

VETERANS' PRIORITY OF SERVICE**E-070**

Purpose.

The Jobs for Veterans Act (Public Law 107–288) made a number of amendments to encourage Veterans and other “covered persons” access to services within an integrated one-stop service delivery system. A new section of the law establishes a priority of service requirement for Veterans and other “covered persons” applicable to all Department of Labor programs offering employment and training related services. This document provides the policy for the Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (SWWDB) regarding the requirements of P.L. 107-288 for all WIA programs operated by SWWDB.

Policy.

It shall be the policy of SWWDB to provide Veterans and/or a "covered person" priority of service under all WIA Title I funded programs. For purposes of this policy, the term “Veterans’ priority of service” means that an otherwise eligible Veteran and/or “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/or a “covered person” must first meet the WIA program’s eligibility requirements. WIA Title I programs shall include programs for adults, youth and dislocated workers; 10% funded projects; and National Emergency Grants (NEG).

A "covered person" is one of the following:

- Recently Separated Veteran – Any veteran who applies for participation under this title within 48 months after the discharge or release from active military, naval, or air service; or
- Spouse – A spouse of Veteran who:
 - Died of a service connected disability;
 - Is listed (at time of spouse’s application) as missing in action, captured in the line of duty, or forcibly detained; or
 - Has a total disability from a service connected injury or who died from the injury.

SWWDB requires that every program operator receiving funds through a WIA contract with SWWDB shall provide Veterans and other “covered persons” priority of service as outlined in this policy. Program operators shall provide information to Veterans and/or a covered person on services available under WIA Title I programs. SWWDB shall ensure that individuals are informed of their right to priority for employment and training services. Contracted program operators may provide the information either verbally or in writing, during orientation, assessment, or enrollment. SWWDB shall require service providers to collect and report the required data elements for covered persons enrolled into WIA Title I programs. SWWDB shall, during its monitoring processes, ensure that the grantees’ systems and procedures comply with this policy. Failure by the grantee to comply is considered a service deficiency requiring immediate action to comply with the policy.

The Board directs the Executive Director to develop and maintain a Veterans’ priority of service

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policy and procedures that comply with applicable regulations as they may change from time to time. The Executive Director shall ensure that required data to document Veterans' priority of service are maintained and reported as necessary.

- References:
- Jobs for Veterans' Act (Public Law 107-288), dated November 7, 2002
 - Implementing the Veterans' Priority Provisions of the "Jobs for Veterans Act" (P.L. 107-288), USDOL, ETC, TEGL # 5-03 dated September 16, 2003
 - Implementing the Veterans' Priority Provisions of the "Jobs for Veterans Act" (P.L. 107-288), State Veteran Program Letter # 01-05 dated April 13, 2005
 - Serving Military Service Members and Military Spouses under the Workforce Investment Act Dislocated Worker Formula Grant, USDOL, ETA, TEGL #22-04 Change 1, dated September 28, 2007

Policy Adopted: