

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 09/03/09

FROM: Executive Committee

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Priority of Services to Veterans

PROPOSED MOTION(S): The Workforce Investment Board ratify the Executive Committee's decision to approve revised Priority of Services to Veterans Policy.

DISCUSSION: The Priority of Services to Veterans Policy was last modified January 8, 2009. On June 29, 2009, the Employment Development Department issued directive WSD08-10 articulating how priority of service for veterans and eligible spouses is to be applied across all existing and new Department of Labor qualified job training programs. The most notable difference is the need to determine whether veterans and eligible spouses (covered persons) meet the criteria for priority services upon their initial visit to the One-Stop (actual or virtual). The directive goes on to state that a process must be in place to notify covered persons that they are entitled to priority services, which include universal, intensive and training services. The current policy needs to be updated to include these mandates.

On August 3, 2009 the Executive Committee voted to approve the revised Priority of Services to Veterans Policy.

ATTACHMENT(S):
Revised Priority of Services to Veterans



**DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT**

**Policy
For**

**Priority of Services to
Veterans**

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Policy: Section 4215 of Public Law 107-288, 2002, known as the Jobs for Veterans Act, creates a priority of services for veterans and eligible spouses (covered persons). Per the Employment & Training Administration (ETA) Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 5-03 and State Directive WSD08-10, local areas are required to ensure that all covered persons are given priority for universal services over noncovered persons. In addition, eligible covered persons are given priority over eligible noncovered persons for Core-B, Intensive and Training 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, any eligible covered person shall be provided priority over an eligible “noncovered person” for these services.

Under the Jobs for Veterans Act, “covered person” is defined as a veteran or eligible spouse whereas:

- 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. Active service includes full-time duty in the National Guard or Reserve component, other than full-time duty for training purposes.
- Eligible Spouse means the spouse of any of the following:
 - 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, is listed 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, as evaluated by the Department of Veterans Affairs
 - Any veteran who died while a disability, so evaluated above, was in existence.

Eligibility for the WIA Title I Youth Program is not affected by the veteran’s priority.

Responsible Official: Assistant Director

Revised Date: July 21, 2009

Reviewed Date: July 21, 2009