



CENTRAL ARKANSAS Workforce Development Board

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Policy Number: Section 2 Policy 11

Effective Date: 12-09-2024

Priority of Service for Veterans and Eligible Spouses

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to provide information on implementing priority of services to veterans and eligible spouses to all Arkansas Workforce Center staff and all Arkansas Workforce Center partners that receive funds from the Department of Labor to operate qualified job training programs.

Background

The Jobs for Veterans Act (JVA), Public Law (P.L.) 107-288 was signed into law on November 7, 2002. This Act codified at U.S.C. 4215, establishes a priority of service requirement for covered persons (i.e., veterans and eligible spouses, including widows, and widowers, as defined by the Act) in qualified job training programs.

Policy

All Central Arkansas Workforce Center staff and all Arkansas Workforce Center partners must provide services to veterans and eligible spouses in accordance with instructions outlined in ADWS Policy No. WIOA I-B – 2.2, and TEGs 19-16, 10-09: Implementing Priority of Service for Veterans and Eligible Spouses in all Qualified Job Training Programs funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Labor. A veteran or eligible spouse must meet each program's eligibility criteria to receive services.

Veterans and eligible spouses of veterans will be identified at the point of entry, or during the interview and registration process at the Central Arkansas Workforce Centers. They will be given an opportunity to take full advantage of priority of services.

When an individual is identified as a veteran or eligible spouse, center staff will notify the applicant of his/her priority of service, the full array of services available, and the applicable eligibility requirements for the programs and services.

For income-based eligibility determinations, military pay or allowances paid while on active duty or paid by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for vocational rehabilitation, disability payments, or related VA-funded programs are not to be considered as income. This policy applies for both the "low-income individual" requirement of Youth programs, and for the priority of services for "low-income individuals" for Adult funds. [20 CFR 680.650; 20 CFR 683.230; 38 U.S.C. 4213; TEGs 10-09 & 19-16].

VA benefits for education and training services are not included in the category of "other sources of training grants" listed in 20 CFR 680.230(b) [Comments concerning §680.230 in the WIOA Final Rule; TEGs 10-09 & 19-16]. Veterans or spouses who are eligible for the G.I. Bill

or other forms of VA funded education or training are not required to coordinate their entitlement to those benefits with their eligibility for WIOA-funded training. VA-funded training does not need to be exhausted before the veteran or eligible spouse can be enrolled in WIOA-funded training [TEGL 19-16].

Pension payments, whether or not their retirement was based on disability, are not exempt and are to be included in "low income" calculations [TEGL 10-09].

Approved by: <u>Michael Flown</u>	Date: <u>12-9-2024</u>
Title: <u>CAWDB Chairperson</u>	

CAPDD/Arkansas Workforce Center is an "equal opportunity employer/program," and "auxiliary aids and Services are available upon request to Individuals with disabilities." Arkansas Relay Service: 1-800-285-1121 (Voice) 1-800-285-1131 (TDD) or TDD 711