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are to be considered inapplicable to this program and do not confer benefits or rights not provided by 38 U.S.C. 1524.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524)

§21.6015 Claims and elections.

(a) *Claims by veterans under age 45 for whom participation in an evaluation is required.* A veteran under age 45 who is awarded pension during the program period will be scheduled for an evaluation to determine whether achievement of a vocational goal is reasonably feasible, unless it is determined that the veteran is unable to participate in an evaluation for reasons beyond his or her control. If VA, as a result of the evaluation, determines that achievement of a vocational goal is reasonably feasible, the veteran may elect to pursue a vocational training program. To make this election, the veteran must file a claim, in a form prescribed by VA, for services under this temporary program.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b); Pub. L. 100-687, Pub. L. 100-687, Pub. L. 101-237).

(b) *Claims by qualified veterans for whom participation in an evaluation is not required.* Qualified veterans in the following categories will be provided an evaluation if they request assistance under the temporary program, and are found to have good employment potential. These veterans include:

(1) Veterans age 45 and more who are awarded pension during the program period;

(2) Veterans awarded pension prior to the beginning of the program period on February 1, 1985, who meet the conditions contained in §21.6005(c) of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b), Pub. L. 100-687, Pub. L. 101-237).

(c) *Filing a claim.* A veteran in one of the categories identified in paragraph (b) of this section must file a claim in the form prescribed by VA in order to be considered for an evaluation of his or her ability to achieve a vocational goal through participation in this temporary program. The veteran's claim is considered a request for both the evaluation, and if achievement of a voca-

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tional goal is found reasonably feasible, for participation in the vocational training program.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524, Pub. L. 100-687).

(d) *Claims following failure to timely pursue a vocational training program.* (1) If a veteran for whom achievement of a vocational goal is found reasonably feasible does not undertake a vocational training program within the time limits specified in §21.32, he or she must file an original or reopened claim, as appropriate, in a form prescribed by VA in order to be considered for such services to determine if achievement of the previous vocational goal or a new vocational goal is reasonably feasible.

(2) If a veteran has been placed in discontinued case status by the VA, he or she must file a new claim in a form prescribed by the VA to reopen the case.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

(e) *Informal claims.* Informal claims shall be governed by §21.31 of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(a))

(f) *Time limit.* The time limit for making a claim to pursue a vocational training program shall be governed by §21.32 of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(a))

[53 FR 4397, Feb. 16, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 17271, Apr. 24, 1990; 56 FR 21448, May 9, 1991]

§21.6021 Nonduplication—38 U.S.C., chapters 30, 31, 32, 34 and 35.

(a) *Election between this temporary program and chapter 31 required.* A service-disabled veteran awarded VA pension who is offered a vocational training program under 38 U.S.C. chapter 15 and is also eligible for such assistance under chapter 31, must elect which benefit he or she will receive. The veteran may reelect at any time if he or she is still eligible for the benefit desired.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2); Pub. L. 100-687).

(b) *VA educational assistance programs.* A veteran who is eligible under this program may receive an educational

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assistance allowance under chapter 30, 32, 34 or 35 if he or she is otherwise eligible under one of these programs.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2))

(c) *Prior training under VA programs.* If a veteran has pursued an educational or training program under chapter 30, 32, 34 or 35, or a vocational rehabilitation program under chapter 31, the training received in the earlier program shall be considered, to the extent feasible, in determining the character and duration of the services to be furnished under this program.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(1))

(d) *Other prior training.* If a veteran has pursued other significant training under non-VA programs or on his or her own, such training will be considered in determining the character and duration of services to be furnished.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(1))

(e) *Not limited by use of other entitlement.* The number of months of services provided under this program are not subject to the provisions of § 21.4020 of this part which limit the aggregate months of VA benefits to be provided.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2))

[53 FR 4397, Feb. 16, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 17272, Apr. 24, 1990]

BASIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

§ 21.6040 Eligibility for vocational training and employment assistance.

(a) *Basic eligibility requirements.* A veteran may be provided vocational training, employment assistance and related services to achieve a vocational goal under this program, if the following basic requirements are met:

(1) The veteran is a qualified veteran as described in § 21.6005(c) of this part;

(2) The veteran participates in a VA evaluation of his or her rehabilitation potential to determine whether achievement of a vocational goal is reasonably feasible;

(3) Achievement of a vocational goal is found reasonably feasible, following evaluation by VA;

(4) The veteran elects to pursue a vocational training program;

(5) The veteran and VA develop and agree to an Individualized Written Rehabilitation Plan (IWRP) identifying the vocational goal and the means through which this goal will be achieved.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(a)(1))

(b) *Eligibility for employment assistance.* (1) As provided in this paragraph, a veteran who is a participant in this program shall be eligible to receive counseling, placement, postplacement, work and personal adjustment services furnished under § 21.6060(a)(2) of this part for a period not to exceed 18 months. These services are further described in §§ 21.140(d)(2), 21.250(a), (b)(2), (c)(3), and (4), and 21.252, 21.254, 21.256, 21.257, and 21.258 of this part.

(2) The participants who qualify for the services described in paragraph (a) of this section include a veteran who:

(i) Has completed a vocational rehabilitation training program;

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(3))

(ii) Undertakes a vocational training program, but voluntarily terminates training. If VA determines the veteran to be employable at the time participation in training ends, the veteran shall be deemed to have completed the vocational training program and may be provided the employment services described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section if he or she requests such assistance;

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(3))

(iii) Does not require a vocational training program because VA determines as a result of an evaluation that he or she already possesses the training necessary for suitable employment and is able to achieve a vocational goal without further training; and

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2))

(iv) Has been a prior participant in a vocational training program, is currently employable, but needs employment assistance to obtain employment in a suitable occupation.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2))