

## **Declaration of Limited Adult Funding and Priority of Service Policy**

### **Purpose**

To establish factors by which local adult funds have been determined to be limited and to establish the area's priority of service considerations, which also incorporate Veterans preference.

### **Policy Statement**

Pursuant to Virginia Workforce Letter #03-03 and (**Field Guidance Memorandum #08-09\***), stating each LWDB should develop and implement a policy for prioritizing provision of intensive and training services in the event that adult funds are determined to be limited in the local area, the following policy is established:

**Declaration of Limited Adult Funds: The *West Piedmont Workforce Development Board* has established that funds are limited because:**

1. The WPWDB does not receive in-kind contributions from other sources that are equivalent to at least 25 percent of the total WIOA application; and
2. The local area has an unemployment rate that is more than the state average.

**Therefore, the WPWDB has established the following Priority of Service policy for assessing intensive and training funds:**

Priority will be given to adult clients receiving public assistance and who are classified as low income in accordance with WIOA definitions. A low-income individual is defined as an individual who:

- A. Receives, or is a member of a family that receives, cash payments under a Federal, State, or Local income-based public assistance program;
- B. Received an income, or is a member of a family that received a total family income, for the 6-month period prior to application for the program involved (exclusive of unemployment compensation, child support payments, payments described in subparagraph (A), and old-age and survivors insurance benefits received under section 202 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402)) that, in relation to family size, does not exceed the higher of:

1. The poverty line for an equivalent period or
  2. Seventy percent (70 percent) of the lower living standard income level (LLSIL) for an equivalent period. Is a member of a household that receives (or has been determined within the 6- month period prior to application for the program involved to be eligible to receive) food stamps pursuant to the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);
- C. Qualifies as a homeless individual as defined in subsections (a) and (c) of section 103 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302);
- D. Is a foster child on behalf of whom state or local government payments are made;
- OR**
- E. In cases permitted by regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Labor, is an individual with a disability whose own income meets the requirements of a program described above in subparagraphs (A) or (B), but who is a member of a family whose income does not meet such requirements.

The Poverty Guidelines and the Lower Living Standard Income Level as published by the U.S. Department of Labor annually are to be used in determining low-income status.

Additionally, the "Jobs for Veterans Act" calls for priority of service for "covered persons" for DOL-funded programs, a "covered person" as defined below, is entitled to and must be given priority of service over non-covered persons for the receipt of employment, training and placement services if the person otherwise meets the eligibility requirements of a particular program. **"Covered individuals" (as defined below) are given priority over non-veterans for all available services if they otherwise meet the eligibility requirements of a particular program.**

The term "covered person" includes anyone who is a veteran. The term "covered person" also includes spouses of veterans that fall into the following categories:

1. Any veteran who died of a service-connected disability;
2. Any member of the armed forces on active duty who, at the time of the spouse's application, is listed as one or more of the categories and has been so listed for more than 90 days: a) missing in action, b) captured in the line of duty by a hostile force, or c) forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power;
3. Any veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service-connected disability; or
4. Any veteran who died while a disability so evaluated was in existence.

Thus, the following sequence of services priority will apply:

1. First priority will be provided to recipients of public assistance and other low- income individuals in the local area who are covered persons with respect to veterans' priority;
2. Second priority will be provided to recipients of public assistance and other low income individuals in the local area;
3. Third priority will be covered persons (these would be covered persons not considered to be recipients of public assistance or low-income) that fall in one of the following categories as approved by the WPWDB which is specific to this region and not

required

by the state;

- Individuals who are basic skills deficient (English reading, writing, or math skills at or below the 8<sup>th</sup> grade on a generally accepted standardized test)
  - Individuals who are high school drop-outs
  - Individuals who are felons
  - Individuals who are long-term unemployed (unemployed 15 of the last 26 weeks)
  - Individuals who have limited English-Speaking Skills
4. Individuals who have a disability who meet the general income requirements for participation in WIOA programs, even though their family income does not meet that requirement (family income is excluded in this calculation).
  5. Individuals who are not self-sufficient, as defined by the WPWDB's self-sufficiency policy

Priority services will involve both intensive services and training. Customers in the designated target groups will receive priority services based on individual needs of the customer and contingent upon fund availability. WIOA funds will be leveraged with other resources to maximize the customers served and the level of services provided.

With limited WIOA funding available, extensive efforts will be made to provide services to those most in need and to leverage additional non-WIOA resources to meet the needs of our customers. Data relating to the identified target groups will be captured and recorded in the customers file.

## Dislocated Worker Programs

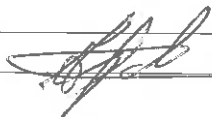
All services provided under the dislocated worker funding stream will provide for priority of service to covered persons. The WIOA and its accompanying regulations (20 CFR 5663.610) hold that dislocated worker funds are not subject to the same requirement as adult funds with regard to priority of service to public assistance recipients or low-income individuals. However, the veterans' priority must be considered. Thus, covered individuals will receive priority over non-covered individuals for the provisions of services funded under the dislocated worker funding stream.

## Youth Programs

All services provided under the youth funding stream will provide for priority of service to covered persons. The WIOA and its accompanying regulations (see 20 CFR 664) generally provides youth funds to service low-income youth age 14 to 21 (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides for the youth eligibility age to be increased to 24) with one or more barriers to employment.

At least thirty percent (30 percent) of local area funds must be used to serve out-of-school youth. The application of the veterans' priority does not change these requirements. Thus, in providing services to both in and out of school youth priority does not change these requirements. This, in providing services to both in and out of school youth priority must be given to any covered individuals who qualify under the WIOA eligibility requirements.

Approval Signature:



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