

(c) FREQUENCY.—The training under subsection (a) shall be provided with such frequency as the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall specify in order to ensure that the human resources personnel of Federal executive agencies are kept fully and currently informed of the matters covered by the training.

(d) HUMAN RESOURCES PERSONNEL DEFINED.—In this section, the term “human resources personnel”, in the case of a Federal executive agency, means any personnel of the agency who are authorized to recommend, take, or approve any personnel action that is subject to the requirements of this chapter with respect to employees of the agency.

(Added Pub. L. 110-389, title III, §313(a), Oct. 10, 2008, 122 Stat. 4166.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior sections 4335, 4336, and 4351 to 4355 were renumbered sections 7635, 7636, and 7651 to 7655 of this title, respectively.

A prior section 5001 was renumbered section 8101 of this title.

Another prior section 5001, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1251; Pub. L. 88-450, §1, Aug. 19, 1964, 78 Stat. 500; Pub. L. 89-311, §8, Oct. 31, 1965, 79 Stat. 1157; Pub. L. 93-82, title III, §301, Aug. 2, 1973, 87 Stat. 194; Pub. L. 94-581, title I, §114, title II, §§206(a), 210(e)(1), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2852, 2859, 2864; Pub. L. 95-201, §4(c), Nov. 23, 1977, 91 Stat. 1431, relating generally to the authority of the Administrator to establish hospitals and domiciliary facilities for veterans, was omitted in the general revision of subchapter I of chapter 81 of this title by Pub. L. 96-22. See section 8102 of this title.

A prior section 5002 was renumbered section 8102 of this title.

Another prior section 5002, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1252; Pub. L. 94-581, title II, §210(e)(2), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2865, relating to the construction and repair of hospitals, domiciliaries, and outpatient dispensary facilities, was omitted in the general revision of subchapter I of chapter 81 of this title by Pub. L. 96-22. See section 8103 of this title.

A prior section 5003 was renumbered section 8103 of this title.

Another prior section 5003, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1252, relating to the use by the Veterans’ Administration of Armed Forces’ facilities, was omitted in the general revision of subchapter I of chapter 81 of this title by Pub. L. 96-22. See section 8111 of this title.

A prior section 5004 was renumbered section 8104 of this title.

Another prior section 5004, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 152; Pub. L. 89-785, title II, §201(a), Nov. 7, 1966, 80 Stat. 1372; Pub. L. 94-581, title II, §210(e)(3), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2865, relating to garage and parking facilities, was omitted in the general revision of subchapter I of chapter 81 of this title by Pub. L. 96-22. See section 8109 of this title.

A prior section 5005 was renumbered section 8105 of this title.

Another prior section 5005, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1252; Pub. L. 94-581, title II, §210(e)(4), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2865, relating to the acceptance by the President of buildings, structures, equipment, or grounds from States or other political subdivisions or from persons, was omitted in the general revision of subchapter I of chapter 81 of this title by Pub. L. 96-22. See section 8115 of this title.

A prior section 5006 was renumbered section 8106 of this title.

Another prior section 5006, Pub. L. 85-857, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1253, relating to property formerly owned by the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers,

was omitted in the general revision of subchapter I of chapter 81 of this title by Pub. L. 96-22. See section 8113 of this title.

A prior section 5007 was renumbered section 8107 of this title.

Another prior section 5007, added Pub. L. 93-82, title III, §302(1), Aug. 2, 1973, 87 Stat. 195, and amended Pub. L. 94-581, title II, §210(e)(5), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2865, relating to partial relinquishment of legislative jurisdiction, was omitted in the general revision of subchapter I of chapter 81 of this title by Pub. L. 96-22. See section 8112 of this title.

Prior sections 5008 to 5011 were renumbered sections 8108 to 8111 of this title, respectively.

Another prior section 5011 was renumbered section 5021 of this title.

Prior sections 5011A and 5012 were renumbered sections 8111A and 8112 of this title, respectively.

Another prior section 5012 was renumbered section 5022 of this title.

A prior section 5013 was renumbered section 8113 of this title.

Another prior section 5013 was renumbered section 5023 of this title.

A prior section 5014 was renumbered section 8114 of this title.

Another prior section 5014 was renumbered section 5024 of this title.

Prior sections 5015, 5016, 5021 to 5025, 5031 to 5037, and 5051 to 5056 were renumbered sections 8115, 8116, 8121 to 8125, 8131 to 8137, and 8151 to 8156 of this title, respectively.

A prior section 5057, added Pub. L. 89-785, title II, §203, Nov. 7, 1966, 80 Stat. 1376, directed Administrator to submit to Congress not more than sixty days after end of each fiscal year separate reports on activities carried out under sections 5053 and 5054 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 99-576, title II, §231(c)(2)(A), Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3264.

Prior sections 5070, 5071 to 5074, 5081 to 5083, 5091 to 5093, and 5096 were renumbered sections 8201, 8211 to 8214, 8221 to 8223, 8231 to 8233, and 8241 of this title, respectively.

PART IV—GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Table with 3 columns: Chap., Description, Sec.
51. Claims, Effective Dates, and Payments 5100
53. Special Provisions Relating to Benefits 5301
55. Minors, Incompetents, and Other Wards 5501
57. Records and Investigations 5701
59. Agents and Attorneys 5901
61. Penal and Forfeiture Provisions 6101
63. Outreach Activities 6301

AMENDMENTS

2006—Pub. L. 109-233, title IV, §402(d)(3), June 15, 2006, 120 Stat. 411, added item for chapter 63.

2002—Pub. L. 107-330, title III, §308(g)(1)(A), Dec. 6, 2002, 116 Stat. 2828, substituted “5100” for “5101” in item for chapter 51.

1991—Pub. L. 102-40, title IV, §402(c)(2), May 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 239, substituted “5101” for “3001” in item for chapter 51, “5301” for “3101” in item for chapter 53, “5501” for “3201” in item for chapter 55, “5701” for “3301” in item for chapter 57, “5901” for “3401” in item for chapter 59, and “6101” for “3501” in item for chapter 61.

1988—Pub. L. 100-687, div. A, title I, §103(c)(1), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4107, substituted “Claims” for “Applications” in item for chapter 51.

CHAPTER 51—CLAIMS, EFFECTIVE DATES, AND PAYMENTS

SUBCHAPTER I—CLAIMS

Table with 2 columns: Sec., Description
5100. Definition of “claimant”.

- Sec.  
 5101. Claims and forms.  
 5102. Application forms furnished upon request; notice to claimants of incomplete applications.  
 5103. Notice to claimants of required information and evidence.  
 5103A. Duty to assist claimants.  
 5104. Decisions and notices of decisions.  
 5104A. Binding nature of favorable findings.  
 5104B. Higher-level review by the agency of original jurisdiction.  
 5104C. Options following decision by agency of original jurisdiction.  
 5105. Joint applications for social security and dependency and indemnity compensation.  
 5106. Furnishing of information by other agencies.  
 5107. Claimant responsibility; benefit of the doubt.  
 5108. Supplemental claims.  
 5109. Independent medical opinions.  
 5109A. Revision of decisions on grounds of clear and unmistakable error.  
 5109B. Expedited treatment of returned and remanded claims.

#### SUBCHAPTER II—EFFECTIVE DATES

5110. Effective dates of awards.  
 5111. Commencement of period of payment.  
 5112. Effective dates of reductions and discontinuances.  
 5113. Effective dates of educational benefits.

#### SUBCHAPTER III—PAYMENT OF BENEFITS

5120. Payment of benefits; delivery.  
 5121. Payment of certain accrued benefits upon death of a beneficiary.  
 5121A. Substitution in case of death of claimant.  
 5122. Cancellation of checks mailed to deceased payees.  
 5123. Rounding down of pension rates.  
 5124. Acceptance of claimant's statement as proof of relationship.  
 5125. Acceptance of reports of private physician examinations.  
 5126. Benefits not to be denied based on lack of mailing address.

#### APPLICABILITY OF AMENDMENT

*Amendment of analysis by section 2(f)(2), (g)(2), (h)(2), (i)(3), (k)(2) of Pub. L. 115-55 applicable to all claims for which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs provides notice of a decision under section 5104 of this title on or after the later of 540 days after Aug. 23, 2017, or 30 days after the date on which the Secretary submits to Congress a certification of certain capabilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to carry out the new appeals system established by Pub. L. 115-55 and to address appeals of decisions on legacy claims, with provision for early applicability of the new appeals system to certain claims. See 2017 Amendment note below.*

#### AMENDMENTS

- 2017—Pub. L. 115-55, §2(f)(2), (g)(2), (h)(2), (i)(3), (k)(2), Aug. 23, 2017, 131 Stat. 1107-1109, added items 5104A to 5104C and substituted “Supplemental claims” for “Re-opening disallowed claims” in item 5108 and “Expedited treatment of returned and remanded claims” for “Expedited treatment of remanded claims” in item 5109B.  
 2008—Pub. L. 110-389, title II, §212(b), Oct. 10, 2008, 122 Stat. 4151, added item 5121A.  
 Pub. L. 110-387, title IX, §901(a)(5), Oct. 10, 2008, 122 Stat. 4142, substituted “death of a beneficiary” for “death of beneficiary” in item 5121.  
 2003—Pub. L. 108-183, title VII, §707(a)(2), Dec. 16, 2003, 117 Stat. 2673, added item 5109B.  
 2000—Pub. L. 106-475, §6, Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2099, added items 5100, 5102 to 5103A, 5107, and 5126, and

struck out former items 5102 “Application forms furnished upon request”, 5103 “Incomplete applications”, and 5107 “Burden of proof; benefit of the doubt”.

Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title XVI, §1611(b)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-360, directed amendment of table of sections by striking the item relating to section 5017 and inserting item 5107 “Assistance to claimants; benefit of the doubt; burden of proof”. Pub. L. 106-419, title I, §104(c)(2), Nov. 1, 2000, 114 Stat. 1828, provided that, as of the enactment of Pub. L. 106-419, the amendments made by Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title XVI, §1611(b)], were deemed for all purposes not to have taken effect and that Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title XVI, §1611(b)], ceased to be in effect.

1997—Pub. L. 105-111, §1(a)(2), Nov. 21, 1997, 111 Stat. 2271, added item 5109A.

1994—Pub. L. 103-446, title III, §301(c), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4658, added items 5124 and 5125.

1991—Pub. L. 102-40, title IV, §402(c)(1), May 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 239, renumbered items 3001 to 3023 as 5101 to 5123, respectively.

1989—Pub. L. 101-237, title I, §115(a)(2), Dec. 18, 1989, 103 Stat. 2066, added item 3004.

1988—Pub. L. 100-687, div. A, title I, §103(a)(2), (c)(2), (3), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4107, 4108, substituted “CLAIMS” for “APPLICATIONS” in heading for chapter and in item for subchapter I and added items 3007, 3008, and 3009.

1982—Pub. L. 97-253, title IV, §§401(a)(2), 403(a)(2), Sept. 8, 1982, 96 Stat. 802, added items 3011 and 3023, respectively.

1977—Pub. L. 95-117, title IV, §402(b)(2), Oct. 3, 1977, 91 Stat. 1066, struck out “by check” after “benefit” in item 3020.

1976—Pub. L. 94-432, title IV, §403(1), Sept. 30, 1976, 90 Stat. 1372, added item 3006.

1962—Pub. L. 87-825, §5(b), Oct. 15, 1962, 76 Stat. 950, struck out items 3004 and 3011.

#### SUBCHAPTER I—CLAIMS

##### AMENDMENTS

1988—Pub. L. 100-687, div. A, title I, §103(c)(4), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4108, substituted “CLAIMS” for “APPLICATIONS” in heading for subchapter I.

#### § 5100. Definition of “claimant”

For purposes of this chapter, the term “claimant” means any individual applying for, or submitting a claim for, any benefit under the laws administered by the Secretary.

(Added Pub. L. 106-475, §2, Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2096.)

#### § 5101. Claims and forms

(a)(1)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a specific claim in the form prescribed by the Secretary (or jointly with the Commissioner of Social Security, as prescribed by section 5105 of this title) must be filed in order for benefits to be paid or furnished to any individual under the laws administered by the Secretary.

(B)(i) The Secretary may pay benefits under chapters 13 and 15 and sections 2302, 2307, and 5121 of this title to a survivor of a veteran who has not filed a formal claim if the Secretary determines that the record contains sufficient evidence to establish the entitlement of the survivor to such benefits.

(ii) For purposes of this subparagraph and section 5110 of this title, the earlier of the following dates shall be treated as the date of the receipt of the survivor's application for benefits described in clause (i):

(I) The date on which the survivor of a veteran (or the representative of such a survivor)