

Priority of Services to Veterans

Policy: Section 4215 of Public Law 107-288, 2002, known as the Jobs for Veterans Act, creates a priority of service for veterans (and some spouses) "who otherwise meet the eligibility requirements for participation" in Dept of Labor training programs. Per the Employment & Training Administration (ETA) Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 5-03, local areas are required to ensure that all eligible veteran workers are given priority over eligible nonveterans for all available services. The Merced Workforce Investment Board (WIB) has previously issued policy that implements statutory provisions requiring priority of service for intensive and training services to low income and public assistance individuals. Thus, program eligible veterans shall be provided priority over eligible nonveterans for all available services.

Under the Jobs for Veterans Act, "covered person" is defined as:

- A veteran (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, which may include National Guard or Reserve personnel.), or
- The spouse of any of the following individuals:
- Any veteran who died of a service-connected disability;
- Any member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who, at the time of application for assistance under this section, is listed, pursuant to section 556 of title 38 and regulations issued thereunder, by the Secretary concerned in one or more of the following categories and has been so listed for a total of more than 90 days:
 - missing in action,
 - captured in line of duty by a hostile force, or
 - forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power;
- Any veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service-connected disability; or
- Any veteran who died while a disability so evaluated was in existence.
- A Military Spouse is an individual who is married to an active duty service member including National Guard or Reserve personnel on active duty.

Eligibility for the WIA Title I Youth program is not affected by the veterans' priority.

Responsible Official: Assistant Director

Revised/Reviewed: January 8, 2009