

§21.7103

this section following the veteran's request for counseling, the veteran's initial application for benefits or any communication from the veteran or guardian indicating that the veteran wishes to change his or her program. VA shall take appropriate steps (including individual notification where feasible) to acquaint all participants with the availability and advantages of counseling services.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3463; Pub. L. 98-525, Pub. L. 99-576)

[53 FR 1757, Jan. 22, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 28385, July 11, 1990]

§21.7103 Travel expenses.

(a) *Travel for veterans and servicemembers.* (1) Except as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, VA shall determine and pay the necessary cost of travel to and from the place of counseling for individuals who are required to receive counseling if—

(i) VA determines that the individual is unable to defray the cost based upon his or her annual declaration and certification; or

(ii) The individual has a compensable service-connected disability.

(2) VA shall not pay for the travel expenses for a veteran who is not residing in a State.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 111)

(b) *Travel for attendants.* (1) VA will authorize payment of travel expenses for an attendant while the individual is traveling when—

(i) The individual, because of a severe disability requires the services of an attendant when traveling, and

(ii) VA is paying the necessary cost of the individual's travel on the basis of the criteria stated in paragraph (a) of this section.

(2) VA will not pay the attendant a fee for travel expenses if he or she is a relative as defined in §21.374 of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 111)

(c) *Payment of travel expenses prohibited for most veterans.* VA shall not pay for any costs of travel to and from the place of counseling for anyone who re-

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quests counseling under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 30.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 111)

CROSS REFERENCE: 21.374, Authorization for travel of attendants.

[55 FR 28385, July 11, 1990]

PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION

§21.7110 Selection of a program of education.

(a) *General requirement.* In order to receive educational assistance an individual must either be pursuing an approved program of education or be pursuing refresher or deficiency courses, or other preparatory or special education or training courses necessary to enable the individual to pursue an approved program of education.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3014, 3023; 3034; Pub. L. 98-525, Pub. L. 100-689 (Aug. 15, 1989))

(b) *Approval of a program of education.* VA will approve a program of education under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30 selected by an eligible veteran or servicemember if—

(1) It meets the definition of a program of education found in §21.7020(b)(23) of this part,

(2) It has an objective as described in §21.7020(b)(13) or (22) of this part,

(3) The courses and subjects in the program are approved for VA training, and

(4) The veteran or servicemember is not already qualified for the objective of the program.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3002(3), 3034, 3471; Pub. L. 98-525)

[53 FR 1757, Jan. 22, 1988, as amended at 53 FR 3207, Feb. 4, 1988; 56 FR 20135, May 2, 1991]

§21.7112 Programs of education combining two or more types of courses.

(a) *Concurrent enrollment.* (1) When a veteran or servicemember cannot successfully schedule his or her complete program at one educational institution, VA may approve a program of concurrent enrollment. When requesting such a program, the veteran or servicemember must show that his or her complete program of education is

not available at the educational institution in which he or she will pursue the major portion of his or her program (the primary educational institution), or that it cannot be scheduled successfully within the period in which he or she plans to complete his or her program. When the standards for measurement of the courses pursued concurrently in the two educational institutions are different, the concurrent enrollment shall be measured by converting the measurement of courses being pursued at the second educational institution under the standard applicable to such institution to its equivalent measurement under the standard required for full-time courses applicable to the primary educational institution. For a complete discussion of measurement of concurrent enrollments see § 21.7172 of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3688; Pub. L. 99-576)

(2) The veteran or servicemember must submit the monthly certification of attendance and pursuit. Each educational institution where concurrent enrollment is approved must either endorse that certification, or submit a separate certification showing the veteran's or servicemember's enrollment and pursuit.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034(b); Pub. L. 98-525)

(b) *Courses offered under contract.* In administering benefits payable under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30, the VA will apply the provisions of § 21.4233(e) of this part in the same manner as they are applied under 38 U.S.C. chapter 34.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034(a); Pub. L. 98-525)

(c) *Television.* In determining whether a veteran or servicemember may pursue all or part of a program of education under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30 by television, VA will apply the provisions of § 21.4233(c).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034(a))

[53 FR 1757, Jan. 22, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 28386, July 11, 1990; 62 FR 40280, July 28, 1997]

§ 21.7114 Change of program.

In determining whether a veteran or servicemember may change his or her program of education under 38 U.S.C. ch. 30, VA will apply the provisions of § 21.4234 of this part. VA will not consider programs of education a veteran or servicemember may have pursued under 38 U.S.C. ch. 34 or 36 before January 1, 1990, if he or she wishes to change programs of education under 38 U.S.C. ch. 30.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3691; Pub. L. 98-525, Pub. L. 101-366) (June 1, 1991)

[57 FR 29027, June 30, 1992]

COURSES

§ 21.7120 Courses included in programs of education.

(a) *General.* Generally, VA will approve, and will authorize payment of educational assistance, for the individual's enrollment in any course or subject which a State approving agency has approved as provided in § 21.7220 of this part and which forms a part of a program of education as defined in § 21.7020(b)(23) of this part. Restrictions on this general rule are stated in § 21.7222(b) of this part, however.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3002(3), 3452; Pub. L. 98-525)

(b) *Avocational and recreational courses are restricted.*

(1) VA will not pay educational assistance for an enrollment in any course—

(i) Which is avocational or recreational in character, or

(ii) The advertising for which contains significant avocational or recreational themes.

(2) VA presumes that the following courses are avocational or recreational in character unless the veteran or servicemember justifies their pursuit to VA as provided in paragraph (b)(3) of this section. The courses are:

(i) Any photography course or entertainment course, or

(ii) Any music course, instrumental or vocal, public speaking course or courses in dancing, sports or athletics, such as horseback riding, swimming, fishing, skiing, golf, baseball, tennis, bowling, sports officiating, or other