



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

June 11, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH

SUBJECT: Delegation of Authority for Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Professionals Educational Assistance Programs and Visual Impairment and Orientation and Mobility Professional Scholarship Program (VIEWS 2598583)

1. DELEGATION. This memorandum delegates to the Under Secretary for Health, or Executive in Charge in the absence of such an individual, the authority to administer the following educational assistance programs:

- a. VA Health Professionals Educational Assistance Program, specifically the:
 - i. Employee Incentive Scholarship Program, 38 U.S.C. § 7671 et seq.;
 - ii. Education Debt Reduction Program, 38 U.S.C. § 7681 et seq.;
 - iii. Health Professional Scholarship Program, 38 U.S.C. § 7611 et seq.;
 - iv. Educational Assistance for Certain Former Members of the Armed Forces, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, P.L. 115-141, Division J, title II, § 246;
 - v. Veterans Healing Veterans Medical Access and Scholarship Program, VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018, P.L. 115-182, title III, § 304, as amended by VA Expiring Authorities Act of 2018, title II, § 211(b)(7)); and
 - vi. Specialty Education Loan Repayment Program, 38 U.S.C. § 7691 et seq.; and
- b. Visual Impairment and Orientation and Mobility Professional Scholarship Program, 38 U.S.C. § 7501 et seq.

2. AUTHORITY. 38 U.S.C. §§ 303, 512(a); VA Directive 0000.

3. RESTRICTIONS. None. This delegation cancels and supersedes all previous delegations of authority concerning the Health Professionals Educational Assistance Programs that conflict with this delegation. This delegation is concurrent with the Secretary's authority and does not affect the Secretary's authority to carry out or further delegate the authority delegated herein.

4. REDELEGATION. The Under Secretary for Health, or Executive in Charge in the absence of such an individual, may redelegate the authority to administer these programs to the Veterans Health Administration's (VHA) Office of Workforce Management and Consulting (WMC). WMC's Chief Officer may redelegate this authority to the WMC Directors and/or Program Managers, as necessary, to expedite the hiring or retention of qualified VHA health care professionals.

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5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This delegation of authority is effective upon signature and will remain effective until otherwise rescinded, modified, or superseded by the Secretary. I waive the 2-year sunset date, prescribed in VA Directive 0000, for this delegation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Wilkie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Robert L. Wilkie