

**THE WORKFORCE BOARD OF NORTHERN COOK COUNTY**

**LOCAL AREA WIA Policy 2009 – Veteran Priority Service Plan Policy**

**TO:** ALL WIA CONTRACTORS

**FROM:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Stasch  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Veteran Priority Service Plan Policy

**DATE:** January 22, 2009

**Purpose:** The purpose of this letter is to update and clarify the policy and procedures for Veteran Priority Services provisions of the “Jobs for Veterans Act” and to provide general guidance as to the implementation of these provisions using WIA funds expended under The Workforce Board of Northern Cook County Workforce Investment Act (WIA) contracts.

**References:** “Jobs for Veterans Act”- Public Law 107-288  
20 CFR Part 663 Subparts A, B, and F  
WIA Legislation and Rules and Regulations  
Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
Illinois Workforce Development System Tracking

**Background:** The Workforce Board of Northern Cook County is releasing Veteran Priority Services policy in order to ensure accountability and compliance that align with the Contractor’s Agreement with the Workforce Board, DOL and DCEO policy, and other applicable rules and regulations.

**Policy Statement:**

As pursuant to the Jobs for Veterans Act, Public Law 107-288 Workforce Board policy states that priority of services shall be given to veterans and other covered persons under DOL-funded programs, including WIA Adult, Dislocated worker, and Youth programs, WIA statewide activity programs, Dislocated Worker National Emergency Grants, and the Trade Adjustment Assistance program.

## **Workforce Board Veterans Policy**

The One-Stop consortiums will identify an individual within the respective One-Stop to facilitate the policy and ensure that each covered person who applies to or is assisted by a program is informed of the employment related rights and benefits to which they are entitled.

This individual will track, through the use of the technology in the One-Stop system, the status of program participants that are veterans.

Each One-Stop will be responsible for reporting to the Workforce Board the service level provided to the veterans through the One-Stop, including:

- a. The percentage of program participants that are veterans;
- b. The percentage of participants who are veterans who received intensive and training services; and
- c. An analysis of whether the representation of veterans is in proportion to the incidence of their representation in the labor market.

For the purpose of this policy a "covered person" is entitled to priority of service under DOL-funded workforce programs including WIA Title I Adult, Youth, and Dislocated Worker programs, statewide activity programs, National Emergency Grants (NEG) and the Trade Adjustment Assistance program (TAA).

For purposes of this policy, the term "veterans' priority of service" means that a covered person, who meets program eligibility requirements, shall be given priority over non-veterans for the receipt of all services provided under the program, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

For the purpose of this policy, a "covered person" is defined as:

- a veteran, or
- the spouse of any of the following individuals:
  - a. any veteran who died of a service-connected disability;
  - b. 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 37 and regulations issued hereunder, 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:
    - c. missing in action,
    - d. captured in line of duty by a hostile force, or
    - e. forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power;
  - f. any veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service-connected disability; or
  - g. any veteran who died while a disability so evaluated was in existence.

For the purpose of this policy, a veterans' priority in the WIA Adult program shall be as followed:

- a. the first population to receive intensive and training services would be public assistance and low-income veterans;
- b. then public assistance and low-income non-veterans;
- c. then veterans who are not low-income or receiving public assistance; and
- d. lastly would be adults who are non-veterans who are not low-income or receiving public assistance.

**Action**

**Required:** This information should be disseminated to Contractor and subcontractor employees.

**Inquiries:** Questions regarding any aspect of this policy should be directed to the Workforce Board's Executive Director.

**Effective**

**Date:** Immediately