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Section B. Income and Net Worth Development Forms and Acceptable Statements

Overview

Introduction

This section contains the following topics:

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5. Original Applications for Pension and Parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

Introduction

This topic contains information on the forms to be used for filing an original application for pension or Parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), including

- the application forms for original and reopened Improved Pension and Parents' DIC claims, and
- forms used to supplement or clarify income information provided on an application.

Change Date

December 13, 2005

a. Application Forms for Original and Reopened Claims

The table below shows the application forms that should be used to file original and reopened claims for Improved Pension and Parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC).

If the claimant is filing ...	Then the claimant should submit ...
an original claim for disability pension	*VA Form 21-526, Veteran's Application for Compensation and/or Pension.*
an original claim for death pension	*VA Form 21-534, Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, Death Pension and Accrued Benefits by a Surviving Spouse or Child (Including Death Compensation if Applicable).*
an original claim for Parents' DIC	*VA Form 21-535, Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation by Parent(s) (Including Accrued Benefits and Death Compensation When Applicable).*
to reopen a disability pension claim in which *VA Form 21-526* was previously filed	• *VA Form 21-527, Income-Net Worth and Employment Statement*, or • applicable *Eligibility Verification Report*.

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5. Original Applications for Pension and Parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), Continued

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b. Obtaining Supplemental Income and Net Worth Information

The applications described in block a of this topic request income and, if applicable, net worth information. However, it is often necessary to

- clarify or supplement income and net worth information furnished on the application, or
- request income or net worth information in connection with a reopened or supplemental claim.

Eligibility Verification Reports (EVRs) are provided for this purpose.

Reference: For more information on EVRs, see M21-1MR, Part V, Subpart iii, 7 (TBD) or M21-1, Part IV, Chapter 29.

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6. Basic Income and Net Worth Development Forms

Introduction

This topic contains information on the basic income and net worth development forms, including

- EVR forms used to develop basic income and net worth information after an original application has been filed
- releasing EVR forms from a Regional Office (RO)
- forms to use to determine if an Improved Pension claimant has dependents, and
- recording "from/thru" dates on Improved Pension EVR forms.

Change Date

December 13, 2005

a. EVR Forms for Developing Basic Income/Net Worth Information

Use the table below for information on the EVR forms used to develop basic income and net worth information after an original application has been filed.

VA Form Number	VA Form Name
VA Form 21-0512S-1	*Old Law and Section 306 Eligibility Verification Report (Surviving Spouse)*
VA Form 21-0512V-1	*Old Law and Section 306 Eligibility Verification Report (Veteran)*
VA Form 21-0513-1	*Old Law and Section 306 Eligibility Verification Report (Children Only)*
VA Form 21-0514-1	*DIC Parent's Eligibility Verification Report*
VA Form 21-0516-1	*Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Veteran with Spouse)*
VA Form 21-0517-1	*Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Veteran with Children)*

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6. Basic Income and Net Worth Development Forms, Continued

a. EVR Forms for Developing Basic Income/Net Worth Information (continued)

VA Form Number	VA Form Name
VA Form 21-0518-1	*Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Surviving Spouse with No Children)*
VA Form 21-0519C-1	*Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Child or Children)*
VA Form 21-0519S-1	*Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Surviving Spouse and/or Children)*

b. Releasing EVR Forms From an RO

When releasing any EVR form from a Regional Office (RO), write the veteran's file number on the form.

If an EVR form is sent to a beneficiary, enclose *VA Form 21-0510, Eligibility Verification Report Instructions*.

Notes:

- EVR forms can also be released via
  - the Benefits Delivery Network (BDN) 203 screen, or
  - a locally-generated letter.
- Modern Awards Processing-Development (MAP-D) should be used for development whenever possible.

Reference: For information on development procedures in MAP-D, see the *MAP-D User's Guide* at http://10.71.128.28/VetsNet/Claims_Docs/webhelp/Claim_Development1.htm.

c. Determining If an Improved Pension Claimant Has Dependents

If there is uncertainty as to whether or not an Improved Pension claimant has dependents, use the most inclusive form, which would be

- *VA Form 21-0517-1*, in a disability pension case, or
- *VA Form 21-0519-1*, in a death pension case.

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6. Basic Income and Net Worth Development Forms, Continued

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d. Recording From/Thru Dates on Improved Pension EVR Forms

Generally, when filling out the "from/thru" spaces on EVR forms, for the

- "from" date space, write the
  - date of pension entitlement, if known, or
  - current date, if the date of pension entitlement is not known, and
- "thru" date space, write the date that is 12 months from the end of the month of the "from" date.

Example: If a surviving spouse's entitlement is based on the date of claim, which is October 28, 2004, write

- "10/28/04" as the "from" date, and
- "10/31/05" as the "thru" date.

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e. Recording From/Thru Dates on Improved Pension EVR Forms According to Development Period

Two sets of spaces for "from/thru" dates are provided on Improved Pension EVR forms.

If the development period covers

- *less* than six months
  - write the "from/thru" dates in just one of the spaces, and
  - draw a line through the other space, or
- *more* than six months, write the "from/thru" dates in both spaces ,with the "from/thru" dates on the right-hand side of the form being used for the 12-month period starting the day *after* the "thru" date on the left-hand side of the form.

Example: If the date of entitlement is October 28, 2004, and the form is being dispatched on August 7, 2005(more than six months later), write

- "10/28/04" and "10/31/05" as the "from/thru" dates on the left-hand side of the form, and
- "11/01/05" and "10/31/06" as the "from/thru" dates on the right-hand side of the form.

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f. Recording From/Thru Dates on EVR Forms Released via BDN

Because "from/thru" dates cannot be inserted on Improved Pension EVR forms requested via BDN, the system provides fields on the 203 screen in which to furnish the dates covered by the income report. These dates then appear on the BDN-generated cover letter, which transmits the form to the claimant.

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7. Specialized Income Development Forms

Change Date

December 13, 2005

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a. Forms for Developing Specific Types of Income

Use the table below to determine the appropriate form to use to develop for specific types of income.

If developing for ...	Then ...
the income and net worth of a veteran's children if a surviving spouse remarries	send VA Form *21-4103, Information from Remarried Widow/er*, to the claimant.
reported farm income	send VA Form *21-4165, Pension Claim Questionnaire for Farm Income*, to the claimant.
reported • income from a business other than farming, or • rental income	send *VA Form 21-4185, Report of Income from Property or Business*, to the claimant.
information • on the date that the veteran last worked, and • about the final wages and any retirement or other benefits to which the veteran might be entitled	send *VA Form 21-4192, Request for Employment Information in Connection with Claim for Disability Benefits*, to the veteran's former employer. ***Reference***: For more information on developing for severance or accumulated leave pay, see M21-1MR, Part V, Subpart i, 3.C.10.

Note: MAP-D should be used for development whenever possible.

Reference: For information on development procedures in MAP-D, see the *MAP-D User's Guide* at http://10.71.128.28/VetsNet/Claims_Docs/webhelp/Claim_Development1.htm.

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8. Developing for Income and Net Worth Information by Telephone, E-Mail, or Fax

Introduction

This topic contains information on developing for income and net worth information by telephone, e-mail or fax, including

- claimant requirements for submitting information
- procedures for oral communications, and
- retroactive restoration of benefits.

Change Date

December 13, 2005

a. Claimant Requirements for Submitting Information

Changes in income or net worth affecting entitlement to benefits do not have to be submitted in writing.

A statement from a claimant or beneficiary regarding income or net worth changes may be received by

- telephone
- e-mail
- fax, or
- written correspondence.

VA may increase or decrease benefit payments based on information submitted by one of these methods.

Reference: For more information, see M21-1MR, Part II, 3 (TBD) and M21-1MR, Part II, 5 (TBD) or M21-1, Part III, Subchapter III, Chapter 11.

b. Procedures for Oral Communications

Per 38 CFR 3.217(b), follow the specific telephone contact procedures outlined in M21-1MR, Part II, 3.A.1 (TBD) or M21-1, Part III, 11.18 on all oral communications in order to be able to

- use the information furnished to reduce or terminate benefits, and
- furnish the beneficiary contemporaneous notice of the adverse action.

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8. Developing for Income and Net Worth Information by Telephone, E-Mail, or Fax, Continued

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c. Retroactive Restoration of Benefits

Per 38 CFR 3.103(b)(4), VA must retroactively restore benefits that were adversely affected based on oral communication, if, within 30 days of the date that the notice of adverse action is issued, the beneficiary or his/her fiduciary asserts that the adverse action was based upon

- information or statements that were inaccurate, or
- information that was not provided by the beneficiary or his/her fiduciary.
