DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
38 CFR Ch. 1

Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Semiannual regulatory agenda.

SUMMARY: This Agenda announces the regulations that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will have under development or review during the 12-month period beginning in the spring 2014. The purpose in publishing the Department’s regulatory agenda is to allow all interested persons the opportunity to participate in VA’s regulatory planning.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to comment on the entries listed in the agenda by contacting the individual agency contact listed for each entry or by writing to: Director, Regulations Management (02REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Coleman at (202) 461-4937 or Clifton Coward at (202) 461-7171.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document is issued pursuant to Executive Order 12866 "Regulatory Planning and Review" (and implementing guidance) and the Regulatory Flexibility Act, which require that executive agencies semiannually publish in the Federal Register an agenda of regulations that they will have under development or review.

NAME: Robert C. McFetridge,

Director, Regulation Policy and Management.
The 70 Regulatory Agendas

### Department of Veterans Affairs - Proposed Rule

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Title: Schedule for Rating Disabilities; The Hematologic and Lymphatic Systems

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend the portion of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities (Rating Schedule) that addresses the hematologic and lymphatic systems. The intended effect of this change is to incorporate medical advances that have occurred since the last review, update medical terminology, add medical conditions not currently in the Rating Schedule, and refine criteria for further clarity and ease of rater application.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 4.117 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 1155

Legal Deadline: None

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

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Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 202 461-9700
E-Mail: brian.lawerence@va.gov

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Title: Schedule for Rating Disabilities; The Endocrine System

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to revise the portion of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities (Rating Schedule) that addresses the endocrine system. The intended effect of this change is to update medical terminology, add medical conditions not currently in the Rating Schedule, revise the criteria to reflect medical advances since the last revision in 1996, and clarify the criteria.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 4.119 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 1155

Legal Deadline: None

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Brian Lawerence
Chief, VASRD Regulations Staff (211C)
Title: Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its regulations concerning the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program. The proposed changes would clarify, consistent with existing regulations, that grantees must focus on providing permanent housing to eligible veteran families who, without SSVF assistance, would likely become homeless. The proposed clarifications are intended to emphasize the intended goals of SSVF. The proposed rule would expand grantees' authority to provide certain services to all very low-income veteran families, and specifically to those veteran families with significantly lower economic resources, which we would identify as extremely low-income veteran families. The purpose of this expanded authority is to address identified needs based on the administration of SSVF since its inception, and to provide greater incentive to grantees to assist these particularly vulnerable veteran families. Finally, the proposed rule would clarify that certain services are not permissible uses of SSVF funds.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 62.20; 38 CFR 62.22; 38 CFR 62.31; 38 CFR 62.33; 38 CFR 62.34; 38 CFR 62.36; 38 CFR 62.38; 38 CFR 62.60 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 2044

Legal Deadline: None

Timetable:

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Agency Contact: John H. Kuhn
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Title: Veterans' Group Life Insurance Increased Coverage

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its VGLI regulations to implement the statutory change of section 404 of the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010. The Act provides certain Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) insureds under the age of 60 with the opportunity to increase their VGLI coverage by $25,000 once every 5 years upon their VGLI anniversary date.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 9.2 (b)(5) (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)
Title: VA Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) Verification Guidelines

Abstract: The Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) intends to improve the regulations governing the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) Verification Program by providing clarity, streamlining the program, and encouraging more VOSBs to apply for verification.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Major: No
Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 74 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)
Legal Authority: Not Yet Determined
Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: Business
Federalism: No

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**Agency Contact:**
Michelle Gardner-Ince  
Director, Center for Veteran Enterprises (00VE)  
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810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420  
Washington, DC 20420  
Phone: 202 303-3260 Extension: 5237  
E-Mail: michelle.gardner-ince@va.gov
Title: Loan Guaranty: Vendee Loan User Fees and Servicing Fees

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to amend its Loan Guaranty regulations to specifically identify the authority of the Secretary to collect and retain user fees in connection with the origination and servicing of vendee loans. Congress provided the Secretary, and by extension, the Secretary's agent, general statutory authority to charge user fees in connection with vendee loans under statutory provisions covering the powers of the Secretary, the Veterans Housing Program Benefit Fund, and the fees and charges for Government services and things of value. This rule will specify the Secretary's authority to charge reasonable and customary fees in connection with the origination and servicing of vendee loans.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 36.4500(d); 38 CFR 36.4528; 38 CFR 36.4529; 38 CFR 36.4530 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501; 38 USC 3720; 31 USC 9701

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Erica Lewis
Loan Guaranty Service (262D)
Department of Veterans Affairs
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Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 202 632-8823
E-Mail: erica.lewis@va.gov

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Title: Loan Guaranty: Specially Adapted Housing Assistive Technology Grant Program

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to amend its regulation to implement the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010 (the Act), enacted October 13, 2010, that authorizes VA to provide grants of up to $200,000 per fiscal year to entities to encourage the development of specially adapted housing (SAH) new assistive technologies. VA proposes to amend its regulation to outline the process, the criteria, and the priorities relating to the award of these development and research grants.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule

Major: Undetermined

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 36.4412 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501; 38 USC 2108

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No
### Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program

**Title:** Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program  
**Abstract:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its medical regulations concerning eligibility for the Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) program. The HCHV program provides per diem payments to non-VA community-based facilities that provide housing, outreach services, case management services, and rehabilitative services, and may provide care and/or treatment to homeless veterans who are enrolled in or eligible for VA health care. The proposed rule would modify VA's HCHV regulations to conform to changes enacted in the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012. Specifically, the proposed rule would remove the requirement that homeless veterans be diagnosed with a serious mental illness to qualify for the HCHV program. This change would make the program available to all homeless veterans who are enrolled in or eligible for VA health care. The proposed rule would also update the definition of homeless to match in part the one used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The proposed rule would further clarify that the services provided by the HCHV program through non-VA community-based providers must include case management services, including non-clinical case management, as appropriate.

**Priority:** Other Significant  
**Agenda Stage of Rulemaking:** Proposed Rule  
**Major:** No  
**Unfunded Mandates:** No  
**CFR Citation:** 38 CFR 63.2; 38 CFR 17.36 and 17.37; 24 CFR 576.2 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)  
**Legal Authority:** 38 USC 2031  
**Legal Deadline:** None  

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**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No  
**Government Levels Affected:** No  
**Small Entities Affected:** No  
**Energy Affected:** No  
**Public Comment URL:** www.regulations.gov  
**Agency Contact:** Robert Hallett  
Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Manager  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Ave NW, Washington, DC 20420  
Washington, DC 20420  
Phone: 781 687-3187  
E-Mail: robert.hallett@va.gov

### Loan Guaranty: Limited Denial of Participation

**Title:** Loan Guaranty: Limited Denial of Participation  
**Abstract:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend the Limited Denial of Participation regulations to clarify VA's authority with regard to limited denials of participation (LDPs). VA relies on these regulations to impose LDPs, temporary VA-specific sanctions, on parties who do not comply with VA Home Loan Guaranty program requirements. However, these regulations do not clearly articulate the full extent of the Secretary's authority to impose this sanction and ensure compliance.
with VA laws. This proposed rule clarifies the authority of the Secretary to order LDPs for conduct detrimental (causing harm or loss) to VA Home Loan Guaranty programs and the VA-specific processes surrounding the imposition of this sanction.

**Priority:** Other Significant

**Agenda Stage of Rulemaking:** Proposed Rule

**Major:** No

**Unfunded Mandates:** No

**CFR Citation:** 2 CFR 801.1100 to 1113 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

**Legal Authority:** 38 USC 501

**Legal Deadline:** None

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**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No

**Government Levels Affected:** No

**Small Entities Affected:** No

**Energy Affected:** No

**Public Comment URL:** www.regulations.gov

**Agency Contact:** Erica Lewis

Loan Guaranty Service (262D)
Department of Veterans Affairs
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Washington , DC  20420
Phone: 202 632-8823
E-Mail: erica.lewis@va.gov

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**Title:** Net Worth, Asset Transfers, and Income Exclusions for Needs-Based Benefits

**Abstract:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its regulations governing entitlement to VA pension to maintain the integrity of the pension program and to implement recent statutory changes. The proposed regulations would establish new requirements pertaining to the evaluation of net worth and asset transfers for pension purposes and would add regulations identifying those medical expenses that may be deducted from countable income for VA's needs-based benefit programs. The intended effect of these changes is to respond to recent recommendations made by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), maintain the integrity of VA's needs-based benefits, and to clarify and address issues necessary for the consistent adjudication of pension and parents' dependency and indemnity compensation claims. We also propose to implement statutory changes pertaining to certain pension beneficiaries who receive Medicaid-covered nursing home care, as well as a statutory income exclusion for certain disabled veterans and a non-statutory income exclusion pertaining to annuities.

**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant

**Agenda Stage of Rulemaking:** Proposed Rule

**Major:** Undetermined

**Unfunded Mandates:** No


**Legal Authority:** 38 USC 501(a); 38 USC 1503; 38 USC 1522; 38 USC 1543; 38 USC 5112; 42 USC 1315(f)(3); 42 USC 1437 (note); sec 101, PL 111-291

**Legal Deadline:** None

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**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No

**Government Levels Affected:** No

**Small Entities Affected:** No

**Energy Affected:** No

**Public Comment URL:** www.regulations.gov

**Agency Contact:** Martha A. Schimpf

Pension and Fiduciary Service (21P)
Title: Per Diem Paid to States for Care of Eligible Veterans in State Homes

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to reorganize, update (based on revisions to statutory authority), and clarify its regulations that govern paying per diem to State homes providing nursing home and adult day health care to eligible veterans. The reorganization will improve consistency and clarity throughout these State home programs. We propose to revise the regulations applicable to adult day health care programs of care so that States may establish diverse programs that better meet participants’ needs for socialization and maximize their independence. Currently, we require States to operate these programs exclusively using a medical supervision model. We expect that these liberalizing changes will result in an increase in the number of States that have adult day health care programs. We also propose to establish new regulations governing the payment of per diem to State homes providing domiciliary care to eligible veterans, because the current regulations are inadequate. Moreover, we propose to eliminate the regulations governing per diem for State home hospitals because there are no longer any State home hospitals. In general, this rulemaking is consistent with current regulations and policies, and we do not expect that these proposed rules would have a negative impact on State homes; rather, we believe that these proposed regulations will clarify current law and policy, which should improve and simplify the payment of per diem to State homes, and encourage participation in these programs.

Priority: Other Significant          Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule
Major: No                        Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 51 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)
Legal Authority: 38 USC 101, 501 and 1710; 38 USC 1741 to 1743,1745; 38 USC 7104 and 7105; 42 USC 1395cc
Legal Deadline: None

Timetable:

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No          Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: No                        Federalism: No
Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Nancy Quest
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E-Mail: nancy.quest@va.gov

Title: Fully Developed Claims Program and Retroactive Effective Date Treatment for Certain Fully Developed Compensation Claims

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is adding to its adjudication regulations a provision to implement the fully developed claim (FDC) program through which claimants waive certain statutory and regulatory response periods and assistance in gathering evidence at the time the claim is filed to expedite the processing and adjudication of a claim. Based on the statutory provisions of Public Law (PL) 112-154, the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families
Act of 2012, VA is also adding to its regulations a potential 1-year retroactive effective date provision for qualified original compensation FDCs received from August 6, 2013, through August 5, 2015. Any award granted for an original compensation FDC filed during this timeframe may receive up to a 1-year retroactive effective date based upon facts found but not earlier than 1-year before the date of receipt of the application.

**Agenda Stage of Rulemaking:** Proposed Rule

** CFR Citation:** 38 CFR 3.162; 38 CFR 3.400 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

**Legal Authority:** 38 USC 501(a); PL 112-154, sec 506

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No

**Government Levels Affected:** No

**Small Entities Affected:** No

**Federalism:** No

**Energy Affected:** No

**Public Comment URL:** www.regulations.gov

**Agency Contact:** Stephanie Caucutt Li
Chief, Regulations Staff (211D)
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**Department of Veterans Affairs ( VA )**

**Title:** Update to NFPA Standards, Incorporation by Reference

**Abstract:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its regulations incorporating by reference the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) codes and standards. These codes and standards are referenced in VA regulations concerning community residential care facilities, contract facilities for certain outpatient and residential services, Medical Foster Homes, and State home facilities. To ensure the continued safety of veterans in these facilities, VA would continue to rely upon NFPA codes and standards for VA approval of such facilities. This proposed rulemaking would update our regulations to adhere to more recent NFPA codes and standards.

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No

**Government Levels Affected:** No

**Small Entities Affected:** No

**Federalism:** No

**Energy Affected:** No

**Public Comment URL:** www.regulations.gov

**Agency Contact:** Ethan Kalett
director, VHA Regulations
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue NW., Room 675Q, Washington, DC 20420
### Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

**RIN:** 2900-AO94

**Title:** Non-VA Medical Care Individual Authorizations

**Abstract:** This Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) rulemaking proposes to amend the medical regulations to implement a broader statutory authority to enter into non-contractual individual authorizations with non-VA health care providers. This change would allow VA to provide needed hospital care and medical services when they are not feasibly available at a VA facility.

**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant  
**Agenda Stage of Rulemaking:** Proposed Rule

**Major:** No  
**Unfunded Mandates:** No

**CFR Citation:** 38 CFR 17.52  
(To search for a specific CFR, visit the [Code of Federal Regulations](https://www.regulations.gov))

**Legal Authority:** 38 USC 8153

**Legal Deadline:** None

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**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No  
**Government Levels Affected:** No

**Small Entities Affected:** No  
**Federalism:** No

**Energy Affected:** No

**Public Comment URL:** [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)

**Agency Contact:** Kristin Cunningham  
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Washington, DC 20420  
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### Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

**RIN:** 2900-AO95

**Title:** VA Memorialization Benefits--Application Process

**Abstract:** Revisions to the CFR are necessary to reorganize and rewrite in plain language provisions and claim forms applicable to headstones, markers, medallions, and memorial markers. VA will also include references to statutory bars to burial and memorialization benefits under section 2411 of title 38 of the United States Code. Further, VA is proposing to amend its regulations to include the provision of a medallion or other device determined by the Secretary to signify the deceased's status as a Veteran, in lieu of furnishing a headstone or marker, to be affixed to a headstone or marker purchased at private expense located in a private cemetery. This proposed rule is necessary to incorporate a statutory amendment into VA regulations to provide this benefit, as authorized by Public Law 110-157.

**Priority:** Other Significant  
**Agenda Stage of Rulemaking:** Proposed Rule

**Major:** No  
**Unfunded Mandates:** No

**CFR Citation:** 38 CFR 38.630; 38 CFR 38.631; 38 CFR 38.632; 38 CFR 38.633; 38 CFR 38.634; 38 CFR 38.635; 38 CFR 38.636  
(To search for a specific CFR, visit the [Code of Federal Regulations](https://www.regulations.gov))

**Legal Authority:** 38 USC 2306

**Legal Deadline:** None

### Timetable:

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12
Title: Aid for Veterans Cemeteries, Part 39 Rewrite

Abstract: Revisions to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) are necessary to clarify terms and definitions specific to the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) Veterans Cemetery Grants Service (VCGS). Additionally, the proposed rule would clarify evaluative criteria related to the grant application and review process for the purpose of improving the timeliness, cost-effectiveness, and overall administration of VA's cemetery grants program.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 39 CFR 39 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 2408

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Agency Contact: Jane Kang
Program Analyst
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Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 202 461-6216
FAX: 202 273-6699
E-Mail: jane.kang3@va.gov

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Title: Reimbursement for Caskets and Urns for Unclaimed Veterans Without Sufficient Resources for Burial

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) proposes to amend part 38 of title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) to implement a statutory amendment to section 2306 of title 38 of the United States Code, as authorized by Public Law 112-260, the Dignified Burial and Other Veteran Benefits Improvement Act of 2012.
The proposed rule would implement regulations governing the provision of a reimbursement for caskets and urns purchased for the remains of Veterans with no known next-of-kin and insufficient resources for burial.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Major: No
Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 38
Legal Authority: 38 USC 2306
Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: No
Energy Affected: No

Title: Definition of Domiciliary Care
Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its rule defining domiciliary care to more accurately reflect the scope and breadth of services provided under this program. The Domiciliary Care Program in VA was initially established to provide shelter and a home-like environment to veterans who could not live independently but did not require admission to a nursing home. The program has evolved as the needs of our veteran population have changed. We propose to update our regulations so that they clearly authorize veterans to receive a temporary assignment of a 100 percent service-connected disability rating when admitted to domiciliary care as a result of a service-connected disability for a period in excess of 21 days. This is consistent with current VA practice.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Major: No
Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.30(b); 38 CFR 4.29
Legal Authority: 38 USC 501
Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: No
Energy Affected: No

Agency Contact: Jamie R. Ploppert
National Director, Mental Health Residential Treatment Program
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, Washington, DC, Washington DC, DC 20772
Washington DC , DC 20772
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  

Title: Revise and Streamline VA Acquisition Regulation to Adhere to Federal Acquisition Regulation Principles (VAAR Case 2013-V001)  

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to amend its VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) as part of a project to update the VAAR. Under this initiative, all parts of the regulation are being reviewed and updated in phased increments to incorporate any new regulations or policies and to remove any procedural guidance that is internal to the VA. This project aims to streamline the VAAR to implement and supplement the Federal Acquisition (FAR) only when required, and to eliminate internal agency guidance in keeping with the FAR principles concerning agency acquisition regulations.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant  

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule  

Major: No  

Unfunded Mandates: No  

CFR Citation: 48 CFR ch 8; 48 CFR 801; 48 CFR 804; 48 CFR 805; 48 CFR 807; 48 CFR 810; 48 CFR 825; 48 CFR 849; 48 CFR 852; ... (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)  

Legal Authority: 41 USC 501; 41 USC 1303  

Legal Deadline: None  

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  

Government Levels Affected: No  

Small Entities Affected: No  

Federalism: No  

Energy Affected: No  

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov  

Agency Contact:
Cheryl Duckett-Moody  
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Procurement Policy and Management Warrant Service (003A), 425 I St. NW, Washington, DC 20001  
Washington, DC 20001  
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Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  

Title: Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs  

Abstract: The Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) is a health benefits program in which VA shares the cost of certain health care services and supplies with spouses, children, and survivors of veterans who meet the eligibility criteria and who are not eligible for TRICARE, a health care program administered by the Department of Defense that is also authorized to provide care to certain family members of veterans. CHAMPVA is authorized by 38 U.S.C. 1781. Under 38 U.S.C. 1781(b), CHAMPVA "shall provide medical care in the same or similar manner and subject to the same or similar limitations as medical care is furnished to certain dependents and survivors of active duty and retired members of the Armed Forces under chapter 55 of title 10 [United States Code] (CHAMPUS).” We therefore propose to update our regulations due to changes in the TRICARE standard program, as well as changes in legal authority. This proposed rule would amend part 17 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations to update current regulations concerning CHAMPVA, 17.270-17.278.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant  

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule  

Major: No  

Unfunded Mandates: No  

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.270 to 17.278 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)
Title: Updates to Regulations Based on EO 13559

Abstract: The implementation of Executive Order 13559 (Fundamental Principles and Policymaking Criteria for Partnerships With Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Organizations) created the Interagency Working Group on Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Partnerships (Working Group) to review and evaluate existing regulations, guidance documents, and policies. Following receipt of the Working Group's report, OMB, issued such guidance instructing specified agency heads, including VA, to adopt regulations and guidance that will fulfill the requirements of the Executive Order and to amend regulations and guidance to ensure that they are consistent with Executive Order 13559.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Proposed Rule

Major: Undetermined

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR (new part); 38 CFR 61; 38 CFR 62 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: EO 13559

Legal Deadline: None

Timetable:

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

RIN Information URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Stephen Dillard
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VA Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420
Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 202 461-7604
E-Mail: stephen.dillard@va.gov
Title: VA Acquisition Regulation: Supporting Veteran-Owned and Service-Disabled, Veteran-Owned Small Businesses

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its adjudication procedures for service-disabled Veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs) and Veteran-owned small businesses (VOSBs) status protests, to provide that VA's Director, Center for Veterans Enterprise (CVE), shall initially adjudicate SDVOSB and VOSB status protests, and to provide that protested businesses, if they are denied status, may appeal to VA's Executive Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU). Additionally, VA amends the title of CVE from the Center for Veterans Enterprise to the Center for Verification and Evaluation to more appropriately represent the function of this office.

Priority: Other Significant

Significant Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 48 CFR ch 8 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 15 USC 644(g); 38 USC 8127 to 8128; PL 109-461; EO 13360

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Sheila Darrell
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E-Mail: va.procurement.policy@va.gov

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) RIN: 2900-AN40

Title: Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Veterans' Group Life Insurance--Beneficiary Slayer's Rule Exclusion

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has amended its regulations governing Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) and Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) to prohibit payment of insurance proceeds payable because of the death of a person whose life was insured under SGLI or VGLI (decedent) or payment of a SGLI Traumatic Injury Protection (TSGLI) benefit to a person (slayer) who is convicted of intentionally and wrongfully killing the decedent or determined in a civil proceeding to have intentionally and wrongfully killed the decedent and to any family member of the slayer. These provisions apply also to any person who assisted the slayer in causing the death of the decedent. Additionally, this amendment included an interim final rule that removed the term "domestic partner" from the definition of "member of the family" that was part of the proposed rule published in the Federal Register on October 3, 2012, because there was no legal authority nor procedural directives established by VA that recognize domestic partners for VA Insurance benefit purposes. This document will respond to public comments received on the interim final rule.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 9.1; 38 CFR 9.5 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)
Title: Substitution In Case of Death of Claimant

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its regulations concerning adjudication of claims, representation of claimants, and Board of Veterans’ Appeals rules of practice. These amendments would implement section 212 of the Veterans’ Benefits Improvement Act of 2008, which allows an eligible survivor to substitute for a deceased claimant in order to complete the processing of the deceased claimant's claim. The intended effect of these amendments is to clarify the rules and procedures for those situations in which substitution is authorized. Under section 212, if a claimant dies while his or her claim or appeal is pending before VA, a survivor who would be eligible for accrued benefits under existing statutory authority may, not later than 1-year after the death of the claimant, request to be substituted for the claimant for the purposes of processing the claim or appeal to completion. Accordingly, after substitution, VA will continue to process the claim or appeal as if the claimant had not died. These amendments clarify the following matters: eligibility for substitution, how an eligible survivor makes a request to substitute, how VA responds to requests to substitute, a substitute's rights in adjudication, limitations related to substitution, order of preference among eligible survivors, representation of substitutes, and procedures for substitution when a claim is before the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 3.1010; 38 CFR 14.630(e); 38 CFR 14.631; 38 CFR 20.900(a); ... (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 5121A

Legal Deadline: None

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Title: Caregivers Program
Abstract: This document promulgates Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) final regulations concerning VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. VA administers this program to provide certain medical, travel, training, and financial benefits to caregivers of certain veterans and servicemembers who were seriously injured during service on or after September 11, 2001. VA additionally administers the Program of General Caregiver Support Services, also addressed in these final regulations, to provide support services to caregivers of veterans from all eras who are enrolled in the VA health care system.

Priority: Economically Significant
Major: Yes
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule
Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.38; 38 CFR 71
Legal Authority: 38 USC 501; 38 USC 1720G
Legal Deadline: None

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Title: Use of Medicare Procedures to Enter Into Provider Agreements for Extended Care Services
Abstract: This document amends Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regulations concerning VA's payments to third-party providers of extended care services to certain veterans. This rule establishes VA's use of Medicare procedures to enter into provider agreements for extended care services. VA furnishes extended care services for eligible veterans, and often utilizes non-VA providers in order to meet the specific needs of each veteran.
Title: Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) Benefits Program

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is establishing regulations for the Home Improvement and Structural Alterations (HISA) Benefits program. Through the HISA benefits program, VA has provided monetary benefits to disabled veterans for necessary home improvements and alterations. An increase in the HISA benefits limit was authorized by the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010, Public Law 111-163 (the 2010 Act). The rule would codify regulations to govern the HISA benefits program and incorporate the increase in HISA benefits authorized by the 2010 Act.
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

Title: Designee for Patient Personal Property

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its regulation that governs a competent veteran's designation of a person to receive the veteran's funds and personal effects in the event that such veteran were to die while in a VA medical facility. The final rule will eliminate reference to obsolete VA forms, clarify the role of a VA fiduciary for an incompetent veteran-patient, as well as restructure the current regulation for ease of readability.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 12.0; 38 CFR 12.1; 38 CFR 12.2; 38 CFR 12.3; 38 CFR 12.4; 38 CFR 12.5 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 8502

Legal Deadline: None

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Title: Fiduciary Activities

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its fiduciary program regulations, which govern the oversight of beneficiaries who, because of injury, disease, the infirmities of advanced age, or minority, are unable to manage their VA benefits, and the appointment and oversight of fiduciaries for these vulnerable beneficiaries. The amendments will update and reorganize regulations consistent with current law, VA policies and procedures, and VA's reorganization of its fiduciary activities. They will also clarify the rights of beneficiaries in the program and the roles of VA and fiduciaries in ensuring that VA benefits are managed in the best interest of beneficiaries and their dependents.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 13.1 to 13.111; 38 CFR 3.850 to 3.857 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC ch 55; 38 USC ch 61

Legal Deadline: None
Title: Contracts and Provider Agreements for State Home Nursing Home Care

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its regulations to allow VA to enter into contracts or provider agreements with State homes for the nursing home care of certain disabled veterans. This rulemaking is required to implement a change in law that revises how VA will pay for care provided to these veterans and authorizes VA to use provider agreements to pay for such care. The change made by this law applies to all care provided to these veterans in State homes on and after February 2, 2013.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 51.41 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 1710; 38 USC 1720; 38 USC 1741 to 1745; 42 USC 1395cc

Legal Deadline: None

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Kelly Schneider
State Home Per Diem Program Manager (10NB3)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420
Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 308 389-5106

Title: Loan Guaranty: Ability-to-Repay Standards and Qualified Mortgage Definition Under the Truth in Lending Act

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its Loan Guaranty regulations to implement provisions of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, requiring that VA define the types of VA loans that are "qualified mortgages" for the purposes of the new Ability to Repay provisions of the Truth in Lending Act. This rule establishes which VA-guaranteed loans are to be considered "qualified mortgages" and have either safe harbor protections or the presumption that the borrower is able to repay a loan, in accordance with regard to the new Ability to Repay provisions. The rule does not change VA's regulations or policies with respect to how lenders are to originate mortgages, except to the extent lenders want to make qualified mortgages.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Major: Yes

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 36.4340 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501; PL 111-203

Legal Deadline: None
Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: No  Federalism: No
Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: John Bell III
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Agency Contact: Gregory C. Hosmer
Senior Attorney/Insurance Specialist, Insurance Program Administration & Oversight
Department of Veterans Affairs
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Philadelphia , PA  19144
Phone: 215 842-2000  Extension: 4280
FAX: 215 381-3502
E-Mail: gregory.hosmer@va.gov

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Title: Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance-Veterans' Group Life Insurance Regulation Update-ABO, VGLI Application, SGLI 2-Year Disability Extension

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its regulations concerning Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance (SGLI) to reflect the statutory provisions of the Veterans’ Benefits Act of 2010, Public Law 111-275, which became law on October 13, 2010, and resulted in the need for amendments to change the SGLI Disability Extension period from 1 year to 2 years in duration; provide SGLI Traumatic Injury Protection (TSGLI) retroactive coverage effective from October 7, 2001, for all qualifying injuries regardless of the geographic location and military operation when the injuries were incurred; and remove the SGLI and Veterans’ Group Life Insurance (VGLI) Accelerated Benefits Option (ABO) discount rate. This rule also updates the current address of the Office of Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance (OSGLI), managed by Prudential Insurance Company of America, to reflect where the ABO application is mailed for processing and corrects the OSGLI phone number. This rule removes the ABO application form from the regulation, and it corrects and clarifies language concerning the VGLI application period that was inadvertently incorrectly modified in a prior amendment of the regulations.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant  Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule
Major: No  Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 9.2(b)(2); 38 CFR 9.5(d); 38 CFR 9.14(e); 38 CFR 9.14(f)(1); 38 CFR 9.14(f)(2); 38 CFR 9.20(b)(1); ...
(To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501; 38 USC 1965 to 1980A; PL 111-275; PL 111-275, sec 402; PL 111-275, sec 405; PL 111-275, sec 408

Legal Deadline: None

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Title: Hospital Care and Medical Services for Camp Lejeune Veterans

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends its regulations in order to implement a statutory mandate that VA provide health care to certain veterans who served at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, for at least 30 days during the period beginning on January 1, 1957, and ending on December 31, 1987. The law requires VA to furnish hospital care and medical services for these veterans for certain illnesses and conditions that may be attributed to exposure to toxins in the water system at Camp Lejeune. This rule does not implement the statutory provision requiring VA to provide health care to these veterans' family members; regulations applicable to such family members are currently in development and will be promulgated through a separate notice.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Major: No
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule
Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.36; 38 CFR 17.400; 38 CFR 17.108; 38 CFR 17.110; 38 CFR 17.111 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 1710

Legal Deadline: Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012, Public Law 112-154

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Small Entities Affected: No
Energy Affected: No

RIN Information URL: www.regulations.gov
Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Related RINs: Related to 2900-AO79

Agency Contact: Terry Walters
Deputy Chief Consultant, Post-Deployment Health (10P3A)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420
Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 202 461-1017
E-Mail: terry.walters@va.gov

Title: Payment or Reimbursement for Certain Medical Expenses for Camp Lejeune Family Members

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) promulgates regulations to implement statutory authority to provide payment or reimbursement for hospital care and medical services provided to certain veterans' family members who resided at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, for at least 30 days during the period beginning on January 1, 1957, and ending on December 31, 1987. Under this rule, VA will reimburse family members, or pay providers, for medical expenses incurred as a result of certain illnesses and conditions that may be attributed to exposure to contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune during this time period. Payment or reimbursement will be made within the limitations set forth in statute and consistent with the manner in which we provide hospital care and medical services to Camp Lejeune veterans.

Priority: Other Significant
Major: Undetermined
Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.410 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 1787

Legal Deadline: None
Title: Standard Claims and Appeals Forms

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its regulations to simplify procedures and standardize forms for veterans and dependents to use when filing initial claims for benefits and when initiating an appeal to a decision. The purpose of these amendments is to improve the quality and timeliness of the processing of veterans' claims for benefits and appeals.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 3.1(p); 38 CFR 3.150; 38 CFR 3.154 and 155, 157; 38 CFR 3.160; 38 CFR 3.400; 38 CFR 3.812; 38 CFR 3.2600(a); 38 CFR 19.23 and 24; 38 CFR 20.3; 38 CFR 20.200 and 201; ... (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501(a); 38 USC 5102; 38 USC 5103(a)(1); 38 USC 5103A; 38 USC 7105(a), (b), (d)

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Stephanie Caucutt Li
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Washington, DC 20420
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E-Mail: stephanie.caucutt@va.gov
Title: Burial Benefits

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its regulations governing entitlement to monetary burial benefits, which include burial allowances for service-connected and non-service-connected deaths, a plot or interment allowance, and reimbursement of transportation expenses. As amended, the regulations establish rules to support VA’s automated payment of burial allowances to surviving spouses, conversion to flat-rate burial and plot or interment allowances that are equal to the maximum benefit authorized by law, and priority of payment to non-spouse survivors. The purpose of these regulations is to streamline the program and make it easier for veterans and their families to receive the right benefits and meet their expectations for quality, timeliness, and responsiveness.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Major: Yes

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 3 subpart B (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501(a); 38 USC 2302); 38 USC 2303(a); 38 USC 2307 and 2308

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Energy Affected: No

Agency Contact: Robert P. Watkins
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Title: Removal of Requirement to File Direct-Pay Fee Agreements with the Office of the General Counsel

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its regulations concerning the payment of fees for representation by agents and attorneys in proceedings before VA. Specifically, this rule removes the requirement that an agent or attorney file a direct-pay fee agreement with both the VA Office of the General Counsel and the agency of original jurisdiction. The intended effect of this final rule is to require that direct-pay fee agreements be submitted only to the agency of original jurisdiction, thereby eliminating duplicate filings by agents and attorneys.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 14.636 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501(a)

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Agency Contact: Dana Raffaelli Department of Veterans Affairs
### Title: Specially Adapted Housing Eligibility for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Beneficiaries

**Abstract:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its adjudication regulation regarding specially adapted housing (SAH). The amendment authorizes automatic issuance of a certificate of eligibility for SAH to all veterans and active servicemembers rated with totally disabling service-connected amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) under the ALS diagnostic code. The intent and effect of this amendment are to establish eligibility for SAH for all persons who are service-connected for ALS. This amendment will also lengthen the period during which ALS-afflicted veterans and servicemembers will be able to utilize the core SAH benefits.

**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant  
**Agenda Stage of Rulemaking:** Final Rule  
**Major:** No  
**Unfunded Mandates:** No  
**CFR Citation:** 38 CFR 4.124(a); 38 CFR 3.809(b)  
**Legal Authority:** 38 USC 2101(a)(1); 38 USC 2101(a)(2); 38 USC 2101(b); 38 USC 2101(c)  
**Legal Deadline:** None  
**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No  
**Government Levels Affected:** No  
**Small Entities Affected:** No  
**Federalism:** No  
**Energy Affected:** No  
**Public Comment URL:** [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)

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### Title: Copayments for Medications in 2014

**Abstract:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its medical regulations concerning the copayment required for certain medications. Without this rulemaking, beginning on January 1, 2014, the copayment amount would increase based on a formula set forth in regulation. The maximum annual copayment amount payable by veterans would also increase. This rulemaking freezes copayments at the current (2013) rate for 2014 for veterans in priority categories 2 through 8, and thereafter resumes increasing copayments in accordance with the regulatory formula.

**Priority:** Economically Significant  
**Agenda Stage of Rulemaking:** Final Rule  
**Major:** Yes  
**Unfunded Mandates:** No  
**CFR Citation:** 38 CFR 17.110(b)  
**Legal Deadline:** None  
**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No  
**Government Levels Affected:** No  
**Small Entities Affected:** No  
**Federalism:** No  
**Energy Affected:** No  
**Public Comment URL:** [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)
Legal Authority: 38 USC 501(a); 38 USC 1722A(a)

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: No  Federalism: No
Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov
Agency Contact: Kristin Cunningham
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Department of Veterans Affairs (VA )

RIN: 2900-AO92

Title: Veterans Transportation Service

Abstract: The interim final rule will create regulations that govern the Veterans Transportation Service (VTS). VTS was initiated in 2010 as part of the Secretary’s Transformation initiative, but VA's Office of General Counsel determined in 2012 that VA lacked authority to operate the program. Congress provided 1 year of authority for the program on January 10, 2013. The interim final rule defines who is eligible to receive benefits, describes the types of transportation available, and describes the application process for eligible persons. It also rearranges Part 70 to include this program, in addition to the current regulations on beneficiary travel and special mode transportation. VA's budget assumes this program will continue operating into the foreseeable future.

Priority: Other Significant  Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule
Major: Undetermined  Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 70  (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations )
Legal Authority: 38 USC 111A

Legal Deadline:

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<td>Current statute only authorizes program until January 10, 2014</td>
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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: No  Federalism: No
Energy Affected: Undetermined

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov
Agency Contact: David Riley
Director, Veterans Transportation Program, Chief Business Office
Department of Veterans Affairs
2957 Clairmont Road, Atlanta, GA 30329-1647
Atlanta, GA 30329-1647
Phone: 404 828-5601
Technical Corrections to Conform to Public Law 104-262

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its medical regulations by making technical corrections to conform to the Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996 (Act of 1996). Prior to the Act of 1996, a VA regulation stated that veterans received only VA hospital care to treat medical conditions that were incurred in service. We are amending our regulation to correctly state that VA provides hospital care and medical services to eligible veterans.

Schedule for Rating Disabilities--Mental Disorders

This interim final rule will change the reference from DSM-IV to DSM-5 in 38 CFR 4.125(a). Discussion: This proposal amends VA's adjudication regulations to conform with the DSM-5, the most recent version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. This change replaces the reference to previous editionions of the manual with reference to the DSM-5. No changes to the evaluation criteria are made in this rule. This amendment will improve the quality and timeliness of the processing of Veterans' claims for benefits and appeals.
Title: Enrollment and Disenrollment Procedures in the Veterans' Health Care Program, CHAMPVA, and the Spina Bifida Health Care Benefits Program

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends its regulations to clarify and establish enrollment and disenrollment procedures for three VA programs that provide comprehensive health care to veteran and non-veteran VA beneficiaries. These amendments are necessary so that VA is compliant with reporting requirements issued by the Internal Revenue Service to implement portions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. These amendments do not affect the provision of VA health care benefits to VA beneficiaries.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant  
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Final Rule 

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.38; 38 CFR 17.270; 38 CFR 17.901 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations )

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501; PL 111-148; PL 111-152; IRC 6055

Legal Deadline: None

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  
Government Levels Affected: No 
Small Entities Affected: No  
Federalism: No  
Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

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Department of Veterans Affairs ( VA )  
RIN: 2900-AO97

Title: Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards
Abstract: OMB has promulgated the release of 2 CFR part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, which will be added as 38 CFR part 49. This final guidance supersedes and streamlines requirements from OMB Circulars A-21, A-87, A-110, and A-122 (which have been placed in OMB guidance's); Circulars A-89, A-102, and A-133; and the guidance in Circular A-50 on Single Audit Act follow-up. The final guidance consolidates the guidance previously contained in the aforementioned citations into a streamlined format that aims to improve both clarity and accessibility. The release of 2 CFR part 200 was published at 78 FR 78608 (December 26, 2013).

Priority: Other Significant
Major: No
Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 41; 38 CFR 43; 38 CFR 49 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)
Legal Authority: 31 USC 503

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Government Levels Affected: Federal; Local; State; Tribal
Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions; Organizations
Energy Affected: No
RIN Information URL: www.regulations.gov
Agency Contact: Thomas Graves Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420 Washington, DC 20420 Phone: 202 461-6084

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) RIN: 2900-AP04

Title: Updating Certain Citations in VA Medical Regulations
Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is making legally required technical amendments to its medical regulations by updating the statutory authorities identified in certain sections where those statutes have been renumbered or where the authority citation is inaccurate for other technical, nonsubstantive reasons. VA is also updating relevant cross-references to other Code of Federal Regulation sections where such references are outdated or incorrect.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Major: No
Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.30; 38 CFR 17.43; 38 CFR 17.45; 38 CFR 17.47; 38 CFR 17.48; 38 CFR 17.50; 38 CFR 17.52; 38 CFR 17.57; 38 CFR 17.90 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)
Legal Authority: 38 USC.501
Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: No
Energy Affected: No
RIN Information URL: www.regulations.gov
Agency Contact: Ethan Kalett
Title: VA Compensation and Pension Regulation Rewrite Project

Abstract: From 2004 to 2011, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) published 20 Notices of Proposed Rulemaking to reorganize and rewrite its compensation and pension regulations in a logical, claimant-focused, and user-friendly format. The intended effect of the proposed revisions was to assist claimants, beneficiaries, and VA personnel in locating and understanding these regulations. Several veterans service organizations requested that VA republish all these regulations together to allow the public another opportunity to comment. This proposed rule was published in November 2013, with a 120-day comment period.

Priority: Other Significant

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 3; 38 CFR 5 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501

Legal Deadline: None

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Energy Affected: No
Abstract: This document proposes to amend the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) delegation of authority regulation, which provides relief on account of administrative error, to include instances of natural or man-made emergencies, and to allow the Secretary to waive existing regulatory requirements and authorize temporary remedial action through administrative means. These proposed changes would allow the Secretary to promptly institute administrative relief to ensure that claimants and beneficiaries are not deprived of their rights or benefits when natural or man-made emergencies disrupt normal procedures.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 2.7 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501; 38 USC 503; 38 USC 512

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Robert C. McFetridge
Director, Regulations Management (02REG)
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Washington , DC 20420
Phone: 202 461-4932
E-Mail: robert.mcfetridge@va.gov

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

RIN: 2900-AN89

Title: Secondary Service Connection for Diagnosable Illnesses Associated With Traumatic Brain Injury

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends its adjudication regulations concerning service connection. This final rule acts upon a report of the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine (IOM), Gulf War and Health, Volume 7: Long-Term Consequences of Traumatic Brain Injury, regarding the association between traumatic brain injury (TBI) and five diagnosable illnesses. This amendment establishes that if a veteran who has a service-connected TBI also has one of these diagnosable illnesses, then that illness will be considered service connected as secondary to the TBI.

Priority: Other Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 3.310 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501(a)

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Agency Contact: Thomas Kniffen
Compensation Service (211D)
Title: Post-9/11 Improvements, Fry Scholarship, and Work-Study

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing to amend the Vocational Rehabilitation and Education regulations to incorporate the provisions of section 1002 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-32), which authorized the "Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship"; section 101 of the Veterans Benefits Act of 2010 (Pub. L. 111-275), which expanded the qualifying work-study activities for which VA may pay an allowance; and the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010 (Pub. L. 111-377), which modified the manner in which payments of educational assistance are determined, and expanded the types of programs students may pursue, under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. This rulemaking action will include the rules necessary to implement the provisions of these as well as other legislative enactments that affect the provisions of educational assistance to veterans.

Priority: Economically Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Major: Yes

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 21 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501; 38 USC chs 33 and 36; PL 111-32; PL 111-377; ...

Legal Deadline: The Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010 made several changes to the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Some of the provisions were effective date of enactment, the active duty provisions were effective within 60 days of enactment (March 5, 2011), and several provisions become effective August 1, 2011, and October 1, 2011.

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Marquita Wright
Management and Program Analyst
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420
Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 202 461-9811
E-Mail: marquita.wright@va.gov

Title: Disabled Veterans Experiencing Difficulties Using Prosthetic Devices, Veterans Needing a Higher Level of Aid and Attendance for Traumatic Brain Injury, and Definition of Catastrophic Disability

Abstract: Based on the statutory provisions of Public Law 111-275, the Veterans’ Benefits Improvement Act of 2010, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its adjudication regulations regarding disabled veterans who experience difficulties using prosthetic devices, veterans in need of a higher level of aid and attendance for residuals of traumatic brain
The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends its regulation concerning the manner in which VA determines that a veteran is catastrophically disabled for purposes of enrollment in priority group 4 for VA health care. The current regulation relies on specific codes from the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®). The revisions incorporate the corresponding ICD-9-CM and CPT® codes. This ensures that VA's regulation is not out of date when new versions of those codes are published. The revisions also broaden some of the descriptions for a finding of catastrophic disability. Additionally, VA eliminates the Folstein Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE) as a criterion for determining whether a veteran meets the definition of catastrophically disabled, because it has been determined that the MMSE is no longer a necessary clinical assessment tool.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Title: Criteria for a Catastrophically Disabled Determination for Purposes of Enrollment

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends its regulation concerning the manner in which VA determines that a veteran is catastrophically disabled for purposes of enrollment in priority group 4 for VA health care. The current regulation relies on specific codes from the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®). The revisions incorporate the corresponding ICD-9-CM and CPT® codes. This ensures that VA’s regulation is not out of date when new versions of those codes are published. The revisions also broaden some of the descriptions for a finding of catastrophic disability. Additionally, VA eliminates the Folstein Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE) as a criterion for determining whether a veteran meets the definition of catastrophically disabled, because it has been determined that the MMSE is no longer a necessary clinical assessment tool.
Title: Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and Veteran-Owned Small Business Acquisition Program
Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its acquisition regulation to clarify that the service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs) and veteran-owned small businesses (VOSBs) set-aside authority established by sections 502 and 503 of Public Law 109-461, the Veterans Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology Act of 2006, and implemented in VAAR part 819 does not apply to VA Federal Supply Schedule acquisitions.

Priority: Other Significant
Major: No
Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 48 CFR 819.7001 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)
Legal Authority: 38 USC 8127
Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: No
Federalism: No
Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov
Agency Contact: C. Ford Heard
Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Procurement Policy, Oversight and Systems (003A2)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Acquisition Logistics and Construction, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 202 632-5288
E-Mail: va.procurement.policy@va.gov

Title: Duty Periods for Establishing Eligibility for Health Care
Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its medical regulations concerning eligibility for health care to re-establish the definitions of "active military, naval, or air service," "active duty," and "active duty for training." These definitions were deleted in 1996; however, we believe that all duty periods should be defined in part 17 of the Code of Federal Regulations to ensure proper determination of eligibility for VA health care. We are also providing a more complete definition of "inactive duty training."

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Major: No
Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.31 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)
Legal Authority: 38 USC 101; 38 USC 106; PL 100-456, sec 633
Legal Deadline: None
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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  
Government Levels Affected: No  
Federalism: No  
Energy Affected: No  
Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov  
Agency Contact: Kristin Cunningham  
Chief, Business Office (16)  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
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Washington, , DC 20420  
Phone: 202 461-1599  
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Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
RIN: 2900-AO29

Title: Electronic Signatures and Other Electronic Communications for Compensation and Pension Adjudication  
Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its compensation and pension adjudication regulations to expressly allow for electronic communication between claimants and VA. In order to improve its service delivery to veterans, VA is transitioning from a paper-based to an electronic claims processing system. As VA transitions toward this electronic system, VA proposes these amendments to expressly permit certain electronic transmissions throughout the claims adjudication process. These amendments would provide for submission of electronic signatures, writings, and evidence to VA, as well as transmission of certain VA notices through electronic means. These proposed amendments are authorized by various Federal laws, which encourage Federal agencies to utilize electronic technologies to improve their services.  
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant  
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action  
Major: No  
Unfunded Mandates: No  
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 3.1; 38 CFR 3.217 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)  
Legal Authority: 38 USC 501  
Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  
Government Levels Affected: No  
Small Entities Affected: No  
Federalism: No  
Energy Affected: No  
Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov  
Agency Contact: Stephanie Caucutt Li  
Chief, Regulations Staff (211D)  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Benefits Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420  
Washington, , DC 20420  
Phone: 202 461-9700  
E-Mail: stephanie.caucutt@va.gov

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
RIN: 2900-AO40
Title: Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP)

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is issuing an interim final rule to establish regulations regarding a new program to retrain unemployed veterans. The new program, known as the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP), was authorized by section 211 of the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 (Pub. L. 112-56). This interim final includes the rules necessary to implement section 211 of the VOW to Hire Heroes Act.

Priority: Economically Significant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Major: Yes

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 21.4020; 38 CFR 21.9800 to 21.9910 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: PL 112-56

Legal Deadline: Paragraph (a) of section 211 authorizes VA and the DOL to jointly establish and commence the VRAP for eligible veterans beginning on July 1, 2012. The maximum number of unique eligible veterans who participate in the program may not exceed 45,000 during fiscal year 2012 and 54,000 during the period beginning October 1, 2012, and ending March 31, 2014. A veteran who is determined eligible and is receiving retraining assistance under the VRAP will be counted as a participant under the program.

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Agency Contact: Marquita Wright
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Department of Veterans Affairs ( VA )

RIN: 2900-AO45

Title: Disclosures to Participate in State Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

Abstract: VA is adopting as final, without change, an interim final rule published in the Federal Register that amended the Department of Veterans Affairs’ regulations concerning the sharing of certain patient information in order to implement VA’s authority to participate in State Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 1.483; 38 CFR 1.523; 38 CFR 1.560 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 5701

Legal Deadline: None

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<td>03/14/2014</td>
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Title: Authorization for Non-VA Medical Services

Abstract: This Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) rulemaking amends VA's regulations regarding payment by VA for medical services under VA's statutory authority for medical services under VA's statutory authority in 38 U.S.C. 1703 to provide non-VA medical care. In the Federal Register on November 28, 2012, VA proposed to remove an outdated regulatory limitation on veterans' eligibility to be referred for non-VA medical care. On the same date, VA also published a companion direct final rule that would have made the same amendments effective on January 28, 2013, if no significant adverse comments were received. Because VA received adverse comments on the direct final rule, VA is withdrawing it in a companion document in this issue of the Federal Register. This rulemaking includes VA's responses to comments on the proposed and direct final rules.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.52 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the [Code of Federal Regulations](https://www.gpo.gov/fdch/cfr/)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 1703

Legal Deadline: None

Timetable:

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: No

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)

Related RINs: Related to 2900-AO47

Agency Contact: Lisa Brown
Chief, Policy Management, Chief Business Office
Department of Veterans Affairs
3773 Cherry Creek Drive North, East Tower, Suite 485, Denver, CO 80209
Denver, CO 80209
Phone: 303 331-7829
E-Mail: lisa.brown@va.gov
Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) published a direct final rule in the Federal Register on November 28, 2012, that would have amended its regulations regarding payment by VA for outpatient care under VA’s statutory authority to provide non-VA medical care. VA sought to remove an outdated regulatory limitation on the types of veterans that are eligible to be referred for non-VA medical care. On the same date, VA also published a companion proposed rule (RIN 2900-AO46) containing the same amendments as the direct final rule. Because VA received adverse comments on this action, we are withdrawing the direct final rule. In a companion document in the Federal Register, VA is publishing a final rule that addresses all relevant comments.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant  
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action  
Major: No  
Unfunded Mandates: No  

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.52 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 1703

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  
Government Levels Affected: No

Small Entities Affected: No  
Federalism: No  
Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Related RINs: Related to 2900-AO46

Agency Contact: Lisa Brown  
Chief, Policy Management, Chief Business Office  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
3773 Cherry Creek Drive North, East Tower, Suite 485, Denver, CO 80209  
Denver, CO 80209  
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E-Mail: lisa.brown@va.gov

---

Title: Removal of Penalty for Breaking Appointments  

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends its regulations to remove an outdated regulation that stated that a veteran who misses two medical appointments without providing 24 hours’ notice and a reasonable excuse is deemed to have refused VA medical care. VA removes this penalty because we believe it is incompatible with regulatory changes implemented after the regulation was promulgated, is not in line with current practice, and is inconsistent with VA’s patient-centered approach to medical care.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant  
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action  
Major: No  
Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.100 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  
Government Levels Affected: No
Title: Copayment for Extended Care Services

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends the VA regulation defining "spousal resource protection amount" to reference the Maximum Community Spouse Resource Standard, which is adjusted and published each year by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This change has the immediate effect of increasing the spousal resource protection amount from $89,280 to $115,920, and ensures that the spousal resource protection amount will stay consistent with the comparable protection for the spouses of Medicaid recipients.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agency Contact: Ethan Kalett
Director, VHA Regulations
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue NW., Room 675Q, Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 202 461-7633
E-Mail: ethan.kalett@va.gov

Department of Veterans Affairs ( VA ) RIN: 2900-AO59

Title: Grants to States for Construction or Acquisition of State Homes

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends VA regulations governing prioritization of State applications for VA grants for the construction or acquisition of State home facilities that furnish domiciliary, nursing home, or adult day health care to veterans. As amended, the regulation gives preference to State applications that would use grant funds solely or primarily (under certain circumstances) to remedy cited life or safety deficiencies. This rulemaking also makes certain necessary technical amendments to regulations governing State home grants.

Agency Contact: Kristin Cunningham
Chief, Business Office (16)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420
Phone: 202 461-1599
E-Mail: kristin.cunningham@va.gov

Department of Veterans Affairs ( VA ) RIN: 2900-AO60
Title: Community Residential Care

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends its regulations concerning approval of non-VA community residential care (CRC) facilities to allow VA to waive such facilities’ compliance with standards that do not jeopardize the health or safety of residents. As amended, the regulation allows VA to grant a waiver of a CRC standard in those limited circumstances where the deficiency cannot be corrected to meet a standard provided for in VA regulation. This rulemaking also makes a certain necessary technical amendment to correct a reference to the section addressing requests for a hearing.
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
RIN: 2900-AO64

Title: VA Compensation Service and Pension and Fiduciary Service Nomenclature Changes
Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) amends its regulations by making nonsubstantive changes to reflect new titles of certain VA offices.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant  
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action
Major: No  
Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 3; 38 CFR 4; 38 CFR 60 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations )
Legal Authority: 38 USC 501 and 1708
Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  
Government Levels Affected: No
Small Entities Affected: No  
Federalism: No
Energy Affected: No
Agency Contact: Marie Gregory  
Pension & Fiduciary Service (21P1)  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Benefits Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420  
Washington , DC 20420  
Phone: 202 632-8847  
E-Mail: marie.gregory@va.gov

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
RIN: 2900-AO67

Title: Loan Guaranty: Minimum Property and Construction Requirements
Abstract: This final rule amends the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) guaranteed loan regulations by clarifying VA's statutory authority to establish minimum property requirements for properties securing VA-guaranteed loans. It does not make any substantive policy change or affect any substantive rights; rather, it merely cites more complete authority for the existing rule.

Priority: Info./Admin./Other  
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action
Major: No  
Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 4351 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations )
Legal Authority: 38 USC sec 501; 38 USC sec 3704(a); 38 USC sec 3710(b)(4)
Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No  
Government Levels Affected: No
Title: Updating Certain Citations in VA Medical Regulations
Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is making legally required technical amendments to its medical regulations by updating the statutory authorities identified in certain sections where those statutes have been renumbered or where the authority citation is inaccurate for other technical, nonsubstantive reasons. VA is also updating relevant cross-references to other Code of Federal Regulation sections where such references are outdated or incorrect.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action
Major: No
Unfunded Mandates: No
CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.30; 38 CFR 17.43; 38 CFR 17.45; 38 CFR 17.47; 38 CFR 17.48; 38 CFR 17.50; 38 CFR 17.52; 38 CFR 17.57; 38 CFR 17.90 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations.)
Legal Authority: 38 USC.501
Legal Deadline: None

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Small Entities Affected: No
Federalism: No
Energy Affected: No
Title: VA Dental Insurance Program--Federalism

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) published a direct final rule in the Federal Register on October 22, 2013, amending its regulations related to the VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP), a pilot program to offer premium-based dental insurance to enrolled veterans and certain survivors and dependents of veterans. Specifically, this rule adds language to clarify the limited preemptive effect of certain criteria in the VADIP regulations. VA received no comments concerning this rule or its companion substantially identical proposed rule published in the Federal Register on October 23, 2013. This document confirms that the direct final rule became effective on December 23, 2013. In a companion document in this issue of the Federal Register, we are withdrawing as unnecessary the proposed rule.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.169 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501

Legal Deadline: None

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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: Yes

Energy Affected: No
Title: VA Dental Insurance Program--Federalism

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is withdrawing VA's proposed rule, published in the Federal Register on October 23, 2013, to amend its regulations related to the VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP), a pilot program to offer premium-based dental insurance to enrolled veterans and certain survivors and dependents of veterans. Specifically, this rule would have added language to clarify the limited preemptive effect of certain criteria in the VADIP regulations. VA received no comments concerning the proposed rule or its companion substantially identical direct final rule published on October 22, 2013, in the Federal Register. In a companion document in this issue of the Federal Register, we are confirming that the direct final rule became effective on December 23, 2013. Accordingly, this document withdraws as unnecessary the proposed rule.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 17.169 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 501

Legal Deadline: None

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<td>NPRM</td>
<td>10/23/2013</td>
<td>78 FR 63143</td>
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<td>03/20/2014</td>
<td>79 FR 15557</td>
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Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State

Small Entities Affected: No

Federalism: Yes

Energy Affected: No

Public Comment URL: www.regulations.gov

Related RINs: Related to 2900-AO85

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Title: Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program: Changes Related to the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its regulation to reflect a change made by the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012. If a veteran has been displaced as the result of a natural or other disaster while being paid an allowance, referred to as an employment adjustment allowance, this Act allows the extension of the allowance. This amendment is necessary to conform the regulation to the statutory provision.

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Agenda Stage of Rulemaking: Completed Action

Major: No

Unfunded Mandates: No

CFR Citation: 38 CFR 21.268 (To search for a specific CFR, visit the Code of Federal Regulations)

Legal Authority: 38 USC 3108

Legal Deadline: None

Timetable:

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<td>03/24/2014</td>
<td>79 FR 15920</td>
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Department of Veterans Affairs ( VA )

RIN: 2900-AO86

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Department of Veterans Affairs ( VA )

RIN: 2900-AO87
Final Rule Effective | 03/24/2014

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Small Entities Affected: No  

Energy Affected: No  

Public Comment URL: [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)  

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