

COLUMBIA-GREENE WORKFORCE NY

PRIORITY OF SERVICE FOR VETERANS

It is the responsibility of the public workforce system to provide priority of service to all veterans and eligible spouses who receive services under any qualified job training program.

Priority of service means that veterans and eligible spouses are given priority over non-covered persons for the receipt of employment, training, and placement services provided under a qualified job training program. This means that a veteran or an eligible spouse either receives access to a service earlier in time than a non-covered person or, if the resource is limited, the veteran or eligible spouse receives access to the service instead of or before the non-covered person.

For a service such as classroom training, priority of service applies to the selection procedure, as follows. First, if there is a waiting list for the formation of a training class, priority of service is intended to require a veteran or eligible spouse to go to the top of that list. Second, priority of service applies up to the point at which an individual is both approved for funding and accepted or enrolled in a training class. Therefore, once a non-covered person has been approved for funding and accepted/enrolled in a training class, priority of service is not intended to allow a veteran or eligible spouse who is identified subsequently to “bump” the non-covered person from that training class.

Eligibility for “Priority of Service” Status:

Veteran (must meet all qualifications):

- A person who has served at least one day in the active military, naval, or air service for other than training; and
- A person who was discharged or released from service under any condition other than a condition classified as dishonorable.
 - Note: This definition includes Reserve units and National Guard units activated for Federal Service, but not for state service.

Eligible Spouse (must meet one qualification):

- A spouse of any veteran who died of a service-connected disability.
- A spouse of any member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who, at the time of application for the priority, is listed in one or more of the following categories and has been so listed for a total of more than 90 days:
 - Missing in action;
 - Captured in the line of duty by a hostile force; or
 - Forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power.
 - A spouse of any veteran who has a total disability resulting from a service-connected disability, as evaluated by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
 - A spouse of any veteran who died while a disability was in existence.