

## § 17.700

## 38 CFR Ch. I (7–1–23 Edition)

the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section must resubmit all of the evidence stated in paragraph (d) of this section in order to be reconsidered as an endorsing organization.

(4) If an ecclesiastical endorsing organization is no longer able to endorse individuals for VA chaplaincy in accordance with this section, all ecclesiastical endorsements issued by that organization are considered to be withdrawn.

(The Office of Management and Budget has approved the information collection requirements in this section under control number 2900–0852)

[82 FR 51772, Nov. 8, 2017]

### GRANTS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF VETERANS IN HIGHLY RURAL AREAS

**AUTHORITY:** Sec. 307, Pub. L. 111–163; 38 U.S.C. 501 and as noted in specific sections.

**SOURCE:** 78 FR 19593, Apr. 2, 2013, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 17.700 Purpose and scope.

This section establishes the Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas program. Under this program, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides grants to eligible entities to assist veterans in highly rural areas through innovative transportation services to travel to VA medical centers, and to otherwise assist in providing transportation services in connection with the provision of VA medical care to these veterans.

(Authority: Sec. 307, Pub. L. 111–163; 38 U.S.C. 501)

#### § 17.701 Definitions.

For the purposes of §§ 17.700–17.730 and any Notice of Fund Availability issued pursuant to such sections:

*Applicant* means an eligible entity that submits an application for a grant announced in a Notice of Fund Availability.

*Eligible entity* means:

(1) A Veterans Service Organization, or

(2) A State veterans service agency.

*Grantee* means an applicant that is awarded a grant under this section.

*Highly rural area* means an area consisting of a county or counties having

a population of less than seven persons per square mile.

*Notice of Fund Availability* means a Notice of Fund Availability published in the FEDERAL REGISTER in accordance with § 17.710.

*Participant* means a veteran in a highly rural area who is receiving transportation services from a grantee.

*Provision of VA medical care* means the provision of hospital or medical services authorized under sections 1710, 1703, and 8153 of title 38, United States Code.

*State veterans service agency* means the element of a State government that has responsibility for programs and activities of that government relating to veterans benefits.

*Subrecipient* means an entity that receives grant funds from a grantee to perform work for the grantee in the administration of all or part of the grantee's program.

*Transportation services* means the direct provision of transportation, or assistance with providing transportation, to travel to VA medical centers and other VA or non-VA facilities in connection with the provision of VA medical care.

*Veteran* means a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.

*Veterans Service Organization* means an organization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of title 38, United States Code.

(Authority: Sec. 307, Pub. L. 111–163; 38 U.S.C. 501)

#### § 17.702 Grants—general.

(a) *One grant per highly rural area.* VA may award one grant per fiscal year to a grantee for each highly rural area in which the grantee provides transportation services. Transportation services may not be simultaneously provided by more than one grantee in any single highly rural area.

(b) *Maximum amount.* Grant amounts will be specified in the Notice of Funding Availability, but no grant will exceed \$50,000.