

## Notification of Priority of Service for Veterans and Eligible Spouses

## Dear Customer,

The Jobs for Veterans Act enacted into Public Law on November 7, 2002 made a number of amendments to encourage Veterans access to services within WorkSource Centers, to provide information on Department of Labor employment and training programs, and establish a priority of service requirement to Veterans and eligible spouses who are determined eligible for WIOA services.

On December 19, 2008 the Department of Labor (DOL) issued new regulations implementing the Jobs for Veterans Act and the Veterans' Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology Act (2006). The new regulations went into effect on January 19, 2009 and do three basic things:

- 1. Requires Department of Labor (DOL) "qualified" programs to provide priority of service for veterans and eligible spouses and requires all programs to have policies providing priority of services whether provided on –line or in-person;
- 2. Requires that, for the purposes of implementing priority of services, the broad definition of "veteran" meaning **a person who served at least one day** in active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable be used.
- 3. Add new requirements related to persons who physically access service delivery points or who access virtual service delivery programs on websites
  - Applicants to any "qualified" DOL programs and services must be able to learn about priority of services and to indicate whether they are veterans.
  - Applicants who are veterans or an eligible spouse of a veteran must be given a menu of programs and services to which the priority applies, and any additional program eligibility requirements.

Eligible Spouse means the spouse of any of the following.

- 1. Any veteran who died of a service-connected disability;
- 2. Any member of the Armed Forces services on active duty who, at the time of application for the priority, is listed in one or more of the following categories and has been listed for a total of more than 90 days: (i) Missing in action; (ii) captured in the line of duty by a hostile force; (iii) forcibly detained or interned in a line of duty by a foreign government or power.
- 3. Any veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service connected disability, as evaluated by the Department of Veterans Affairs;
- 4. Any veteran who died while a disability, was in existence.

The Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs will provide priority of services to veterans and eligible spouses who are eligible for Adult and Dislocated Worker services as appropriate. Veterans and eligible spouses will be given priority over non-veterans for the receipt of employment, training and placement services.

I verify that I have been provided information in writing of the services available under Department of Labor training programs and have been informed of my rights to priority of service for veterans and eligible spouses.