

§ 21.6072

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changed during the program in accordance with § 21.94 (a) through (d) of this part. The extent to which such changes may be made is limited by the following considerations:

(1) A change of the vocational goal from one field or occupational family to another field or occupational family may only be approved before the end of the first 24 months of training, whether training is pursued on a full-time or a less than full-time basis; and

(2) A change from one occupational objective to another within the same field or occupational family shall not be considered a change in the vocational goal identified in the veteran's IWRP.

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

§ 21.6072 Extending the duration of a vocational training program.

(a) *Extension of the duration of a vocational training program.* An extension of a vocational training program as formulated in the IWRP may only be approved to enable the veteran to achieve a vocational goal identified before the end of the first 24 calendar months of the program.

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

(b) *Maximum number of months for which a program for new participants may be approved.* If a veteran had never participated in this temporary program of vocational training, the originally planned period of training may be extended to a total period consisting of the number of months necessary to attain the vocational goal, but in no case will a program be extended for:

(1) More than 24 calendar months beyond the originally planned period; or

(2) A period which, when added to the originally planned period, totals more than 48 months, as provided in § 21.6074(c) of this part.

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

(c) *Maximum number of months by which a program may be extended for prior participants in the temporary program.* (1) A veteran who has previously participated in this program, but who was not *rehabilitated to the point of employability*, may be provided additional training under this program to com-

plete the prior vocational goal or a different vocational goal, subject to the same provisions as apply to new participants;

(2) If a finding of prior *rehabilitation to the point of employability* is set aside to enable a veteran to pursue a program of on-job training or work experience, including the provision of employer incentives under § 21.256 of this part, the number of months for which assistance may be authorized under this program shall be established as provided in § 21.256 of this part to the extent consistent with the rules of this section;

(3) If the determination of *rehabilitation to the point of employability* has been set aside under § 21.6284 (a) or (b) of this part, additional training may be provided subject to the same provisions as apply to new participants.

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

(d) *Who may authorize an extension to a vocational training program.* (1) The Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist (VRS) may authorize an extension of up to 3 calendar months of full-time or up to 6 calendar months of less than full-time training to the period of an existing vocational training program, if the VRS determines that the additional time is needed to successfully complete training and the following conditions are met:

(i) The veteran is in *rehabilitation to the point of employability* status under § 21.190 of this part;

(ii) The veteran has completed more than half of the prescribed training;

(iii) The veteran is making satisfactory progress;

(iv) The extension is necessary to complete training;

(v) Training can be completed with 3 months of full-time training or not more than 6 calendar months of less than full-time training; and

(vi) The extension plus the original program period will not result in a program of vocational training greater than 36 total calendar months;

(2) The counseling psychologist may approve any other extensions of the vocational training program, except as

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provided in paragraph (d)(3) of this section, if it is determined that the additional time is needed and the conditions for extension under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section are met;

(3) The VR&C Officer must also concur in an extension of the vocational training program beyond 24 months when paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section are met.

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

§ 21.6074 Computing the period of vocational training program participation.

(a) *Computing the participation period.* The number of months and days used in a vocational training program shall be computed on the basis of calendar months and days during which the program participant is receiving services under the plan developed in accordance with § 21.6080 of this part, whether training is pursued on a full-time or less than full-time basis. Leaves of absence during a period of instruction and periods in which the veteran does not pursue actual training, such as breaks between periods of instruction, are included.

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

(b) *Period of employment services separate.* The period during which employment services may be provided pursuant to § 21.6040(b) of this part is not included in computing the period used for vocational training under this program.

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

(c) *Limitations.* (1) A program participant may receive the services necessary to carry out the vocational training program during a maximum period of 48 months. The 48-month period begins to run on the day the veteran begins to receive the services needed to carry out the vocational training program as specified in the IWRP, and ends 48 months from that date.

(2) Employment services which begin before the end of the 48-month period may be continued for the period specified in the IEAP, or may be provided after the end of the 48 month period if so specified in the IWRP or IEAP, sub-

ject to the provisions of § 21.6040(b) of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2), (3))

INDIVIDUALIZED WRITTEN REHABILITATION PLAN

§ 21.6080 Requirement for an individualized written rehabilitation or employment assistance plan.

(a) *General.* An Individualized Written Rehabilitation Plan (IWRP) and/or Individualized Employment Assistance Plan (IEAP) will be developed for each program participant for services under 38 U.S.C. 1524. These plans shall be developed in the same manner as for chapter 31 purposes. See §§ 21.80, 21.84, 21.88, 21.90, 21.92, 21.94 (a) through (d), 21.96 and 21.98.

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

(b) *Selecting the type of training to include in the plan.* The use of on-job training, including non-pay training, a combination of on-job and institutional training, or institutional training to accomplish the goals of the program should be explored in each case. On-job training, or a combination of on-job and institutional training, should generally be used:

(1) When these options are available;

(2) When these options are as suitable as institutional training for accomplishing the goals of the program; and

(3) The veteran agrees that such training will meet his or her needs.

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

(c) *Changes in the plan.* Any change amending the duration of a veteran's plan is subject to provisions governing duration of a vocational training program described in § 21.6070 and § 21.6072 of this part.

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

(d) *Change in the vocational goal after 24 months of training.* If a veteran seeks to change the vocational goal after receipt of 24 months of training and the change is not permitted under § 21.6070(f) of this part, the counseling psychologist shall inform the veteran that:

(1) No change of goal may be authorized but training for the vocational