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in the same manner as other debt due the United States. Once a default has occurred, the eligible spouse's or surviving spouse's subsequent reentrance into training at the half-time or greater rate shall not be the basis for rescinding the default. A default may only be rescinded when VA has been led to create the default as a result of a mistake of fact or law.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3698 (e)(1))

(e) *Death or disability.* If the eligible spouse or surviving spouse dies or becomes permanently and totally disabled, even though he or she ceases to be permanently and totally disabled subsequent to the granting of the loan, the remaining liability of such person for an educational loan shall be discharged.

(f) *Fraud.* Material misrepresentation of fact by the eligible spouse or surviving spouse, including omissions of relevant information, shall render the loan agreement null and void. The deferred payment provisions of the agreement shall not apply in such a case and the full amount of any loan balance shall become due and payable immediately. The amount due shall be recovered from the eligible spouse or surviving spouse in the same manner as any other debt due the United States.

(g) *Signature.* An eligible spouse or surviving spouse may sign both the loan application and the promissory note required and payment of the amounts authorized will be made to such person, notwithstanding his or her minority, unless the person has a legal guardian. In such cases the legal guardian must sign and will be paid the loan amounts.

[40 FR 31765, July 29, 1975, as amended at 48 FR 37997, Aug. 22, 1983; 52 FR 5963, Feb. 27, 1987; 52 FR 7276, Mar. 10, 1987; 61 FR 26116, May 24, 1996]

§ 21.4505 Check delivery.

(a) *General.* Education loans by the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be made by a check payable to the eligible spouse or surviving spouse and shall be mailed promptly to the educational institution in which the eligible spouse or surviving spouse is enrolled for delivery by the educational institution.

(b) *Delivery and certification.* (1) The educational institution, electing to participate in this program, shall deliver an education loan check to the eligible spouse or surviving spouse and shall certify the fact of delivery to the Department of Veterans Affairs immediately upon delivery. If the delivery is not made within 30 days after the institution receives the check, it shall return the check to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(2) The Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs facility of jurisdiction may direct that education loan checks be sent directly to spouses or surviving spouses when:

(i) The educational institution demonstrates an inability to comply with these requirements; or

(ii) The educational institution fails to provide adequately for the safekeeping of the checks prior to the delivery to the student or return to the Department of Veterans Affairs; or

(iii) The educational institution elects not to participate in this program; or

(iv) There is compelling evidence that the institution is unable to discharge its responsibilities under this program.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3512(f), 3698)

[44 FR 62508, Oct. 31, 1979, as amended at 61 FR 26116, May 24, 1996]

§ 21.4507 Advertising.

(a) *General.* No educational institution or training establishment shall include a statement in advertisements or brochures intended to solicit students as to the availability of education loans from the Department of Veterans Affairs for eligible spouses and surviving spouses, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Form.* The statement which is permitted shall be as follows: "Certain eligible spouses and surviving spouses may qualify for a maximum educational loan of \$2,500 per academic year from the Department of Veterans Affairs depending upon need. Applications for such loans shall be made to

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the Department of Veterans Affairs on forms prescribed by it.”

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3512(f), 3696, 3698(b))

[44 FR 62510, Oct. 31, 1979, as amended at 61 FR 26116, May 24, 1996]

Subparts F-1—F-3 [Reserved]

Subpart G—Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance Under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 32

AUTHORITY: 38 U.S.C. 501(a), chs. 32, 36, and as noted in specific sections.

SOURCE: 45 FR 31, Jan. 2, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

ADMINISTRATIVE

§ 21.5001 Administration of benefits: 38 U.S.C. Chapter 32.

(a) *Delegation of authority.* Except as otherwise provided, authority is delegated to the Under Secretary for Benefits and to supervisory or administrative personnel within the jurisdiction of the Education Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, designated by him or her to make findings and decisions under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 32 and the applicable regulations, precedents, and instructions, as to the program authorized by subpart G of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 512(a))

(b) *Administrative provisions.* In administering benefits payable under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 32, VA will apply the following sections:

(1) Section 21.4002—Finality of decisions;

(2) Section 21.4003 (except paragraphs (d) and (e))—Revision of decisions;

(3) Section 21.4005—Conflicting interests;

(4) Section 21.4006—False or misleading statements;

(5) Section 21.4007—Forfeiture;

(6) Section 21.4008—Prevention of overpayments; and

(7) Section 21.4009—Overpayments; waiver or recovery.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3241(a), 3680, 3683, 3685, 3690, 6103)

[61 FR 29029, June 7, 1996]

GENERAL

§ 21.5020 Post-Vietnam era veterans' educational assistance.

Title 38 U.S.C. Chapter 32 provides for a participatory program for educational assistance benefits to eligible veterans and servicepersons. The intent of the Congress for this program is stated in 38 U.S.C. 3201.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3201)

[61 FR 29029, June 7, 1996]

§ 21.5021 Definitions.

For the purposes of subpart G and payment of benefits under 38 U.S.C. chapter 32, the following definitions apply (see also §§ 21.1029 and 21.4200):

(a) *Veteran*—means anyone whose service meets the requirements of § 21.5040.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3202(1))

(b) *Active duty*—means full-time duty in the Armed Forces or as a commissioned officer of the regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service or of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. It does not include any period during which an individual:

(1) Was assigned full-time by the Armed Forces to a civilian institution for a course of education which was substantially the same as established courses offered to civilians,

(2) Served as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies,

(3) Served under the provisions of section 511(d) of Title 10, United States Code, pursuant to an enlistment in the military reserve or national guard,

(4) Served in an excess leave without pay status, or

(5) Served in a status specified in § 3.15 of this chapter.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3202)

(c) *State*—means each of the several States, territories and possessions of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101(20))