

ALABAMA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SYSTEM

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Workforce Development Division
401 Adams Avenue
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February 20, 2004

GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIVE NO. PY2002 - 12,
Change 1

SUBJECT: Priority of Service for Veterans in Department of Labor Job Training Programs

1. **Purpose:** This transmits notice of revisions to WIA program participant eligibility policy in compliance with Public Law 107-288, the Jobs for Veterans Act
2. **Discussion:** The full text of the **Jobs for Veterans Act, Pubic Law 107-288** is transmitted under Governor's Workforce Development Directive No. PY2002-12, dated November 22, 2002.

Guidance regarding implementation of the Jobs for Veterans Act is contained in USDOL Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 5-03, which is transmitted to State and local area staff under Governor's Workforce Development Directive No. PY2003-05, Change 1, dated September 22, 2003.

The State has submitted to the USDOL a modification to the Workforce Investment Act Five-Year Plan in order to clarify Veterans' program eligibility and priority of service status under the Jobs for Veterans Act legislation.

Note that the Veterans priority status is applicable to all USDOL-funded workforce development programs, to include activities funded under the Workforce Investment Act and the Wagner-Peyser Act.

Bill Hornsby
State Programs / Divisional Budget Management

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3. Action: State and substate-level entities administering USDOL-funded employment and training programs shall:
- a.) provide information regarding available services and other available benefits and priority selection consideration for such services to covered persons, that is, veterans and the spouses of veterans;
 - b.) ensure that each covered person, i.e., veterans and the spouses of veterans, is informed of the employment-related rights and benefits to which that person is entitled; and
 - c.) with regard to the criteria by which the local areas can determine the limited availability of funds and the process by which priority of service is applied:

In situations where workforce development program participant targeting procedures are mandated by law, such as the Workforce Investment Act Adult and Youth programs, compliance with Jobs for Veterans Act (Public Law 107-288) program participant outreach and program eligibility determination requirements is achieved through appropriate staff action to ensure:

- An individual program applicant meeting both the veterans' and the mandatory priorities or spending requirements or limitations will obtain the highest preference for placement in workforce development programs;
- Non-veterans within the program's mandatory priority will receive a preference over eligible veterans who are outside the workforce development program-specific mandatory priority of spending requirement or limitation;

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- Similarly, eligible veterans outside the workforce development program-specific mandatory priority or spending requirement or limitation will receive priority over non-veterans outside the priority or spending limitation (once the spending requirement or limitation is met).

Where workforce development program participant targeting procedures are discretionary, as in the Workforce Investment Act Dislocated Workers program, other targeting provisions may require the program to focus on a particular group of participants, or to make efforts to provide a certain level of service to such a group, but do not specifically mandate that the favored group be served before other eligible individuals. Whether these provisions are founded in statute or regulation, these are discretionary or optional priorities. The veterans' priority is applied as follows:

- The veterans' priority will take precedence over these priorities. Within the workforce development program as a whole, grantees are required to implement the veterans' priority in advance of the opportunities and services provided to the population group covered by the optional priority.

4. Contact. Questions regarding this information may be directed to Ray Clenney at (334) 242-1421.



Steve Walkley, Division Director
Workforce Development Division