MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

MassWorkforce Issuance

100 DCS 15.107

□ Policy ☑ Information

То:	Chief Elected Officials Workforce Development Board Chairs Workforce Development Board Directors Title I Administrators Career Center Directors Title I Fiscal Officers DCS Operations Managers
cc:	WIOA State Partners
From:	Alice Sweeney, Director Department of Career Services
Date:	February 28, 2017
Subject:	Hilton Honors Military Rewards Program
Purpose:	To notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other workforce partners of the referral process for staff to implement The Hilton Honors (<u>HHonors</u>) Military Rewards Program.
Background:	In partnership with the National Association of State Workforce Agencies, (<u>NASWA</u>) and the Massachusetts Department of Career Services (DCS), Hilton is donating points to eligible Veterans to support their transition to civilian employment. Eligible Veterans will receive 100,000 Hilton Points supporting a hotel stay for job related activities as outlined below.
	To support the employment of US Veterans, Hilton Honors redeemable points for participants can be used for a free hotel stay at local Hilton Hotels when seeking employment. There is one award per approved Veteran, per year. Points required for hotel stay vary by hotel, area, and time of year. For an estimate of points required visit <u>www.hhonors.hilton.com</u> – check the 'use points' box.
	The points charged by an individual hotel should be verified by the approved Veteran prior to use. Veterans approved to use this program are solely responsible beyond the scope of this program.

Eligibility is limited to participants that meet the following criteria:

Military Veteran, Transitioning Service Member, (TSM) or TSM-spouse, Active Reservist or Guard Member, that are registered and receiving career services in a Massachusetts One-Stop Career Center <u>other than dishonorable discharge</u>.

Qualifying Job Search activity includes formal interviewing, job training, approved work experience, travel required for certification and licensure examination and housing search for starting a new job are allowable.

Prior to consideration, the Veteran must be enrolled in the MOSES system, receiving employment services and show proof of Veteran eligibility or TSM status. Self attestation is not satisfactory. The Veteran must have an established account with HHonors. An account can be created online <u>www.joinhhonors.com/</u> or by calling 1-800-HHonors. This number can also be used if the Veteran is a current member but needs assistance recalling their account number.

The participant must agree to provide the referring staff with follow-up information about the service in order for DCS to track employment outcomes, provide constructive feedback, and identify success stories.

Referral Process - DVOP staff or Operations Managers determine initial eligibility before submitting the Massachusetts DCS HHonors Rewards Program for Veterans Referral Form (Attachment A). There are two HHonors Military Rewards Program points of contacts for response timeliness. The referral form is to be submitted to **both**:

Brian.J.Ottlinger@MassMail.State.MA.US and Robert.Doucette@MassMail.State.MA.US

All referrals will be reviewed and either approved or denied within 3 business days. Approved referrals will be submitted to Hilton for their consent and point transfer. The Veteran will receive an email notification that 100,000 points have been transferred into their account. Following an approval notification from Hilton the Veteran may then redeem their points immediately.

Inquiries: Please direct inquiries to <u>Brian.J.Ottlinger@MassMail.State.MA.US</u> or telephone 508-977-1407

Attachments: A. Hilton Honors Rewards Program for Veterans Referral Form

References: <u>Title 38, Chapter 41 USC Employment Services for Veterans</u>