



STATE OF FLORIDA
AGENCY FOR WORKFORCE INNOVATION

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Reference:
Selective Service Registration

AWI Communiqué

TO: Workforce Florida, Inc., Regional Workforce Boards (RWBs), One-Stop Operators and Partners, and other entities engaged in implementing programs under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998

FROM: *for [Signature]* Lois A. Scott, Program Manager, One-Stop and Program Support

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2005

SUBJECT: Updated Selective Service Registration Verification Procedures for an Individual Applying for Workforce Investment Act Services

PURPOSE

To clarify the procedure for ensuring that each individual participating in any WIA program or activity or receiving any assistance or benefit funded by WIA is in compliance with the timely registration requirements of section 3 of the Military Selective Service Act (50 USC Sec. 453).

BACKGROUND

In 1986, the Military Selective Service Act (MSSA) was amended by Public Law 99-661 and provides clarification that non-registrants who are now beyond their 26th birth date applying for assistance from an employment and training program are not to be denied any Federal benefit if they can demonstrate that their failure to register was not knowing or willful. In the past, when states completed the "advisory form" for such applicants, the Selective Service System (SSS) responded with an "advisory opinion letter" which, in effect, ruled on an applicant's compliance with the federal requirement to register with the SSS. Since January 1995, the SSS has been issuing "status information letters", indicating an applicant's Selective Service status, in lieu of the previous system of "advisory opinion letters. The change was in accordance with SSS's determination that final decisions for disbursing federally financed domestic benefits, services, rights, or training, rested solely with the various provider agencies. The Regional Workforce Board (RWB), not the Selective Service System has the final decision as to whether WIA services can be provided. Since the RWB is now responsible for making this determination, the Selective Service status information letter is no longer required.

Selective Service registration is not a requirement for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) participation; however, a male co-enrolled in WIA must meet Selective Service registration requirements.

Regional Workforce Boards should develop a procedure for determining and documenting that non-registrants who are now beyond their 26th birth date applying for assistance from an employment and training program demonstrate that their failure to register was not knowing or willful for the purpose of making a determination of WIA eligibility. All documentation provided should be maintained in the applicant's file. Additional guidance on this topic is available in the WIA Resource Guide.

ACTION REQUIRED

All Regional Workforce Boards, One-Stop Operators and Partners, and other entities engaged in implementing programs under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 are encouraged to develop a local operating procedure for making the determination of "not knowing or willful" and provide this information to all associates and interested parties.

AUTHORITY

United States Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

SUPERSESSION

This AWI Communiqué supersedes WEO Communiqué dated 05/30/2000, Subject: Update to provide Workforce Investment Act (WIA) services to applicants and complying with the Selective Service rules for registration.

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