subpart iv, Chapter 4 - Renouncements**](#) (X.iv.4)

Updated to clarify steps to properly discontinue an award based on renouncement.

01/23/2024

[**M21-1, Part XII, Subpart i, Chapter 3, Section A - Dependency and Indemnity Compensation \(DIC\) Initial Authorization Issues**](#) (XII.i.3.A)

Updated to outline effective dates when granting DIC reevaluations under *PL 117-168* (PACT Act).

01/23/2024

[**M21-1, Part XII, Subpart i, Chapter 1, Section B - Common Dependency and Indemnity Compensation \(DIC\) Processing Issues**](#) (XII.i.1.B)

Updated to indicate that claimants may elect a reevaluation of a previously denied DIC claim on new versions of certain forms.

01/19/2024

[**M21-1, Part XI, Subpart iii, Chapter 1, Section B - Burial Benefits**](#) (XI.iii.1.B)

Updated to improve procedural guidance when a claim for unclaimed Veteran remains is received.

01/19/2024

[**M21-1, Part X, Subpart v, Chapter 1, Section D - Regional Office \(RO\) Hearings**](#) (X.v.1.D)

Updated to provide guidance on videoconference hearings.

01/10/2024

[**M21-1, Part V, Subpart iii, Chapter 12, Section B - Traumatic Brain Injury \(TBI\)**](#) (V.iii.12.B)

Updated to clarify the definition of external force for the purpose of TBI events.

01/10/2024

[**M21-1, Part V, Subpart iii, Chapter 13 - Mental Disorders**](#) (V.iii.13)

Updated to clarify guidance on considering SC for insomnia.

01/08/2024

[**M21-1, Part II, Subpart i, Chapter 2, Section C - Mail Management**](#) (II.i.2.C)

Updated with guidance for mailing through the CBCM program.

01/08/2024

[**M21-1, Part VI, Subpart i, Chapter 1, Section B - Decision Notices**](#) (VI.i.1.B)

Updated with guidance for mailing through the CBCM program and notifying Veterans of ancillary benefits.