

WorkSource Information Notice (WIN)

WorkSource Standards & Integration Division

Policy Clarification | Q&A | Other

Number: WIN - 0020
Date: May 15, 2012
Expiration Date: N/A

TO: Workforce Development System Partners
FROM: Amy Smith-Rubeck, Deputy Assistant Commissioner
SUBJECT: Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP)

Purpose:

The purpose of this WIN is to provide information on the new Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) announced in Training & Employment Notice (TEN) 43-11 *Overview of the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP)* issued by U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) on May 8, 2012.

Action Required:

All WorkSource Center and Affiliate staff, including front-end receptionists and/or greeters, Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVERs) and Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialists, should be informed about VRAP retraining assistance. This information should also be shared with local system partners and community colleges.

Summary:

VRAP, which is a part of the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011, offers eligible, unemployed veterans up to 12 months of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) retraining assistance in high demand occupations. USDOL is working together with the VA to implement this new program. The role of the WorkSource system is to provide outreach to potentially eligible veterans seeking services at WorkSource Centers and Affiliate sites.

Qualifying veterans are those who:

- Are at least 35 but no more than 60 years old at the time of application;
- Are unemployed on the date of application;
- Are not enrolled in a federal or state job training program during the previous 180 days as of the date of application;
- Received an other than dishonorable discharge from the last period of service in the armed forces;
- Are not eligible for any other VA education benefit program;
- Are not in receipt of VA compensation due to Individual Unemployability; and
- Submit an application no later than October 1, 2013.

Interested veterans can apply on-line through the VOW to Hire Veterans web site:

<http://benefits.va.gov/vow> beginning May 15, 2012 for training that begins on or after July 1, 2012. Applicants must indicate the high demand occupation they are applying to pursue. A drop-down menu provides a list of high demand occupations. The training must lead to an Associate Degree, Non-College Degree, or a Certificate. Veterans determined to be eligible will receive a system-generated electronic notice explaining the next steps to use the VRAP benefit. Veterans determined to be ineligible for VRAP will receive a letter in the mail containing appeal information.

Important Note: DOL/ETA and the VA will be hosting a Webinar on the VRAP. The Webinar will provide an overview of VRAP, including: eligibility requirements, a discussion of the high-demand occupations in which participants may receive training, and a walkthrough of the online application process by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The webinar will help staff assist veterans in applying for the program. WSID will notify WorkSource System partners when webinar information becomes available.

References:

[Training & Employment Notice \(TEN\) 43-11, May 8, 2012](#)

Website:

<http://wpc.wa.gov/adm/policy>

Direct Inquiries To:

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