

February 21, 2003

VETERANS PROGRAM LETTER NO. **03-03**

MEMORANDUM FOR: ALL REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS (RAVETS), AND
DIRECTORS FOR VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND
TRAINING (DVETS),
ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCY (SWA)
ADMINISTRATORS,
ALL REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS,
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
(INFO)

FROM: FREDERICO JUARBE JR. [SIGNED]

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2001-2005 Disabled Veterans Outreach
Program (DVOP) and Local Veterans' Employment
Representative Program (LVER) Grant Special Provisions
Update for (FY) 2003

- I. Purpose: To provide guidance for the FY 2003 DVOP/LVER program operation.
- II. Background: Since the beginning of the current grant cycle there have been several policy changes affecting the DVOP/LVER program. These changes include:
 - Guidance to States in reverting to original funding formula approved for FY 2001 once an appropriation is approved.
 - Guidance for State Workforce Agency (SWA) to request additional LVER in SWA's Central Office
 - Extension for quarterly reporting time lines from 30 to 45 days
 - Guidance for submission of VETS 200 and ETA 9002 Reporting via Enterprise Information Management System (EIMS)
 - Implementation of New Roles and Responsibilities for DVOP and LVERs
 - Guidance for providing TAP Training to military personnel within 12 months separation or within 24 months retirement

These changes were provided through official correspondence (see references) and are incorporated in the attached FY 2003 Special Provisions. Please note that these changes are in bold print.

III. Policy and Guidance: Public Law (P.L.) 107-288 made significant structural changes to the department's employment and training delivery system. Changes of this magnitude must be carefully managed to ensure a comprehensive and smooth transition. Many of the new provisions must be delayed until the beginning of FY 2004. For example, the new law:

- allows for part time DVOPs, whereas the current grant provision requires full time;
- requires a new DVOP/LVER funding formula phased in over a three-year period;
- requires establishment of a uniform national entered employment threshold rate;
- mandates the collection of new information and data to be reported to Congress;
- and requires the development of a state veterans' service plan that outlines and describes how each State will provide services to veterans and eligible persons.

The mechanisms to support these changes will require time to develop. Therefore, it is critical that states do not implement P.L. 107-288 initiatives until advised to do so by the department and implement only those changes cited in the attached FY 2003 Special Provisions, which have been approved, by VETS and the Grant Officer for implementation, during FY 2003.

Definitive guidance for this law is currently being developed in a collaborative effort with other agencies and stakeholders. As policy decisions and legal interpretations relative to the new law are examined and developed, VETS will issue appropriate policy guidance.

IV. Actions Required: Administer FY 2003 DVOP/LVER programs as currently authorized in the attached FY2003 DVOP/LVER Grant Special Provisions.

V. References:

- VPL 09-02, Change 1, Dated December 18, 2002; Amendment to VPL 9-02 Changing Formula Once Appropriation Signed
- VPL 02-03 Dated December 17, 2002; Information on "the passage and implementation of Public Law (P.L.) 107-288..."
- Public Law (P.L.) 107-288, Enacted November 7, 2002; Jobs for Veterans Act
- VPL 11-02 Dated September 16, 2002; New Roles and Responsibilities
- VPL 10-02 Dated July 23, 2002; SWA Measures of Service for PY 2002
- VPL 09-02 Dated June 24, 2002; Submitting Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 DVOP/LVER Grant Modification Requests
- VPL 08-02 Dated April 11, 2002; Revision to Submission Dates for Reports
- Public Law (P.L.) 107-103, Enacted December 27, 2001; Veterans Education and Benefits Act of 2001

VI. Inquiries: SWA concerns should be addressed through DVET/RAVET channels. Issues that cannot be resolved through these channels should be addressed to Miguel Hernandez at the National Office at 202-693-4708 or Dave Mullis, National Office at 202-693-4712.

VII. Expiration Date: September 30, 2004 and or until superceded.

VIII. Enclosure: Updated FY 2003 DVOP/LVER Grant Special Provisions