



## **McHenry County Workforce Network (WIOA) Priority of Service Veterans—July 12, 2015**

Individuals interested in our WIOA training programs must meet the eligibility requirements for the program **and** must have the skills and qualifications to successfully participate in the selected training program.

Priority of service for our training program means that when selections for training approvals are made, veterans who meet the eligibility requirements and have the skills and qualifications necessary to successfully participate in their selected training program are given priority over non-covered persons with equal qualifications.

We are not required to reserve funds for veterans, but we are required to ensure that eligible veterans are given priority over non-veterans for available services.

### **Department of Labor – November 10, 2009 Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 10-09 Definition of Eligibility for Veterans and eligible spouses for Priority of Service**

The term “Veteran” means a person who served at least one day in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable, as specified in 38 U.S.C. 101(2). **Active service includes** full-time Federal service in the National Guard or a Reserve component. This definition of “active service” **does not include** full-time duty performed strictly for training purposes (i.e., that which often is referred to as “weekend” or “annual” training), **nor does it include** full-time active duty performed by National Guard personnel who are mobilized by State rather than Federal authorities (State mobilizations usually occur in response to events such as natural disasters). The policy is based on the November 10 Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 10-09 from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

“Eligible spouse” as defined at section 2(a) of the JVA (38 U.S.C. 4215[a]) means the spouse of any of the following:

- a. Any Veteran who died of a service-connected disability;
- b. Any member of the Armed Forces serving 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 so listed for a total of more than 90 days:
  - i. Missing in action;
  - ii. Captured in the line of duty by a hostile force; or
  - iii. Forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government
- c. Any Veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service-connected disability, as evaluated by the Department of Veterans Affairs; or
- d. Any Veteran who died while a disability was in existence. A spouse whose eligibility is derived from a living Veteran or service member (i.e., categories b. or c. above) would lose his or her eligibility if the veteran or service member were to lose the status that is the basis for the eligibility (e.g. if a Veteran with a total service-connected disability were to receive a revised disability rating at a lower level). Similarly, for a spouse whose eligibility is derived from a living Veteran or service member, that eligibility would be lost upon divorce from the Veteran or service member.

**To establish priority of service for Veterans and Eligible Spouses through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program McHenry County Workforce Network** will follow Section 134(c)(3)(E) of WIOA in establishing a priority requirement with respect to funds allocated to the local area for adult employment and training activities. Under this section, one-stop center staff responsible for these funds must give priority to

- 1. Veterans and eligible spouses,**
- 2. Recipients of public assistance,**
- 3. Other low-income individuals, and**
- 4. Individuals who are basic skills deficient,**

in the provision of individualized career services, as discussed in Section 4 of the TEG, and training services, discussed in Section 7. Under WIOA, priority must be provided regardless of the level of funds.

**Note:** Priority will be determined during orientation and/or intake and shall also apply to the Dislocated Worker Program and the Youth Program, as well as additional applicable federal grants.

#### **Obtaining Your DD214 Electronically**

Get on the Internet.

Type nara in the search bar and press Enter.

Click on "National Archives."

Locate "Military Service Records" and click on it.

Locate "eVet Systems and click on it."

Click on "Request Military Records."

Give it plenty of time to download.

Read and follow instructions on the remaining screens. it will require you to fill in boxes. At the end, you need to print the form and fax it to the fax number they give you.