



Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Program Policy #101

Subject: Adult Funding and Universal Priority of Service

Effective Date: November 14, 2012

Policy Statement: The purpose of this policy is to establish priority of service provisions for WIA Adult funds related to the area's declaration that such funds are limited. This policy also incorporates Veterans' Preference requirements within an overall priority structure that applies to all WIA funding received in Region 2000.

Part 1- WIA Title I Adult Funding

- A. **Declaration of Limited Funds:** Following the requirements set forth on Virginia WIA Policy #03-03, the Region 2000 Workforce Investment Board (WIB) must declare that its WIA Title I Adult funds **are limited**, due to the following conditions:
1. The WIB does not receive funds from other sources that are equivalent to at least 50% of the total WIA allocation.
 2. The LWIB does not receive in-kind contributions from other sources that are equivalent to at least 25% of the total WIA allocation.
 3. The local area unemployment rate is higher than the state average
- B. **Local definition of adult priority of service:** Priority of service application for WIA Title I adult funds means that at least 51% new adults enrolled in each program year must be individuals who meet basic eligibility (Age 18 or over, eligible to work in the U.S. and registered with selective service if applicable) **and who are recipients of public assistance or otherwise determined to be low-income individuals**. Low-income means an individual received an income, or is a member of a family that received a total family income, for the 6-month period prior to application that, in relation to family size, does not exceed the higher of (i) the poverty line, for an equivalent period; or (ii) 70 percent of the lower living standard income level as annually determined in the Federal Register, for an equivalent period.

The balance of adults served must meet the basic adult program eligibility.

Part 2- Veteran's Priority of Service

Background: The 'Jobs for Veterans Act' was enacted in 2002 and includes a provision that establishes priority of service for covered persons in qualified job training programs. Because the Workforce Investment Act (WA) is a federal job training program administered by the US Department of Labor, Region 2000 is required to comply with administrative regulations issued by DOL in response to the statutory requirement established at 20 CFR Part 1010, which took effect on January 19, 2009.

Definitions:

1. A veteran means a person who served at least one day in active military, naval or air services, and who was honorably discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable. This includes full-time federal service in the National Guard or a Reserve component.
2. Eligible spouse means the spouse of any of the following:
 - a. any veteran who died of a service-connected disability;
 - b. any member of the armed forces on active duty who, at the time of the spouse's application, is listed in one or more of the categories and has been so listed for more than 90 days: i) missing in action, ii) captured in the line of duty by a hostile force, or iii) forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power;
 - c. any veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service-connected disability; or
 - d. any veteran who died while a disability so evaluated was in existence.

Requirements:

In addition to incorporating the priority of service provisions outline in Part 3 of this policy below, all program activities issued or executed by Region 2000 WIB program operators:

1. Must be administered in compliance with veterans' priority of service requirements.
2. Must promote and convey awareness of the entitlement to Priority of Service
3. Must promote and convey awareness of the full array of services available
4. Must promote and convey awareness of the applicable eligibility requirements for those services

Part 3- Application of Priority of Service for Use of All Region 2000 WIA Title I Funds

A. Priority of Service for Adult Funds

1. First priority will be provided to recipients of public assistance and other low-income individuals in the local area who are covered persons with respect to veterans' priority;
2. Second priority will be provided to recipients of public assistance and other low-income individuals in the local area; and
3. Third priority will be covered persons. (These would be covered persons not considered to be recipients of public assistance or low-income).

B. Priority of Service for Dislocated Worker Funds

Covered individuals with respect to Veterans priority will receive priority over non-covered individuals for the provisions of services funded under the dislocated worker funding stream.

C. Priority of Service for Youth Funds

Priority must be given to any covered individuals with respect to Veterans priority who qualify under the WIA youth eligibility requirements of low-income applicability and at least one defined barrier to success in employment or education. (See Youth Council Policy #01).