§ 21.240 Medical treatment, care and services.

(a) General. A Chapter 31 participant shall be furnished medical treatment, care and services which VA determines are necessary to develop, carry out and complete the veteran’s rehabilitation plan. The provision of such services is a part of the veteran’s entitlement to benefits and services under Chapter 31, and is limited to the period or periods in which the veteran is a Chapter 31 participant.

(b) Scope of services. The services which may be furnished under Chapter 31 include the treatment, care and services described in part 17 of this title. In addition the following services may be authorized under Chapter 31 even if not included or described in part 17:

(1) Prosthetic appliances, eyeglasses, and other corrective or assistive devices;
(2) Services to a veteran’s family as necessary for the effective rehabilitation of the veteran;
(3) Special services (including services related to blindness and deafness) including:
   (i) Language training; speech and voice correction, training in ambulation, and one-hand typing;
   (ii) Orientation, adjustment, mobility and related services;
   (iii) Telecommunications, sensory and other technical aids and devices.

(c) Eligibility. A veteran is eligible for the services described in paragraph (b) of this section during periods in which he or she is considered a Chapter 31 participant. These periods include:

(1) Initial evaluation;
(2) Extended evaluation;
(3) Rehabilitation to the point of employability;


Supplies are to be furnished under the most careful checks by the case manager as to what is needed by the veteran to pursue his or her program. Determinations of the supplies needed to enable the veteran to successfully pursue his or her rehabilitation program are made under the provisions of §§ 21.210 through 21.222.
§ 21.242 Independent living services program; employment services; and other periods to the extent that services are needed to begin or continue in any of the statutes described in paragraphs (c)(1) through (5) of this section. Such periods include but are not limited to services needed to facilitate reentry into rehabilitation following:

(i) Interruption; or
(ii) Discontinuance because of illness or injury.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3104)

Cross-Reference: See §17.48(g). Participating in a rehabilitation program under Chapter 31.

§ 21.242 Resources for provision of treatment, care and services.

(a) General. VA medical centers are the primary resources for the provision of medical treatment, care and services for Chapter 31 participants which may be authorized under the provisions of §21.240. The availability of necessary services in VA facilities shall be ascertained in each case.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3115)

(b) Hospital care and medical service. Hospital care and medical services provided under Chapter 31 shall only be furnished in facilities over which VA has direct jurisdiction, except as authorized on a contract or fee basis under the provisions of part 17 of this title.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3115(b))

Cross-References: See §17.30(l). Hospital care. §17.30(m) Medical services.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

§ 21.250 Overview of employment services.

(a) General. Employment services shall be provided if:

(1) Eligibility for employment services exists;
(2) The employment services which are needed have been identified; and
(3) The services which have been identified are incorporated in the veteran’s IWRP (Individualized Written Rehabilitation Plan) or IEAP (Individualized Employment Assistance Plan).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3107, 3117)

(b) Definitions. (1) The term program (period) of employment services includes the counseling, medical, social, and other placement and postplacement services provided to a veteran under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 31 to assist the veteran in obtaining or maintaining suitable employment. The term program of employment services is used only if the veteran’s eligibility under Chapter 31 is limited to employment services.

(2) The term job development means a comprehensive professional service to assist the individual veteran to actually obtain a suitable job, and not simply the solicitation of jobs on behalf of the veteran. Continuing and mutually beneficial relationships with employers should be established by VA staff through referral of suitable employees and supportive services (e.g., adjustment counseling and job modification). Job development activities by VA staff are intended to provide disabled workers with a chance for suitable employment with cooperating employers.

(3) The term employable means the veteran is able to secure and maintain employment in the competitive labor market or in a sheltered workshop or other special situation at the minimum wage.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3101, 3106, 3116, 3117)

(c) Determining eligibility for, and the extent of, employment services. (1) A veteran’s eligibility for employment services shall be determined under the provisions of §21.47.

(2) The duration of the period of employment services is determined under provisions of §21.73.

(3) An IEAP (Individualized Employment Assistance Plan) shall be prepared under provisions of §21.88.

(4) A veteran shall be placed in and removed from “Employment Assistance Status” under provisions of §21.194.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3101, 3117)