

Procedural Advisory: 180-Day Transition Period for Section 4302 of PL 116-315-REVISED

April 13, 2021

What Will Change: On March 30, 2021, the Veterans Information System (VIS) was updated to include the Projected End Date (PED) on the Education Tab for both Active Duty and Guard and Reserve Active Service (GRAS) periods of service. VIS will now be the authoritative source in determining eligibility in these instances.

This advisory is a revision of the [March 22, 2021](#) guidance of PL 116-315 Section 4302. This section, in part, allows VA to treat Service members within 180-days of discharge as potentially eligible for the purposes of the VET TEC Program.

What RPO Action is Needed:

1. Validation of Projected End Date (PED).

Effective March 30, 2021, VIS must be used to validate the PED the Service member indicated on the application. As always, VIS is the authoritative source, therefore, use the date reflected in VIS for the PED.

If the PED in VIS is within 180 days from the date of processing the eligibility, the Service member will be determined to be eligible and a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) should be issued (presuming beneficiary meets all other eligibility criteria).

If there is no verification found in VIS, VCEs will follow development procedures as stated in [M22-4, Part 3, Chapter 3.13](#)

The VCE must concurrently develop to the service Point of Contact (POC) and the Service member for "certification" through their Military Personnel Office to confirm the PED is expected within 180 days. Once the service POC has verified the PED, the COE may be issued. If VIS or development cannot verify the PED, denial will be issued. This denial will be specific to the 180-day transition reason and any other potential eligibility issue.

NOTE: The VCE must put the PED in a Flash within The Image Management System (TIMS). VCEs are required to review and validate this date before any adjudicative action.

2. Validation of Release from Active Duty.

a. Monthly Housing Allowance.

The VET TEC Team is responsible to validate this release from active duty provision has been met.

VCEs must review VIS each time a tuition and fees payment is due on the beneficiary's record. There is currently no ingestion from VIS to the VET TEC job aid to receive any notice of a change in the Service member's participation in the Armed Forces.

Once the Service member has been released from active duty with an Honorable discharge (within the 180 days from the date of the COE), the VCE must follow current guidance to ensure MHA begins the day after the actual RAD and is provided the correct notification to begin verifying monthly attendance.

b. Confirmation of RAD within 180 days of COE.

VCEs must confirm the Service member was released from active duty within the original 180 days (as established by Section 4302). Failure to comply with this section means ineligibility for the VET TEC program. If the Service member failed to be released within 180 days OR was released for other than Honorable discharge, the VCE must terminate the award from the beginning of the program.

There are two exceptions when the Service member may still have been eligible if they are not released within the original 180 days.

1. Death of Service member
2. Service member was extended involuntarily AND can provide a copy of the orders stating such.

If there is any other extenuating circumstance for a Service member who failed to meet the 180 days, the VET TEC Team should contact the [Procedures Team](#) for review and clarification.

NOTE: VET TEC is only processed by the Buffalo RPO

Questions: If you have any questions, please direct them to the [Procedures Team](#).

V/R

Procedures Team