

Pennsylvania

Lehigh Valley Workforce Investment Board, Inc.

Priority of Service for Veterans and Eligible Spouses

The U.S. Department of Labor is proposing new regulations implementing priority of service for veterans and eligible spouses, as provided by the Jobs for Veterans Act (JVA), and as specified by the Veterans' Benefits, health Care, and Information Technology Act of 2006. JVA calls for priority of service to be implemented by all "qualified job training programs," defined as "any workforce preparation, development or delivery program or service that is directly funded, in whole or in part, by the Department of Labor." Since enactment of JVA in 2002, priority of service has been implemented under policy guidance issued by the Employment and Training Administration. The purpose of the proposed regulations is to further articulate how priority of service is to be applied across all new and existing qualified job training programs.

The regulations require Workforce Systems to:

1. Identify all covered persons at the point of entry
2. Ensure that veterans/spouses are aware of their entitlement to priority of service; the full array of programs and services available to them; and any applicable eligibility requirements for programs and/or services
3. Ensure eligible veterans/spouses take precedence over eligible non-covered persons in obtaining services; ensure covered persons receive access to the service or resource earlier in time than the non-covered person; or if the service or resource is limited, the covered person receives access to the service or resource instead of or before the non-covered person

Action: The LVWIB Adopts the USDOL's Priority of Service for Veterans and Eligible Spouses New Regulations until a PA Policy is developed.