
VETERANS PRIORITY SERVICE AND ELIGIBILITY POLICY #: 505

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POLICY:

A veteran "covered person" is entitled to priority of service under all WIA Title I funded programs; e.g. adult, youth, dislocated workers, 10% funded projects, and National Emergency Grant (NEG). For purposes of this policy, the term 'veterans priority of service' means that a covered person shall be given priority over non-veterans for the receipt of employment, training, and placement services provided under that program, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

Veterans and other covered persons must first meet the WIA program's eligibility requirements. A covered person who is determined eligible for WIA services shall receive priority over non-veterans, except for the priority of service established for the WIA Adult program, since within WIA Title I-B, the Adult program is the only program to have a priority provision established by law, and therefore is considered a mandatory priority. Veterans are to be served within the context of giving priority to public assistance and low-income persons for intensive and training services.

Other targeting provisions for any WIA Title I funded programs, whether established by the Governor or by regulation (but not by law) are considered discretionary or optional priorities. In these cases, veterans would receive priority in advance of the opportunities and services provided to the "targeted" population group.

The veterans' priority is not intended to displace the core function of the WIA program. The exact manner in which the veterans' priority will be applied may vary depending upon the construct of the program and the services offered. In a sequential service delivery model, when services are limited due to available funding, priority of services should be applied. For example, if there was only sufficient money to provide services to one individual and a veteran is in the pool, the veteran must receive priority. Service provider staff must collect the required data elements for covered persons when enrolling persons into the WIA Title I program.

Service providers must provide information to covered persons on services available under Department of Labor job training programs and should ensure that individuals are informed of their right to priority for employment and training services. This information can be provided in any number of ways, either verbally or in writing, during orientation, assessment, or enrollment.

A "covered person" is one of the following: A "veteran" who is an individual who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable (WIA definition); A "recently

separated veteran” is any veteran who applies for participation under this title within 48 months after the discharge or release from active military, naval, or air service (WIA definition); or The “spouse” of: A veteran who died of a service connected disability; a member on active duty who (at time of spouse’s application) is listed as missing in action, captured in the line of duty, or forcibly detained; or A veteran with a total disability from a service connected disability or one who died while being evaluated for it. (The term veteran is defined in WIA Title I Section 101(49).

The term covered spouse is defined in P.L.107–288 Section 4215 (a). The term priority of service is defined in P.L.107–288 Section 4215 (3).)