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**Subject:** Interim Guidance - Section 1002, Original Fry Claims

Section 1002 is effective for payments on or after August 1, 2021, however leadership has indicated RPOs should begin issuing COEs immediately for the new eligibility categories, to the extent possible.

This section expanded eligibility for the Fry Scholarship by adding coverage for a child or spouse of an individual who dies, on or after September 11, 2001, in the line of duty while serving on duty other than active duty as a member of the Armed Forces or as a member of the Selected Reserve from a service-connected disability. Additionally, this law incorporates these amendments into 38 U.S.C. § 3322, which bars duplication of certain educational benefits.

Policy and procedural guidance to fully process these claims is in the concurrence phase. A definition of 'serving on duty other than active duty as a member of the Armed Forces' is pending, as well as guidance on how to properly identify this service and/or a qualifying death.

If a claim can be identified as qualifying based on the death of a member of the Selected Reserve due to a service-connected disability (per Compensation Record), a COE should be issued.

Effective immediately, current claims that may be applicable under section 1002 should *not* be denied. Please hold these claims pending further guidance.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the [Procedures Team](#).

V/R

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