



Priority of Service for Veterans & Eligible Spouses

Approval Date: June 6, 2025

Purpose

To outline requirements of Greater Cleveland Works for implementation of priority of service to veterans and eligible spouses for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funded training programs.

Definitions

Covered Person: a veteran or eligible spouse.

Eligible spouse: An individual who is one of the following:

1. The spouse of any person who died of a service-connected disability.
2. The spouse of any member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who, at the time of application for assistance, is listed in one or more of the following categories and has been so listed for a total of more than 90 days:
 - a. Missing in action;
 - b. Captured in the line of duty by a hostile force;
 - c. Forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power for a total of more than 90 days; or
 - d. The spouse of any person who has a total (100%) disability permanent in nature resulting from a service-connected disability or the spouse of a veteran who died while a disability was so evaluated was in existence.

Non-covered person: Any individual who meets neither the definition of "veteran," nor the definition of "eligible spouse."

Requirements

Priority of service means that covered persons are given priority over non-covered persons for the receipt of employment, training, and placement services funded in whole or in part by federal Department of Labor funding, including Wagner-Peyser, Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Senior Community Service Employment Program, Indian and Native American Programs, Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers, Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development Competitive Grants, National Emergency Grants, YouthBuild and JobCorps.

Procedures

Individuals entering the OhioMeansJobs center are identified at the point of entry upon completing registration.

Utilizing the Veteran Questionnaire (JFS Form 01863), an individual who is identified as a veteran or covered person will be identified. During the intake process, designated staff will further explore the covered person's veteran status (e.g., number of days served and discharge status) and assess whether the covered person has a significant barrier to employment. If the covered person has at least one of the identified barriers to employment, and meets the definition of eligible veteran or eligible spouse or any other service group identified by the Jobs for Veterans State Grant (JVSG) along with the time and service requirements, they will be referred to the assigned Disabled Veteran Outreach Program Specialist.



Priority of Service for Veterans & Eligible Spouses

Approval Date: June 6, 2025

The Veteran Questionnaire also gives permission for Greater Cleveland Works staff and partners to exchange and disclose necessary information for services to be provided by all programs being administered by Greater Cleveland Works and/or other partners.

Greater Cleveland Works will make the priority of service policy accessible via its website.

The Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services Veteran Program Managers, and the local OhioMeansJobs Center Operator share monitoring responsibilities through regular Greater Cleveland Works partner meetings. Monitoring responsibilities include a review of the implementation of internal policies and procedures and how they comply with the priority of service requirements. All Greater Cleveland Works staff receive in-service training on the implementation of priority of service for veterans and eligible spouses.

Programs with Statutory Priorities

When Greater Cleveland Works declares limited funds status, priority of service for WIOA adult-funded training is given to low-income individuals and for the recipients of public assistance. When determining if a veteran or eligible spouse is a "low income individual" for eligibility purposes, any amounts received as military pay or allowances by any person who served active duty, and certain other benefits are not included. A low income veteran or eligible spouse takes precedence, with all other qualifying requirements being equal, over a low income non-covered person in obtaining training services. If there is a waiting list, the veterans or eligible spouses receive access to the service instead of or before the non-covered person on the waiting list.