

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

JVSG Desk Reference

Eligible Populations for DVOPs

Veterans and eligible spouses are eligible for priority of service in all DOL-funded employment and training programs. Additionally, Title 38 U.S.C. 4103A mandates specific roles and responsibilities for Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialist staff under the Jobs for Veterans' State Grants (JVSG) program. ETA and VETS has issued policy guidance,¹ on the distinct roles of the DVOP specialist. That guidance refocuses the populations of veterans and eligible persons who may be served by a DVOP specialist and defined those categories of veterans and eligible spouses who are being prioritized because they have Significant Barriers to Employment (SBE). Further, under 38 U.S.C. 4103A(a)(1)(C), the Secretary may identify additional groups of veterans who are entitled to receive individualized career services from a DVOP specialist. In 2019, ETA and VETS has issued updated guidance on additional populations that may be served by a DVOP specialist. This Desk Reference highlights all the populations who may be served by a DVOP specialist.

Significant Barriers to Employment

American Job Center staff must refer eligible veterans² or eligible spouses who are determined to have an SBE if he or she attests to belonging to at least one of the criteria below:

- ◆ A special disabled or disabled veteran, as those terms are defined in 38 U.S.C. 4211(1) and (3); Special disabled and disabled veterans are those:
 - ◇ Who are entitled to compensation (or those who would be entitled to compensation, yet are not receiving it due to the receipt of military retired pay) under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs; or
 - ◇ Who were discharged or released from active duty because of service-connected disability;
- ◆ A homeless person, as defined in Sections 103(a) and (b) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a) and (b)), as amended
- ◆ A recently-separated service member, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 4211(6), who has been unemployed for 27 or more weeks in the previous 12 months;
- ◆ An offender, as defined by WIOA Section 3 (38), who is currently incarcerated or who has been released from incarceration;
- ◆ A veteran lacking a high school diploma or equivalent certificate;
- ◆ A low-income individual (as defined by WIOA Section 3 (36));
- ◆ A veteran between the ages of 18 and 24 years old who possess limited civilian work history;
- ◆ A Vietnam-era veteran. Vietnam-era veterans are those:
 - ◇ For which any part of their active military, naval, or air service was during the Vietnam era (the period beginning February 28, 1961, and ending May 7, 1975, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period, and the period beginning August 5, 1964, and ending May 7, 1975, in all other cases)
- ◆ Eligible Transitioning Service Members, Spouses and Caregivers. In annual appropriations bills since the consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014, Congress authorized JVSG grants to support services described in VPL 07-14 to:

¹ See "Additional Resources" below for comprehensive list of joint ETA and VETS guidance on the DVOP populations.

² As defined in 38 U.S.C. 4211(4)



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- ◇ Transitioning members of the Armed Forces who have been identified as in need of individualized career services;
- ◇ Members of the Armed Forces who are wounded, ill, or injured and receiving treatment in Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) or Warrior Transition Units (WTUs); and
- ◇ The spouses or other family caregivers of such wounded, ill, or injured members.

Additional Resources

- ◆ TEGL 10-09, *Implementing Priority of Service for Veterans and Eligible Spouses in all Qualified Job Training Programs Funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Labor*, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=2816
- ◆ TEGL 19-13, *Jobs for Veterans' State Grants Program Reforms and Roles and Responsibilities of American Job Center Staff Serving Veterans*, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=7239
- ◆ TEGL 19-13, *Change 1, Expansion and Clarification of Definition of Significant Barriers to Employment for Determining Eligibility for the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP)*, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=9393
- ◆ TEGL 19-13, *Change 2, Expansion and Clarification of Homeless Definition as a Significant Barrier to Employment (SBE)*, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=3305
- ◆ TEGL 20-13, *Change 2, Designation of Additional Populations of Veterans Eligible for Services from the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialist*, https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=9142
- ◆ VPL 03-19, *Designation of Additional Populations Eligible for Services from Disabled Veteran's Outreach Program Specialists*, <https://www.dol.gov/vets/VMS/VPLs/veterans-program-letter-03-19.pdf>
- ◆ VPL 03-14, *Change 2, Expansion and Clarification of Homeless Definition as a Significant Barrier to Employment*, <https://www.dol.gov/vets/VMS/VPLs/VPL-03-14-Change-2.pdf>
- ◆ VPL 03-14, *Change 1, Expansion and Clarification of Definition of Significant Barriers to Employment for Determining Eligibility for the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP)*, <https://www.dol.gov/vets/VMS/VPLs/VPL-03-14-Change-1.pdf>
- ◆ VPL 03-14, *Jobs for Veterans' State Grants (JVSG) Program Reforms and Roles and Responsibilities of American Job Center (AJC) Staff Serving Veterans*, <https://www.dol.gov/vets/VMS/VPLs/VPL-03-14.pdf>
- ◆ VPL 07-14, *American Job Center (AJC) Participation in Capstone Activities and Other Outreach to Transitioning Service Members*, <https://www.dol.gov/vets/VMS/VPLs/VPL07-14.pdf>
- ◆ Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 15-10, *Protocol for Implementing Priority of Service for Veterans and Eligible Spouses in all Qualified Job Training Programs Funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Labor*, http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=2954
- ◆ WorkforceGPS Veterans' Priority Community of Practice, <https://veteranspriority.workforcegps.org/>
- ◆ Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS), <http://veterans.gov>

