

PRIORITY OF SERVICE POLICY
Veterans, Eligible Spouses and Adults

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Effective Date: 1/1/17

Background

Section 680.600 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Final Rules and Regulations requires that priority for individualized career and training services under the WIOA Adult Funding Stream be given to otherwise eligible individuals who are also recipients of public assistance, low income and/or basic skills deficient. Under WIOA, this priority applies to the Adult Funding Stream, only, and is afforded automatically to the aforementioned group of individuals. For the purpose of this Policy, "basic skills deficient" is defined as an individual who is unable to compute or solve problems, or read, write or speak English, at a level necessary to function on the job, in the individual's family, or in society, as stipulated under Section 3(5)(B) of WIOA. Public assistance and low income are defined under WIOA Sections 3(50) and 3(36), respectively. WIOA services may be provided to other individuals who are not members of the aforementioned target population group after priority has been provided, if such services have been determined appropriate for the individuals by the One-Stop System Staff.

A "Veteran", defined under WIOA Section 3(63)(A) and 38 U.S. Code 101 as an individual who served in the active military, naval or air service and who was discharged or released wherefrom under conditions other than dishonorable is to receive first priority for services. In addition, a Spouse of any Veteran who died of a service connected disability; of any Veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service connected disability; of any Veteran who died while a disability so evaluated was in existence; or, any member of the armed forces serving on active duty who, at the time of application for assistance, has been listed for a total of ninety (90) or more days as either missing in action, captured in the line of duty by a hostile force or forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power, is to be considered as an Eligible Spouse for the purpose of this Policy.

As referenced under Section 680.650 of the WIOA Final Rules and Regulations, The Jobs for Veterans Act of 2002 and Virginia Board of Workforce Development Policy #600-01, any Veteran or Eligible Spouse who otherwise meets the program eligibility qualifications for a Department of Labor

funded program must receive first priority. In that regard, Veterans and Eligible Spouses have first priority for all WIOA Title I Funded Programs.

Practice

Priority for the receipt of services under the Adult Funding Stream will first be given to Veterans and Eligible Spouses who meet the specific program eligibility criteria and thereafter, priority will be given to otherwise eligible public assistance recipients, low income individuals and individuals who are assessed to be basic skills deficient. After which all other otherwise eligible individuals may receive services under the Adult Funding Stream.

Veterans and Eligible Spouses will have first priority for services funded under the WIOA Dislocated Worker Funding Stream. There is no other priority of service requirement for that funding stream.

Process

One-Stop System Staff will determine and document the specific eligibility qualifications for the priority target populations for the DOL Funded Programs administered by Opportunity Inc. Such will be determined and documented in accordance with the prescribed WIOA requirements. Services for priority target populations will be tracked on the One-Stop System Case Management Log on an ongoing basis. With regard to training services, funding sources other than those available under WIOA will be considered to the fullest degree possible, based on availability to the individual.

One-Stop System Management Staff will monitor adherence to this Policy on an ongoing basis, in consultation with the Opportunity Inc. Workforce Services Officer. Ongoing outreach and recruitment activities will be conducted by One-Stop Staff in order to identify individuals for whom priority of service is required, in order to make them aware of the services, resources and activities available through the One-Stop System. Outreach and recruitment activities will be primarily directed at those organizations within the local community that serve the aforementioned priority target populations. In addition, outreach and recruitment activities will be conducted with all One-Stop System Partner Organizations.