

Northwest Workforce Service Area Letter 103

Subject: Veterans Preference

Issuance Date: 1 January 2004, Revised 1 July 2008

Effective Date: 1 January 2004

Action: The Jobs for Veterans Act, Public Law 107-288 (2002) requires a priority of services for veterans and for certain spouses in Department of Labor Job Training programs. This means that “covered persons” shall be given priority over non-veterans for the receipt of employment, training and placement services offered under that program provided that the person meets the eligibility requirements for participation in such a program.

Who: Workforce Investment Board, Local Elected Official Board Members, and Program Providers.

Background: The Jobs for Veterans Act is intended to ensure that veterans are aware of the benefits and services that may be obtained through a qualified job training program and to ensure that each “covered person” who applies to or who is assisted by a qualified job training program is informed of the employment-related rights and benefits to which the person is entitled.

The term “covered person” means any of the following individuals:

1. A veteran.
2. The spouse of any to the following individuals.
 - a. Any veteran who died of a service-connected disability.
 - b. Any member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who at the time of application for assistance is listed for a total of more than 90 days as missing in action, as captured in the line of duty by a hostile force, or is forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power.
 - c. Any veteran who has a total disability resulting from any service-connected disability.
 - d. Any veteran who died while a disability so evaluated was in existence.

The term qualified job training program means any workforce preparation, development, or delivery program or service that is directly funded, in whole or in part, by the Department of Labor and includes the following:

1. Any such program or service that uses technology to assist individuals to access

workforce development programs such as job and training opportunities, labor market information, career assessment tools, and related support services.

2. Any such program or service under the public employment service system, the Workforce Center system, the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, a demonstration or other temporary program, and those programs implemented by States or local service providers based on Federal block grants administered by the Department of Labor.
3. Any such program or service that is a workforce development program targeted to specific groups.

Policy and Procedures: Program Providers must comply with the provisions of the Jobs for Veterans Act. Program provider case management staff should be familiar with provisions of the Act and should insure that veterans are aware of their rights and services available to them under the Workforce Investment Act and any other State or Federal job training program funded within the Workforce Service Area.

Reference Section

Jobs for Veterans Act, Public Law 107-288 (November 7, 2002)
Chapter 8, Section 8.13 of the DEED WIA Administration Manual

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