



PIEDMONT REGION

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<b>Title:</b>	Veterans' Priority of Service	<b>Policy #:</b>	36
<b>Effective Date:</b>	January 8, 2024	<b>Revision Date:</b>	January 8, 2024

**I. Reference:**

Virginia Board of Workforce Development, Policy #600-01

**II. Purpose:**

The purpose of this issuance is to articulate veterans' priority of service requirements under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

**III. Summary:**

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Pub. L. 113-128) and the Jobs for Veterans Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-288) require that veterans and eligible spouses receive a priority of service for employment and training services funded through the U.S. Department of Labor. The Virginia Board of Workforce Development is tasked with overseeing this provision and ensuring its compliance by the state and local workforce development system.

**IV. Policy:**

The Virginia workforce development system and Virginia Career Works -Piedmont (VCWP) meets the veterans' priority of service provisions of federal law. To be eligible for priority of service, a veteran or eligible spouse must meet the "covered person" definition. A "covered person" is any of the following:

1. Veteran: A person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dis-honorable.
2. Eligible Spouse: The spouse of any of the following individuals:
  - Any veteran who died of a service connected disability
  - Any veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service-connected disability
  - Any veteran who died while a disability so evaluated was in existence
  - Any member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who, at the time of application for assistance, is listed, pursuant to section 556 of title 37 and regulations issued 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:
    - Missing in action, captured in the line of duty by a hostile force, or forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power.
3. Priority of Service: Priority of service means that veterans and eligible spouses are given priority over non-covered persons for the receipt of employment, training and placement provided under a qualified job training program. Priority means that veterans and eligible spouses are entitled to precedence over non-covered persons for services. This means that a veteran or an eligible spouse either receives access to a service earlier in time than a non-covered person or, if the resource is limited, the veteran or eligible spouse receives access to the service instead of or before the non-covered person.

4. WIOA Title I Programs: While veterans and eligible spouses receive priority of service for all DOL-funded job training programs and services to include WIOA Title I Programs, the veteran or eligible spouse must still meet each program’s eligibility criteria to receive services under the respective employment and training programs.
  - a. For income-based eligibility determinations, amounts 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 in accordance with federal law.
  - b. The following chart demonstrates how priority of service operates:

<p><b>Individual A</b> is a veteran, but does not meet the WIOA priority eligibility criteria, and</p> <p><b>Individual B</b> is not a veteran, but does meet the WIOA priority eligibility criteria, then</p> <p><b><u>Individual B has priority for services.</u></b></p>	<p><b>Individual A</b> is a veteran, and does meet the WIOA priority eligibility criteria, and</p> <p><b>Individual B</b> is not a veteran, and does meet the WIOA priority eligibility criteria, then</p> <p><b><u>Individual A has priority for services.</u></b></p>
<p><b>Individual A</b> is a veteran, but does not meet the WIOA priority eligibility criteria, and</p> <p><b>Individual B</b> is not a veteran, and does not meet the WIOA priority eligibility criteria, then</p> <p><b><u>Individual A has priority for services.</u></b></p>	<p><b>Individual A</b> is a veteran, and does not meet the WIOA priority eligibility criteria, and</p> <p><b>Individual B</b> is a veteran, but does meet the WIOA priority eligibility criteria, then</p> <p><b><u>Individual B has priority for services.</u></b></p>

**V. Procedures**

VCWP shall monitor compliance with veterans’ priority of service and promote coordination of services to veterans in conjunction with the Combined State Plan and in coordination with appropriate state agencies.