**Slide 1:** My name is Mandy Showalter. Welcome to the VR&E Microlearning on Nonstandard Term Award Calculation.

**Slide 2:** In this Microlearning, I am going to address how a nonstandard term is defined by the M28C, how you calculate nonstandard terms, and provide examples of nonstandard term award calculations.

**Slide 3:** What is a Nonstandard Term? A nonstandard term is any term that is shorter or longer than a standard semester or standard quarter term, as defined by the VR&E Manual, M28C.V.B.7.08.b. It is important to note that a standard semester term is 15-19 weeks in length and a standard quarter term is 10-13 weeks in length. See Appendix AM and AN in the M28C for further reference.

**Slide 4:** Lets go over some nonstandard quarter term examples. Example 1. Is a 15 week quarter hour term a standard or nonstandard quarter term? It is a nonstandard quarter term. Why is it a nonstandard term? It is a nonstandard term because it is longer than a standard quarter term at 15 weeks in length. Example 2: Is a 7 week quarter hour term a standard or nonstandard quarter term? It is a nonstandard quarter term because it is shorter than a standard quarter term.

**Slide 5:** Now let’s go over some nonstandard semester term examples. Example 1. Is a 20 week semester hour term a standard or nonstandard semester term? It is a nonstandard term. Why is it a nonstandard term? It is a nonstandard semester term because it is longer than a standard semester term. Example 2. Is a 6 week semester hour term a standard or nonstandard semester term? It is a nonstandard semester term because it is shorter than a standard semester term at 6 weeks in length.

**Slide 6:** Now that we have defined nonstandard terms and reviewed some examples, lets discuss how we calculate the rate of pursuit for a nonstandard term. Before you can determine the rate of pursuit for any nonstandard term, equivalency hours must be calculated first. Equivalency hours are defined as the number of credit hours in a standard term comparable to the number of hours in a term that is not a standard quarter or semester. It is very important to note that the VA treats equivalency hours as credit hours for course measurement purposes. The equivalency hour formula used for a nonstandard semester hour term is the number of credits for the certified term multiplied by 18 and then the resulting product is divided by the number of weeks. The equivalency hour formula used for a nonstandard quarter hour term is the number of credits for a certified term multiplied by 12 and then the resulting product is divided by the number of weeks. In the next two slides, we are going to give examples of how to calculate the equivalency hours for both a nonstandard quarter term and a nonstandard semester term.

**Slide 7:** In this slide, we are going to calculate the equivalency hours for a nonstandard quarter term in which the claimant was certified at 4 credits for a 6 week nonstandard quarter term. We take 4 credits and multiply by 12 for quarter. 4 Times 12 equals 48. Now we take 48 and divide it by the number of weeks for this nonstandard term, 6. 48 divided by 6= 8 equivalency hours. This term should be authorized at the ½ time rate as pursuit of 8 credits for a standard quarter term is ½ time.

**Slide 8:** In this slide, we are going to calculate the equivalency hours for a nonstandard semester term in which the claimant was certified at 3 credits for a 5 week nonstandard semester term. We take 3 credits and multiply by 18 for semester. 3 Times 18 equals 54. Now we take 54 and divide it by the number of weeks for this nonstandard term, 5. 54 divided by 5= 10.8 equivalency hours. This term should be authorized at the ¾ time rate as pursuit of 10 credits (we drop the .8 decimal in the final result) for a standard semester term is ¾ time.

**Conclusions:** In this training, we have defined a nonstandard term and addressed how to calculate the rate of pursuit for nonstandard terms using the equivalency hour formula. Thank you for attending this Microlearning on Nonstandard Term Award Calculation. Please refer to the VR&E Manual, M28C.V.B.7.08.b and 7.08.c for any further questions.