

## **Briefly explain Priority of Service in the Public Labor Exchange / what it means:**

Priority of Service in the Public Labor Exchange basically is that Veterans and eligible spouses take precedence over non-veterans in receiving services in Department of Labor (DOL) funded programs. For all practical purposes, this means that if you are determined/termed to be a Dislocated Worker by their program requirements, then the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Trade Adjustment Act (TAA) programs need to give you as a veteran, preference in providing services. For **other programs listed** and in-depth information / explanation, refer to ***pages 3 & 4 for additional information.***

### **REFERENCES:**

Priority of Service in the Public Labor Exchange refer to: <http://www.doleta.gov/programs/VETS/>  
The Final Rule (<http://www.dol.gov/VETS/E8-30166.pdf>) took effect on January 19, 2009. The Final Rule signals that those recipients of USDOL funds for qualified job training programs are subject to the priority of service regulations, and are required by law to provide priority of service to veterans and eligible spouses.

The Final Rule, and the priority of service it requires, is an important acknowledgement of the sacrifices of the men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. USDOL's strategic vision for priority of service to covered persons honors veterans and eligible spouses of veterans as our "heroes at home" and envisions that DOL-funded employment and training programs, including the publicly-funded workforce investment system, will identify, inform, and deliver comprehensive services to covered persons as part of strategic workforce development activities across the country.

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT GUIDANCE LETTER (TEGL) NO. 10-09, dated November 10, 2009, provides additional information and general instructions applicable to any of the DOL-funded employment and training programs affected by the Jobs for Veterans Act (JVA).

(Refer to: [http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?docn=2816#content](http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=2816#content) ).

## **Veteran Services provided at the Dane County Job Center for Veterans:**

- Resume, Reference Page, Cover Letter assistance
- Interviewing assistance
- Career Exploration:
  - WISCareers <http://wiscareers.wisc.edu/>
- Job listings on:
  - Job Center of Wisconsin <https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/>
  - State of Wisconsin - WiscJobs <http://wisc.jobs/public/index.asp>
  - Federal USAJobs - <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>
  - Job Central <http://www.jobcentral.org/>
  - Vet Central (Vet Reps only) <http://vetjobcentral.com/OS/jobs.aspx?OS=39626>
  - Other job search websites
- Job Referrals & possible job development (employer contact)
- Case Management (for employment barriers ONLY)
- Labor Market Information (LMI) that's up to date **Career One Stop:** <http://www.jobbankinfo.org>
- Department of Workforce Development information site: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/>
- Veterans Preference Points
  - A. State of Wisconsin WiscJobs <http://wisc.jobs/public/index.asp> (Left column = Veterans Resources)  
Veterans Preference Supplement form <http://oser.state.wi.us/docview.asp?docid=1240>
    1. I am a non-disabled veteran. (10 points)
    2. I am a disabled veteran whose disability is LESS THAN 30% and is service-connected. (15 points)
    3. I am a disabled veteran whose disability is 30% OR MORE and is service-connected. (20 points)
    4. I am a spouse of a disabled veteran whose disability is 70% OR MORE and is service-connected. (10 points)
    5. I am a disabled veteran whose disability is 70% OR MORE and is service-connected. (You must be a permanent state employee in classified service to be given preference on **promotional exams.**)
    6. I am an un-remarried spouse of a veteran who was killed in action OR died from a service-connected disability. (10 points)

**B. Federal USAJobs - <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>**

**5 point preference eligible** if your active duty service meets any of the following:

1. 180 or more consecutive days, any part of which occurred during the period beginning September 11, 2001 and ending on a future date prescribed by Presidential proclamation or law as the last date of Operation Iraqi Freedom, **OR**
2. Between August 2, 1990 and January 2, 1992, **OR**
3. 180 or more consecutive days, any part of which occurred after January 31, 1955 and before October 15, 1976.
4. In a war, campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized or between April 28, 1952 and July 1, 1955.

**10 point preference eligible** if you served at any time, and you:

1. Have a service connected disability, **OR**
2. Received a Purple Heart.

**Special Hiring Authorities for Veterans** <http://www.fedshirevets.gov/job/shav/index.aspx>

**Veterans' Recruitment Appointment (VRA):**

Veterans' Recruitment Appointment (VRA) is an excepted authority that allows agencies, to appoint eligible veterans without competition. If you:

- a) Are in receipt of a campaign badge for service during a war or in a campaign or expedition; **OR**
- b) Are a disabled veteran, **OR**
- c) Are in receipt of an Armed forces Service Medal for participation in a military operation, **OR**
- d) Are a recently separated veteran (within the last 3 years), **AND**
- e) Separated under honorable conditions (this means an honorable or general discharge), **you are VRA eligible.**

- **USERRA (Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act) referral to Department of Labor (DOL) at: <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/userra.htm> (for Guard and Reserve)**
- **Veterans Non-Competitive Appointment for Disabled Veterans with 30% or more Service Connected Disabilities information = Special Appointing Authority for State of Wisconsin and Federal jobs**
- **Apprenticeship information <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/>  
Helmets to Hard Hats (construction jobs) <http://helmetstohardhats.org/>  
Troops to Teachers Program [http://dva.state.wi.us/Ben\\_troopstoteachers.asp](http://dva.state.wi.us/Ben_troopstoteachers.asp)**
- **Other Veteran resources:**
  - **County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) information**
  - **Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) resources / education information <http://dva.state.wi.us>**
  - **Veterans Administration (VA) Resources / VA Health Care / VA Voc Rehab (& how to apply) / VA Work Study Program (for Veterans attending school)**
- **Job Center Resources:**
  - **Employment workshops offered thru Job Center (refer to Dane Cty Job Center Workshop Calendar)**
  - **Workforce Investment Act (WIA):**
    - **Register for a WIA Orientation Session on-line at: <http://www.comeherefirst.org/>**
    - **As a Veteran, call 608-695-1819 to receive Priority of Service.**
  - **Trade Adjustment Act (TAA) Program information: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/> **or** [http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dislocatedworker/worker\\_info.htm#layoff](http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dislocatedworker/worker_info.htm#layoff)**
  - **Resource Room tools (refer to Dane County Job Center Monthly Workshop Calendar)**
  - **On-line computers for job search**
- **Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), Dane County Job Center, Madison: 1-800-422-7138 <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/locations/default.htm>**

**Veterans are seen after workshop by LVER or DVOP staff as available.**

**If staff is unavailable, the veteran completes Veterans Program Registration form sheet in workshop and LVER or DVOP calls Veteran to set up an appointment as soon as possible.**

## Veterans Preference and LVER / DVOP Program Requirements:

Refer to <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/veterans>

Click on: **Priority of Service Fact Sheet** in middle of the page.

### Priority of Service for Eligible Veterans and Spouses

The Jobs for Veterans Act affords priority of service to covered veterans and eligible spouses over non-covered persons for the receipt of employment, training, and placement services provided under new or existing job training programs funded in whole or in part, by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

### AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for priority of service you must meet the following definition as a Covered Person.

The term 'covered person' means any of the following individuals:

*A veteran:* A person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.

NOTE:

- For National Guard & Reserve members, Basic Training, Initial Skills, other Skills training and/or Annual Training does NOT count as Active Duty time for assistance through the **LVER / DVOP Program**.
- National Guard & Reserve members MUST have been Federally activated under Title 10 to qualify.
- A Veterans Administration Service Connected Disability Rating (% rating) will qualify an individual to receive LVER / DVOP Program services.

*Eligible Spouse:* The spouse of any of the following individuals:

- o Any veteran who died of a service connected disability
- o Any veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service-connected disability.
- o Any veteran who died while a disability so evaluated was in existence.
- o Any member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who, at the time of application for assistance under this section, 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.

### WHAT IT MEANS

Veterans priority of service means the right of eligible covered persons to take precedence over eligible non-covered persons in obtaining services. For example, this could mean:

The covered person receives 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 before the non-covered person.

## **WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS?**

Below is a list of programs affected by the passage of the priority of service law. This list is not all inclusive, but provides a good idea of the type of programs in which priority of service to qualified veterans exists. Before priority of service can be extended to any covered person in these programs, the covered person **MUST** be qualified to participate in the program.

- WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker
- Wagner-Peyser Employment Service
- Trade Act Programs
- National Emergency Grants
- Senior Community Service Employment Programs(SCSEP)
- Career One-Stop Electronic Tools
- Other Internet-based self-service tools operated by DOL programs
- Migrant & Seasonal Farm Worker Program
- Indian and Native American Program
- WIA Demonstration Projects
- Labor Market Information Grants
- Job Corps

## **WHAT'S MY NEXT STEP?**

To begin exploring the programs and services available to you, visit the Job Center of Wisconsin, <https://www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com> and click on the golden key.

Once you register on the Job Center of Wisconsin as a veteran, you will be able to begin experiencing veteran priority of service by accessing employment opportunities in advance of non-covered persons. Don't forget to visit your closest Job Center! Veteran Employment Representatives are ready and available to assist veterans and eligible spouses in their employment search. From resume development to employment referrals, Veteran Employment Representatives can help you develop the edge you need to be successful in today's job market!

Contact or visit your Local Veterans Employment Representative:  
<http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/veterans/vetreps.htm>

Contact or visit your local Job Center: <http://www.wisconsinjobcenter.org/directory/>

Additional information concerning veteran's priority of service can also be obtained at the U. S. Department of Labor Veterans Employment & Training Service web site: <http://www.dol.gov/vets/>