

## Foothills Region Priority of Service

### WIOA Adult Program (PS 03-2017)

#### Background

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 requires priority be given to recipients of public assistance, other low-income individuals, and individuals who are basic skills deficient when providing career and training services using WIOA Title I Adult funds. WIOA is intended to improve and strengthen the public workforce system and help Americans—especially youth and adults with significant barriers to employment obtain skills, postsecondary credentials, and employment. The intent of the priority of services is to strengthen the coordination with other federal education and training programs, including TANF employment and training services among others.

Section 134 (c)(3)(E) indicates the funds allocated to a local area for adult employment and training activities under paragraph (2)(A) or (3) of section 133(b), priority shall be given to recipients of public assistance, other low-income individuals, Veterans (adult and dislocated worker programs—Sec. 3(53)), and individuals who are basic skills deficient for receipt of career services described in paragraph (2)(A)(xxii) and training services.

#### Local Policy

Priority of service will always be given to low income individuals and those individuals receiving public assistance. The priority of service requirement for veterans is mandated by WIOA, Sec. 3(53). **Veterans and eligible spouses will receive the first level of priority of service in universal access programs and services delivered through NC Career Centers for all USDOL funded programs, including the Wagner-Peyser and WIOA programs.**

Priority of service does not preclude service to individuals who are not low-income or not receiving public assistance, or who are not veterans, but rather establishes the order of precedence for service.

The list below describes the priority of service for individuals served in the WIOA Adult Program base on requirements in WIOA Section 134(c)3(3)(E):

- Priority 1** Veterans and eligible spouses who are:
- low income [as defined by WIOA Sec. 3(36)], or
  - recipients of public assistance, or
  - who are basic skills deficient

- Priority 2** Individuals who are:
- low income [as defined by WIOA Sec. 3(36)], or
  - recipients of public Assistance, or
  - who are basic skills deficient

**Priority 3**

Veterans and eligible spouses who are:

- not low income, and
- not recipients of public assistance, and
- not basic skills deficient

**Priority 4**

Individuals who do not meet the above priorities may be enrolled on a case by case basis with priority given to those individuals who are:

- 200% of low income defined by WIOA Sec. 3(36), or
- **individuals participating in a registered apprenticeship program**