



DEPARTMENT OF
CAREER SERVICES

Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 15.102

☒ **Policy** ☐ **Information**

To: Chief Elected Officials
MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
Title I Administrators
MassHire Career Center Directors
Title I Fiscal Officers
MDCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Alice Sweeney, Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: February 11, 2019

Subject: **Additional Population of Veterans and Other Populations Eligible for Services from Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialists**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators and other workforce partners of additional population of Veterans and other populations eligible for services from Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) Specialists identified in US DOL Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Training and Employment Guidance Letter [\(TEGL\) No. 20-13, Change 2](#), released February 7, 2019.

This document describes additional populations eligible to receive services provided by DVOP specialists. TEGL 19-13 and Veterans' Program Letter (VPL) 03-14 stated that under 38 U.S.C. 4103A(a)(1)(C), the Secretary of Labor (Secretary) may identify additional groups of Veterans who are entitled to receive intensive services from DVOP staff. Vietnam-era Veterans are added to the list of populations already identified as being eligible to receive services from

DVOP specialists. Previous guidance, specifically TEGL 20-13, identified Veterans ages 18 to 24 as a priority category.

Background: Title 38 U.S.C. 4103A mandates specific roles and responsibilities for DVOP specialist staff. ETA and VETS issued policy guidance, TEGL 19-13 and VPL 03-14, respectively, on the distinct roles of the DVOP specialist in 2014. That guidance limits 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, TEGL 19-13 and VPL 03-14 stated that, under 38 U.S.C. 4103A(a)(1)(C), the Secretary may identify additional groups of Veterans who are entitled to receive intensive services (now referred to as Individualized Career Services) from a DVOP specialist. Also, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014 and every Appropriations Act since then authorize the Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSG) program to provide support services to additional SBE populations.

Policy: The populations described in this section are now eligible to be served by DVOP specialists, in addition to those populations described in TEGL 19-13. AJC programs' staff should develop procedures to refer the populations below to DVOP specialists:

- a) **Veterans aged 18–24** - Veterans aged 18–24 possess limited civilian work history which can make transitioning to the civilian labor force difficult. Based on this fact, Veterans between the ages of 18 and 24 may benefit from individualized career services provided by a DVOP specialist.
- b) **Vietnam-era Veterans** - Pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 4211, the term “Veteran of the Vietnam era” is an eligible veteran any part of whose active military, naval, or air service was during the Vietnam era.¹The Bureau of Labor Statistics and the VA data indicate that there are still a sizeable number of Vietnam-era Veterans in the workforce, and many face difficulty in finding and maintaining employment. In 2017, there were 1,689,000 Vietnam-era Veterans in the workforce with 64,000 unemployed and actively seeking employment.
- c) **Eligible Transitioning Service Members, Spouses, and Caregivers** - In annual appropriation bills since the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014, Congress authorized JVSG grants to support services as described in VPL 07-14 to:
 - a. Transitioning members of the Armed Forces who have been identified as in need of intensive services (now referred to as individualized career services);
 - b. Members of the Armed Forces who are wounded, ill, or injured and receiving treatment in MTFs or WTUs; and

- c. The spouses or other family caregivers³ of such wounded, ill, or injured members.

Action

Required: Please ensure all managers, staff and partners are informed of this information and follow the action requested in the TEGL.

Effective: Immediately.

Inquiries: Please email questions to PolicyQA@MassMail.State.MA.US; include the issuance number and title.

Attachment: A. Veterans' Program Letter (VPL) No. 03-19, issued February 7, 2019