



PENSION AND FIDUCIARY SERVICE

PMC VSR Advanced Core Course
Phase 5: Stages of a Claim
Part 5: Award Adjustments

Phase 5, Part 5a Knowledge Check Preparation

Appendix A

May 18, 2017

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Prerequisite Learning Objectives

Description

This appendix lists the references according to the prerequisite learning objectives and the learning objectives used for the knowledge check preparation. The reference types include the corresponding lesson title, job aids, 38 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and M21-1 Adjudication Procedures Manual.

Establish periods for calculating income

Reference Type	Reference Name
Lesson	Phase 5, Part 1c, Lesson 16: <i>Establish Periods for Calculating Income</i>
Job Aids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Year job aid • Income and Net Worth Status job aid
38 CFR and M21-1 Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 CFR 3.400—3.404 (Effective dates.) • 38 CFR 3.31 (Commencement of the period of payment.) • M21-1 V.iii.1.A.4 (Pension and Parents' DIC Award Effective Dates and Payment Dates) • M21-1 V.iii.1.A.5 (General Information on the Payment Date Under 38 CFR 3.31) • M21-1 V.iii.1.A.3.g (Definition of Initial Year for Pension and Time Limit for Establishing Entitlement for the Initial Year) • M21-1 V.iii.1.H.1.b (Time Limit to Furnish Amended Income Information to Increase the Rate) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.7.a (Definition: Initial Year) • M21-1 V.iii.1.H.1.c (Definition: Same Calendar Year Under 38 CFR 3.660[b][1]) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.4.p (Overlapping Initial Year and Calendar Year Periods) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.7.i (Counting the Initial 12 Months of Income for Disallowed Claims) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.7.j (Counting the Second 12 Months of

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Reference Type	Reference Name
	Income for Disallowed Claims) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M21-1 V.i.3.A.3.c (Reporting Period for Current-Law Pension)

Determine the types of income for pension purposes

Reference Type	Reference Name
Lesson	Phase 5, Part 1c, Lesson 17: <i>Determine Types of Income</i>
Job Aids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income and Net Worth Status job aid • Income Classification and Counting Table job aid • Countable Income job aid • SSA Inquiry job aid • Initial Year job aid
38 CFR and M21-1 Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 CFR 3.271 (Computation of income.) • M21-1 V.iii.1.I (Improved Pension—Counting Specific Types of Income) • M21-1 V.iii.1.B.3 (Computing Monthly SSA and Medicare Benefits) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.6 (Counting Income for Department of Veterans Affairs Purposes [IVAP]) • 38 CFR 3.272 (Exclusions from income.) • M21-1 V.iii.1.I.3 (Income Exclusions) • M21-1 V.iii.1.F.2 (Counting the Income of Dependents) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.10 (Hardship Deductions from a Child's Income)

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Select qualifying expenses for calculating income

Reference Type	Reference Name
Lesson	Phase 5, Part 1c, Lesson 18: <i>Select Qualifying Expenses</i>
Job Aids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care Expense Guide job aid • Claim Types job aid • Income and Net Worth Status job aid • Initial Year job aid
38 CFR and M21-1 Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 CFR 3.272 (Exclusions from income.) • M21-1 V.i.3.D.1 (Determining When Unreimbursed Medical Expenses Are Deductible) • M21-1 V.iii.1.A.3.g (Definition of Initial Year for Pension and Time Limit for Establishing Entitlement for the Initial Year) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.7.a (Definition: Initial Year) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.7.b. (Deductible Medical Expenses Paid During the Initial Year) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.2. (Unreimbursed Medical Expense [UME] Deductions) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.3 (Sources of Medical Expenses) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.4.b (Information Required for a Medical Expense Deduction Claim) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.4.d (Allowing Medical Expenses Prospectively) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.4.e (Example of Annual Amount vs. Calculated Estimated Actual Amount) • 38 CFR 3.262(o) (Final expenses of veteran or parent's spouse; dependency and indemnity compensation.) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.6 (Final Expense Deductions—Overview and Definitions) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.7 (Processing Final Expense Deductions) • 38 CFR 3.272(g) (Exclusions from income; Medical expenses.)

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Reference Type	Reference Name
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 CFR 3.272(h) (Exclusions from income—Expenses of last illness, burials, and just debts.) • 38 CFR 3.272(i) (Exclusions from income—Educational expenses.) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.8 (Educational Expense Deductions)

Determine income status

Reference Type	Reference Name
Lesson	Phase 5, Part 1c, Lesson 19: <i>Determine Income Status</i>
Job Aids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income Eligibility job aid • Countable Income job aid • Care Expense Guide job aid • Federal Tax Information (FTI) Income Reference List job aid • Upfront Verification job aid • Income and Net Worth Status job aid • Claim Types job aid • Income Classification and Counting Table job aid • Initial Year job aid
38 CFR and M21-1 Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M21-1 V.iii.1.G (Pension-Deductible Expenses) • M21-1 V.iii.1.B (Social Security Administration (SSA) Benefits Program) • M21-1 V.iii.1.I (Improved Pension—Counting Specific Types of Income) • M21-1 V.iii.1.A.3 (Denying a Claim When IVAP is Excessive; Considering Amended Income Information) • M21-1 V.i.3.A (General Information on Income and Net Worth Development) • M21-1 X.9.A.1 (Introduction to FTI Match and Corresponding Definitions)

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Reference Type	Reference Name
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M21-1 X.9.A.1.d (Upfront Verification) • 38 CFR 3.271 (Computation of income.)

Demonstrate how to develop for information/evidence needed to fulfill duty to assist

Reference Type	Reference Name
Lesson	Phase 5, Part 2, Lesson 1: <i>Overview of the Development Process</i>
Job Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop for Missing Information/Evidence job aid
38 CFR and M21-1 Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M21-1 III.iii.1.B (Evidence Requested from the Claimant) • 38 CFR 3.159 (VA Assistance in developing claims.) • M21-1 III.iii.1.A.1 (General Information on the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA's) Duty to Assist Claimants) • Public Law (PL) 106-475 (Veterans Claims Assistance Act of 2000) • M21-1 III.iii.1.B.1.b (Notice of Time Limits to Submit Evidence) • M21-1 III.iii.1.A.1.d (Handling Concurrent Development Actions) • M21-1 III.iii.1.B.1.c (Claims Development by E-Mail, Fax, and Telephone) • M21-1 III.iii.1.B.1.d (Documenting Information Received by Telephone) • M21-1 III.iii.1.B.1.a (Written Requests for Evidence) • M21-1 III.iii.1.C (Requesting Evidence From Sources Other Than the Claimant) • M21-1 I.1.C (Requesting Records)

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Describe how to prepare an award action

Reference Type	Reference Name
Lesson	Phase 5, Part 3, Lesson 2: <i>Overview of the Award Process</i>
Job Aids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processing a Grant of Benefits job aid • Processing a Denial of Benefits job aid • Processing an Award Adjustment job aid • Annotate the Award Checklist job aid
38 CFR and M21-1 Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M21-1 III.v.2.A (Decision Authorization) • M21-1 III.v.2.B (Decision Notices) • M21-1 III.v.2.A.2 (General Information on Processing Decisions) • M21-1 III.v.2.A.2.c (Award Processing Responsibilities) • M21-1 III.v.2.A.3 (General Information on Denials) • M21-1 III.v.2.A.3.a (Definition: Denial) • M21-1 III.v.2.A.4 (Denials Based on a Claimant's Failure to Furnish Requested Evidence) • M21-1 III.ii.2.G (Withdrawal of Claims) • 38 CFR 3.106 (Renouncement.) • M21-1 III.ii.2.H.1 (General Information About Renouncements) • M21-1 III.ii.2.H.3.c (System Entries for Discontinuing an Award)

Knowledge Check Preparation Learning Objectives

Determine qualifying expense adjustments

Reference Type	Reference Name
Lesson	Phase 5, Part 5, Lesson 1: <i>Determine Qualifying Expense Adjustments</i>
Job Aids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care Expense Guide job aid

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Reference Type	Reference Name
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income and Net Worth Status job aid • Initial Year job aid • Integration of Medical Expenses in VBMS-A job aid • Processing Award Adjustments job aid
38 CFR and M21-1 Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M21-1 V.iii.1.A.3.g (Definition of Initial Year for Pension and Time Limit for Establishing Entitlement for the Initial Year) • M21-1 V.i.3.D.2 (Developing for Unreimbursed Medical Expenses) • M21-1 V.i.3.D.3 (Developing for Unreimbursed Funeral and Other Final Expenses) • M21-1 V.i.3.D.4 (Developing for Unreimbursed Educational Expenses) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.7.b (Deductible Medical Expenses Paid During the Initial Year) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.2 (Unreimbursed Medical Expense [UME] Deductions) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.3 (Sources of Medical Expenses) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.4 (Processing UME Deductions) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.6. (Final Expense Deductions – Overview and Definitions) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.7 (Processing Final Expense Deductions) • M21-1 V.iii.1.G.8 (Educational Expense Deductions)

Determine award adjustment based on amended income

Reference Type	Reference Name
Lesson	Phase 5, Part 5, Lesson 2: <i>Determine Amended Income Adjustments</i>
Job Aids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotate the Award Checklist job aid • Countable Income job aid

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Reference Type	Reference Name
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop for Missing Information/Evidence job aid • Federal Tax Information (FTI) Income Reference List job aid • Income and Net Worth Status job aid • Income Classification and Counting Table job aid • Initial Year job aid • Income Eligibility job aid • Processing Award Adjustments job aid • Time Limits job aid • Upfront Verification job aid
38 CFR and M21-1 Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M21-1 V.i.3.A.2. (Development of Income and Net Worth-Dependent Cases) • M21-1 III.ii.2.B.1.b. (Requirements for a Complete Claim Received on or After March 24, 2015) • M21-1 V.iii.1.A.1. (Income Reporting for Pension and Parents' DIC) • M21-1 V.iii.1.H.1. (Adjustments Based on Changes in Income) • M21-1 V.iii.1.H.2. (Cost-of-Living Adjustments [COLA]) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.5. (Income Classifications) • M21-1 V.iii.1.A.6.h. (Increases Resulting Solely from the Enactment of Legislation) • M21-1 V.iii.1.B.1.k. (SSI Program) • M21-1 V.iii.1.I.1.i. (Gains From Gambling) • M21-1 III.iii.3.A.4.a. (Using the SSA Inquiry Command in Share) • M21-1 V.iii.1.I.1.g. (Gifts and Inheritances of Property or Cash) • M21-1 I.2.A.1.d. (Definition: Third Party Information) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.1.a. (Changing Rate of Pension) • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.1.b. (Knowledge Needed to Determine

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Reference Type	Reference Name
	<p>Monthly Rate of Pension)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M21-1 V.iii.1.E.7. (Counting Income During the Initial Year) • M21-1 V.i.3.C.1.a. (General Information on Developing for Recurring Income)

Determine award adjustment based on changes to net worth

Reference Type	Reference Name
Lesson	Phase 5, Part 5, Lesson 2: <i>Determine Net Worth Adjustments</i>
Job Aids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processing Award Adjustments job aid • Income and Net Worth Status job aid • Time Limits job aid
38 CFR and M21-1 Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 CFR 3.263 (Corpus of estate; net worth.) • 38 CFR 3.274 (Relationship of net worth to pension entitlement.) • 38 CFR 3.275 (Criteria for evaluating net worth.) • M21-1 V.i.3.A.1 (The Effect of Income/Net Worth on Benefit Entitlement) • M21-1 V.iii.1.I.9.a (Impact of the Sale of Property on Pension Benefits) • M21-1 V.i.3.A.2 (Development of Income and Net Worth) • M21-1 V.i.3.A.4 (Developing for Net Worth) • M21-1 I.2.D.1.a (Definition: Contemporaneous Notice) • M21-1 I.2.D.1.b (Information a Beneficiary Must Provide to Justify Sending a Contemporaneous Notice) • M21-1 I.2.A.1.a (Due Process and the U.S. Constitution) • M21-1 I.2.A.1.b (Due Process and VA) • M21-1 V.iii.1.J (Net Worth)