§21.7100

Counseling.

A veteran or servicemember may receive counseling from VA before beginning training and during training.

(a) Purpose. The purpose of counseling is

(1) To assist in selecting an objective;

(2) To develop a suitable program of education;

(3) To select an educational institution appropriate for the attainment of the educational objective;

(4) To resolve any personal problems which are likely to interfere with the successful pursuit of a program; and

(5) To select an employment objective for the veteran that would be likely to provide the veteran with satisfactory employment opportunities in light of his or her personal circumstances.

(b) Required counseling. (1) In any case in which VA has rated the veteran as being incompetent, the veteran must be counseled before selecting a program of education or training. The requirement that counseling be provided is met when—

(i) The veteran has had one or more personal interviews with the counselor;

(ii) The counselor has jointly developed with the veteran recommendations for selecting a program; and

(iii) These recommendations have been reviewed with the veteran.

(2) The veteran may follow the recommendations developed in the course of counseling, but is not required to do so.

(3) VA will take no further action on a veteran’s application for assistance under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30 when he or she—

(i) Fails to report;

(ii) Fails to cooperate in the counseling process; or

(iii) Does not complete counseling to the extent required under paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034, 3463; Pub. L. 98–525)
§ 21.7110 Selection of a program of education.

(a) Payments of educational assistance are usually based on pursuit of a program of education. In order to receive educational assistance under 38 U.S.C. chapter 30, a veteran or servicemember must—

(1) Be pursuing an approved program of education;

(2) Be pursuing refresher or deficiency courses;

(3) Be pursuing other preparatory or special education or training courses necessary to enable the veteran or servicemember to pursue an approved program of education;

(4) Have taken an approved licensing or certification test, for which he or she is requesting reimbursement; or

(5) Be an individual who has taken a course for which the individual received tuition assistance provided

§ 21.7110 Travel expenses.

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(i) VA determines that the individual is unable to defray the cost based upon his or her annual declaration and certification; or

(ii) The individual has a compensable service-connected disability.

(2) VA shall not pay for the travel expenses for a veteran who is not residing in a State.

(b) Travel for attendants. (1) VA will authorize payment of travel expenses for an attendant while the individual is traveling when—

(i) The individual, because of a severe disability requires the services of an attendant when traveling, and

(ii) VA is paying the necessary cost of the individual’s travel on the basis of the criteria stated in paragraph (a) of this section.

(2) VA will not pay the attendant a fee for travel expenses if he or she is a relative as defined in § 21.374 of this part.

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