Some VRC's are trying to pretend that it's the Veterans responsibility to do job market research, provide degree audits, and even look on ONetonline.org to figure out the feasibility of the Veterans job goals when all of those things are actually the responsibility of the VRC. So, I put this letter together for a Veteran a while ago. You guys can use part of it or all of it or none of it - to address that type of issue. And if your VRC does not stop trying to force you to do his/her job, I would escalate to the VREO.....Nic©

Letter To VRC When They Ask You To Do Their Research In Order To Write Your IWRP

Good afternoon VRC Name,

I wanted to reach out to respectfully ask for your guidance and assistance as I move forward in assisting you in developing my rehabilitation plan.

It is my understanding, based on the M28C guidelines and 38 CFR regulations, that while I am expected to provide you input and collaborate on my vocational goal, it is the VRC's responsibility to research and verify the suitability of the school and program, and to ensure that the vocational path is viable. I am committed to participating fully in this process, but I will need your help to navigate the requirements, if you need my help to help you explore the available options, and verify the necessary approvals. Additionally, I understand ONet is something that VR&E Services uses to verify the feasibility of jobs. It's not normally the Veterans responsibility to go do that research, especially since I have absolutely no familiarity with ONet.

According to the M28C manual:

"The VRC must consider the claimant's preference for a particular training or rehabilitation facility. However, the cost of education and training services must also be considered in selecting a facility, as outlined in 38 CFR 21.120. In accordance with 38 CFR 21.294, the VRC has the final responsibility for selection of the facility."

"The VRC must also verify in WEAMS that the facility and the program are approved."

Additionally:

"The VRC will also help the claimant understand the labor market to ensure that the chosen vocational goal is suitable and viable."

I truly appreciate the opportunity to work with you and want to stay focused on reaching a positive outcome.

I also want to share respectfully that when the possibility of closing my case is mentioned (especially for not executing something that I don't even understand), it causes me significant stress and discouragement. My sincere hope is that we can continue to work together positively and collaboratively toward building a plan that meets the program's goals and supports my success.

I am fully committed to doing my part, and I respectfully ask for your continued assistance with the steps that are part of your role and your patience especially when considering my SCD's . I truly want to make this a positive and successful experience with your guidance.

Thank you very much for your time, support, and understanding. I look forward to hearing from you and moving forward together.

Sincerely, Veteran