

effective September 15, 2024. These updates would be published in the next update to FAA Order JO 7400.11. FAA Order JO 7400.11J, which lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points, is publicly available as listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document.

Background

Helena Approach Control is a non-radar approach control facility. Without radar, the controllers rely upon pilots reporting their positions relative to navigational aids within the non-radar airspace. Consequently, controllers regularly request pilots to report over the Helena (HLN), MT, VORTAC while under their control. Making HLN a charted low altitude reporting point will advise pilots in advance of the requirement to report their position over the VORTAC.

The Proposal

The FAA is proposing an amendment to 14 CFR part 71 to establish Helena VORTAC as a Domestic Low Altitude Reporting Point in the state of Montana. The reporting point will be located at “lat. 46°36'24.557" N, long. 111°57'12.511" W.”

Regulatory Notices and Analyses

The FAA has determined that this proposed regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore: (1) is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that will only affect air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this proposed rule, when promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Environmental Review

This proposal will be subject to an environmental analysis in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1G, “FAA National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures” prior to any FAA final regulatory action.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

The Proposed Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71—DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

- 1. The authority citation for 14 CFR part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g), 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959–1963 Comp., p. 389.

§ 71.1 [Amended]

- 2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of FAA Order JO 7400.11J, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated July 31, 2024, and effective September 15, 2024, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 7001 Domestic Low Altitude Reporting Points.

* * * * *

Helena, MT

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Issued in Washington, DC, on July 23, 2025.

Brian Eric Konie,
Manager (A), Rules and Regulations Group.
[FR Doc. 2025-14488 Filed 7-30-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 21

RIN 2900-AS36

Waiver or Recovery of Overpayments

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.
ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend the Veteran Readiness and Employment and Education regulations to implement section 1019 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Isakson Roe Act), which was effective January 5, 2021. These proposed amendments would update regulations governing the waiver or recovery of overpayments to address the assignment of financial responsibility for benefits paid directly to an educational institution on behalf of the student.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 29, 2025.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments through www.regulations.gov under RIN

2900-AS36. That website includes a plain-language summary of this rulemaking. Instructions for accessing agency documents, submitting comments, and viewing the rulemaking docket are available on www.regulations.gov under “FAQ.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cheryl Amitay, Veterans Benefits Administration, (202) 461-9800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: When an educational institution (also referred to as a school) voluntarily applies and is approved to participate in GI Bill programs, that institution assumes responsibility to provide accurate and timely enrollment information to VA for benefit processing. See 38 U.S.C. 3684(a). Prior to the enactment of section 1019 of the Isakson Roe Act (Pub. L. 116-315) on January 5, 2021, 38 U.S.C. 3685(a) and (b) technically indicated that, in cases in which an overpayment is made to a veteran or eligible person but is a result of willful or negligent conduct by the school, the overpayment could be considered a liability of both the school and the veteran or eligible person. In 38 CFR 21.9695(b)(3), VA interpreted 38 U.S.C. 3685(b) as referring to both an overpayment made to a veteran or eligible person and an overpayment made to a school on behalf of a veteran or eligible person. When a school failed to provide accurate and timely information regarding a student’s enrollment, VA’s implementing regulations provided for, and continue to provide for, an administrative review at the regional office level of the circumstances surrounding any overpayment (known as the School Liability Process) to determine if the school was liable for such overpayment, *i.e.*, to determine if the overpayment resulted from the school’s own willful or negligent failure to report accurate or timely enrollment information or from willful or negligent false certifications. 38 CFR 21.9695(b)(3), 21.4009. When VA determined school liability existed, the amount of the school liability equaled the amount of debt that resulted from the school’s willful or negligent reporting failure or false certification. Further, pursuant to § 21.4009(h), the school had the right to appeal findings of school liability to a dedicated School Liability Appeals Board located in VA’s Central Office. Additionally, § 21.9695(b)(2) states that an overpayment made to the school would be a liability of the school in cases where the student never attended the school term. Section 21.9695 of Title 38 U.S.C., however, does not clearly state

whether the student would be liable for the debt as well.

With the enactment of section 1019 of Public Law 116–315 and new 38 U.S.C. 3685(b)(2), schools can be held liable for benefits paid directly to them for tuition and fees, Yellow Ribbon program matching contributions, and other advance payments of educational assistance to veteran students, without consideration of whether the overpayment was the result of willful or negligent conduct. Amended section 3685(b)(2) states simply that payments made to a school on behalf of an eligible veteran pursuant to specified provisions (38 U.S.C. 3313(h), 3317, 3680(d), 3320(d)) shall constitute a liability of the school. The statute does not require any VA findings, specifically findings of willful or negligent conduct, before considering the listed payments (tuition and fees, Yellow Ribbon program matching contributions, other advance payments) as liabilities of the school.

To be consistent with 38 U.S.C. 3685(b)(2), VA proposes to remove the current regulatory provision in 38 CFR 21.9695(b)(3) that requires VA to provide the School Liability Process under § 21.4009 to determine whether an overpayment is the result of willful or negligent conduct before holding a school liable for an overpayment *paid directly to the school* on behalf of an eligible individual. We also propose to add language in revised § 21.9695(b)(2) to make clear that a school would be held liable, without going through the School Liability Process, for certain chapter 33 benefits *paid directly to the school* on behalf of an eligible individual. We would accordingly remove the language in current § 21.9695(b)(2) indicating that a school is liable for an overpayment made for a term, quarter, or semester if a student never attended that term, quarter, or semester because such scenario would be covered under revised § 21.9695(b)(2). In addition, we propose adding language in revised § 21.9695(b)(2) to make clear that VA would apply the procedures in 38 CFR 1.911a when collecting overpayments of chapter 33 benefits that were paid to the school on behalf of the eligible individual, which would be consistent with 38 U.S.C. 3685(c). VA also proposes to amend 38 U.S.C. 21.9695(b)(1) to be consistent with 38 U.S.C. 3685(b)(1) and make it clear that a school would be held liable for overpayments *paid to an eligible individual* if VA determines through the School Liability Process that the school engaged in willful or negligent conduct.

Furthermore, even after the enactment of section 1019 of Public Law 116–315,

38 U.S.C. 3685(a) and (b)(1) technically indicates that an overpayment made to a veteran that was the result of willful or negligent conduct by a school could be considered a liability of both the veteran and the school. While we can arguably hold both the school and the veteran liable under current 38 CFR 21.9695(b)(1) and (3) for an overpayment made to a veteran if we find it is the result of willful or negligent conduct by the school, we have never held the veteran liable in this circumstance. Consistent with our interpretation of current 38 U.S.C. 3685(a) and (b)(1) and our historical practice, and because we presume Congress did not intend to allow for potential double recovery of an overpayment, we are proposing to make it clear in our regulation at 38 CFR 21.9695(b)(1)(iii) that, if we determine that an overpayment made to a veteran is the result of a school's willful or negligent conduct, we would hold only the school and not the veteran liable for the overpayment.

Additionally, VA proposes to amend 38 CFR 21.4009(a)(2) to make clear that a school would be held liable for overpayments paid to an eligible veteran or person only if VA determines in the School Liability Process set out in this section that the school engaged in willful or negligent conduct. VA also proposes to amend § 21.4009(a)(1) to clarify that paragraph (a)(1) is subject to paragraph (a)(2) and amend § 21.4009(a)(2) to clarify that VA would make negligence determinations pursuant to the procedures in this section. Implementing these amendments would align VA's regulations governing school liability with current statutory requirements.

Finally, we would apply the changes proposed in this rulemaking to all debts established on or after January 5, 2021. As stated, these changes implement the statutory amendments in Public Law 116–315, sec. 1019, which added new subsection (b)(2) to 38 U.S.C. 3685, specifying scenarios that result in automatic school liability without requiring the School Liability Process. Congress enacted Public Law 116–315 on January 5, 2021, and set no separate effective date or applicability date for section 1019. Accordingly, the amendment took effect on the date of enactment of the law, and we propose to apply the regulatory changes to all debts established on or after the effective date of the authorizing law.

Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14192

VA examined the impact of this rulemaking as required by Executive

Orders 12866 (Sept. 30, 1993) and 13563 (Jan. 18, 2011), which direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits. The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has determined that this rulemaking is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866, as supplemented by Executive Order 13563. The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has determined that this rulemaking is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866. This proposed rule is expected to be a deregulatory action under Executive Order 14192. The Regulatory Impact Analysis associated with this rulemaking can be found as a supporting document at www.regulations.gov.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Secretary hereby certifies that this proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as they are defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601–612). This rulemaking would update existing regulations to include the requirement in 38 U.S.C. 3685(b)(2) that schools are liable for overpayments of benefits (tuition and fees, Yellow Ribbon program matching contributions, and other advance payments of educational assistance) paid directly to the schools on behalf of veteran students, without consideration of whether the overpayment was the result of the school's willful or negligent conduct. The rulemaking would also remove as inconsistent with statute the current regulatory requirement in 38 CFR 21.9695(b)(3) that VA go through the School Liability Process (SLP) to determine whether a school should be held liable for overpayments of benefits paid directly to the school if the overpayments were the result of the school's willful or negligent conduct. The proposed revised regulations would, for the most part, simply explain the requirements of 38 U.S.C. 3685 and remind parties of their legal rights and responsibilities as set forth in statute, but they would also clarify the requirement in section 3685(c) that overpayments “may be recovered . . . in the same manner as any other debt due the United States” by specifying the procedures under 38 CFR 1.911a that VA uses to collect debts. The small entities 38 U.S.C. 3685(c) regulates are educational institutions that are approved for GI Bill benefits.

Although there are many educational institutions approved for GI Bill benefits

that may be considered small entities under the RFA to which this rule would apply, this rule would not have an impact on a substantial number of these small entities. This rule would affect only institutions of higher learning (IHL) and non-college degree granting programs (NCD) (including vocational flight schools) that do not provide accurate and timely enrollment information or that provide false certifications to VA, resulting in an overpayment in the school's account. Prior to the enactment of Public Law 116–315, VA regulations provided for the SLP to determine if a school was liable for any overpayment created when a school failed to provide accurate and timely information regarding a student's enrollment or when it provided false certifications. During the three years prior to the enactment of Public Law 116–315, of the approximately 13,000 IHLs and NCDs that are approved for GI Bill benefits each year, only 17 schools in total, or less than six schools per year, were referred to the SLP for adjudication.

Using a standard based on an educational institution's enrollment, the Department of Education (ED) recently determined that 61 percent of institutions of higher education (IHE) subject to regulations they proposed in July 2024 governing participation in the student financial assistance programs authorized under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), are small entities for purposes of an RFA analysis. Program Integrity and Institutional Quality: Distance Education, Return of Title IV, HEA Funds, and Federal TRIO Programs, 89 FR 60256, 60280 (July 24, 2024). While IHLs and IHEs are each defined to include similar entities, there are likely to be IHLs that participate in GI Bill programs that do not fall within ED's definition of IHEs, and there may be some IHEs that participate in ED's programs that do not fall within VA's definition of IHLs. *Compare* 38 U.S.C. 3452(f) (defining IHLs to include institutions offering post-secondary education, whether public, nonprofit, or private) *with* 20 U.S.C. 1001(a) (defining IHEs to include institutions offering post-secondary education, but only public or nonprofit institutions). Nonetheless, we believe IHLs and IHEs are sufficiently similar, and we can reasonably use ED's calculation of small entities for VA's purposes. And even though not all of the schools that are approved for GI Bill benefits are IHLs, with just over half being NCDs, we believe ED's standard for determining the percentage of schools that are small

entities for its purposes can reasonably be applied here because it is likely there would be a similar or greater percentage of NCDs that would be considered small entities.

Comparing IHEs subject to ED's July 2024 proposed rule to educational institutions that would be subject to the regulations regarding school liability and the SLP that VA is proposing to amend in this rulemaking (*i.e.*, all educational institutions approved for GI Bill benefits), we believe it is reasonable to estimate that approximately 61 percent of educational institutions subject to these VA regulations would be considered small entities. Sixty-one percent of the estimated 13,000 total schools that would be subject to these proposed VA regulations in a given year is 7,930 small entities. Thus, the estimated average of six schools that went through the SLP per year, even assuming they were all small entities, is only 0.08 percent (6/7930) of the small entities that would be subject to the regulations. In other words, less than 1 percent of the small entities subject to the regulations would be impacted by this rulemaking. And regardless of the actual percentage of NCDs that may be considered small entities for GI Bill purposes, the number of small entities impacted by this rulemaking would remain insubstantial. Therefore, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 603(a), the initial and final regulatory flexibility analysis requirements of 5 U.S.C. 603 and 604 do not apply.

Unfunded Mandates

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 requires, at 2 U.S.C. 1532, that agencies prepare an assessment of anticipated costs and benefits before issuing any rule that may result in the expenditure by state, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more (adjusted annually for inflation) in any one year. This proposed rule would have no such effect on state, local, and tribal governments, or on the private sector.

Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)

This proposed rule contains no provisions constituting a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521).

Assistance Listing

The Assistance Listing numbers and titles for the programs affected by this document are 64.027, Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance; 64.028, Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance; 64.032, Montgomery GI Bill

Selected Reserve; Reserve Educational Assistance Program; 64.117, Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance; 64.120, Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance; 64.124, All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance.

List of Subjects in 38 CFR Part 21

Administrative practice and procedure, Armed Forces, Claims, Colleges and universities, Education, Employment, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Schools, Veterans, Vocational education, Vocational rehabilitation.

Signing Authority

Douglas A. Collins, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on July 24, 2025, and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Taylor N. Mattson,

*Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Veterans Affairs.*

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Department of Veterans Affairs proposes to amend 38 CFR part 21 as set forth below:

PART 21—VETERAN READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Subpart D—Administration of Educational Assistance Programs

■ 1. The authority citation for part 21, subpart D, continues to read as follows:

Authority : 10 U.S.C. 2141 note, ch. 1606; 38 U.S.C. 501(a), chs. 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, and as noted in specific sections.

- 2. Amend § 21.4009 by:
 - a. Revising paragraphs (a)(1) and ((2)); and
 - b. Adding an authority citation at the end of paragraph (a)(6).

The revisions and addition read as follows:

§ 21.4009 Waiver or recovery of overpayments.

* * * * *

(a) * * *

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the amount of the overpayment of educational assistance allowance or special training allowance paid to a veteran or eligible person constitutes a liability of that veteran or eligible person.

(2) The amount of the overpayment of educational assistance allowance or special training allowance paid to a veteran or eligible person constitutes a liability of the educational institution if

the Department of Veterans Affairs determines, pursuant to procedures in this section, that the overpayment was made as the result of willful or negligent:

* * * * *

(Authority: 10 U.S.C. 16136(b); 38 U.S.C. 512(a), 3034(a), 3241(a), 3323(a), 3685)

Subpart P—Post-9/11 GI Bill

- 3. The authority citation for part 21, subpart P, continues to read as follows:

Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501(a), 512, chs. 33, 36 and as noted in specific sections.

- 4. Amend § 21.9695 by:
 - a. Revising paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2);
 - b. Removing paragraph (b)(3); and
 - c. Redesignating paragraph (b)(4) as paragraph (b)(3).

The revisions read as follows:

§ 21.9695 Overpayments.

* * * * *

(b) Liability for overpayments.

(1) An overpayment of educational assistance paid to an eligible individual constitutes a liability of that individual unless—

(i) The overpayment was waived as provided in §§ 1.957 and 1.962 of this chapter,

(ii) The overpayment results from an administrative error or an error in judgment (see § 21.9635(r)), or

(iii) VA determines that the overpayment is the result of willful or negligent—

(A) False certification by the educational institution; or

(B) Failure to certify excessive absences from a course, discontinuance of a course, or interruption of a course by the eligible individual.

(iv) In determining whether an overpayment resulting from the actions listed in paragraphs (b)(1)(iii)(A) and (B) of this section should be recovered from an educational institution, VA will apply the provisions of § 21.4009 (except paragraph (a)(1)) to overpayments of educational assistance under 38 U.S.C. chapter 33.

(2) An overpayment of educational assistance paid to the educational institution on behalf of an eligible individual pursuant to the following authorities constitutes a liability of the educational institution and will be collected pursuant to the procedures in § 1.911a of this title:

- (i) 38 U.S.C. 3313(h);
- (ii) 38 U.S.C. 3317;
- (iii) 38 U.S.C. 3680(d); or
- (iv) 38 U.S.C. 3320(d).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3034(a), 3323(a), 3685)

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[FR Doc. 2025-14487 Filed 7-30-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R02-OAR-2024-0288; FRL-12047-01-R2]

Air Plan Approval; New Jersey; Northern New Jersey and Southern New Jersey Counties' Second 10-Year Limited Maintenance Plan for the 2006 24-Hour PM_{2.5} Standard

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve, under the Clean Air Act (CAA), the limited maintenance plan (LMP) for the 2006 PM_{2.5} national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for the New Jersey portion of both of New Jersey's multi-state maintenance areas: the Northern New Jersey portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT (Northern New Jersey) maintenance area and the New Jersey portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE (Southern New Jersey) maintenance area. This LMP was submitted on July 6, 2023, and supplemented on June 6, 2024, by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The plan addresses the second 10-year maintenance period for particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to a nominal 2.5 micrometers, known as PM_{2.5}. The EPA is proposing approval of New Jersey's LMP submission because it provides for the maintenance of the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} NAAQS through the end of the second 10-year portion of the maintenance period. In addition, the EPA completed the adequacy review process of this New Jersey PM_{2.5} LMP for transportation conformity purposes on June 7, 2024.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before September 2, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID Number EPA-R02-OAR-2024-0288 at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) (formerly referred to as Confidential

Business Information (CBI)) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available electronically through <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from *Regulations.gov*. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be CUI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CUI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ysabel Banon, Environmental Protection Agency, Air Programs Branch, Region 2, 290 Broadway, New York, New York 10007-1866, at (212) 637-3782, or by email at banon.ysabel@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Background and Purpose
 - A. The PM_{2.5} NAAQS
 - B. Regulatory Actions in Northern New Jersey and Southern New Jersey Counties
- II. The Limited Maintenance Plan Option
 - A. Demonstration of Maintenance Using the Limited Maintenance Plan Option
 - B. Transportation Conformity Under Limited Maintenance Plan Option
 - C. General Conformity Under Limited Maintenance Plan Option
- III. The EPA's Analysis of the State's Submittal
 - A. Demonstration of Qualification for the Limited Maintenance Plan Option
 - B. Attainment Emission Inventory
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 - D. Verification of Continued Attainment
 - E. Contingency Provisions
- IV. Proposed Action
- V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

I. Background and Purpose

A. The PM_{2.5} NAAQS

The EPA has established NAAQS for particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 2.5 micrometers, known as PM_{2.5}, to protect