



SEP 15 2016

VETERANS' PROGRAM LETTER NO. 01-16, Change 1

TO: ALL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING STAFF  
ALL STATE AGENCY ADMINISTRATORS  
ALL REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS, EMPLOYMENT AND  
TRAINING ADMINISTRATION (INFO)

FROM: MICHAEL H. MICHAUD *Michael H. Michaud*

SUBJECT: The Department of Labor Veterans' Employment & Training Service  
and the Department of Veterans Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation and  
Employment Joint Partnership Modernization Project

- I. **Purpose:** To provide revised guidance and clarification to State Agencies (SAs) and Directors for Veterans' Employment and Training (DVETs) on the 100% referral of clients found entitled to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Services' (VR&E) Chapter 31 program. This change extends the due date for submitting executed local memoranda of understanding.
- II. **Reference:** VPL 01-16, The Department of Labor Veterans' Employment & Training Service and the Department of Veterans Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Joint Partnership Modernization Project, dated October 30, 2015.
- III. **Background:** VPL 01-16 provided a revised Technical Assistance Guide (TAG) and required the development of updated or new local memoranda of understanding (MOU) between VR&E offices, SAs/American Job Center (AJC) offices, and the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS). The original guidance in VPL 01-16 is being revised to incorporate the decision to refer 100% of certain clients found entitled to Chapter 31 services. Action Item B. in Section VII of VPL 01-16 indicated that: "DVETs will review their respective state's currently signed local MOU(s), identify deficiencies based on the National MOA and new requirements in the revised TAG, and complete new local MOUs, as needed, by March 31, 2016." The adoption of a 100% requirement resulted in the need to extend the time allowed to complete revised local MOUs.
- IV. **Revised Guidance:** In accordance with the procedures established in the TAG updated for release July 2016, the following clarified referral criteria apply:

### **Referral Criteria for Labor Market Information**

VR&E staff will refer 100% of all Veterans who have been found entitled to services for labor market information (LMI) with the following exceptions:

1. Veterans for whom achievement of a vocational goal has been determined infeasible.
2. Veterans working in a suitable career or job when entering the program but who require a job accommodation are seeking additional training to retain their current employment, or require new suitable employment in the same career.

### **Referral Criteria for Employment Services**

VR&E staff will refer 100% of all Veterans in the Chapter 31 program in Job Ready Status (JRS) with the following exceptions:

1. Veterans who are suitably employed in an occupation that does not exacerbate their existing service-connected disability at the time the job ready decision is made.
2. Veterans who are job ready and decide to pursue additional education outside the Chapter 31 program, rather than pursuing employment.

Updated or new local MOUs that incorporate this 100% referral standard will be due 90 days after the date of issuance of this VPL.

In addition, VETS and VR&E have developed a video and three training webinars for SA, VR&E and VETS staff who will be working together within this joint framework. These materials are accessible through the National Veterans' Training Institute (NVTI) website located at: [http://nvti.ucdenver.edu/VA\\_DOL\\_Leadership\\_Webinars/](http://nvti.ucdenver.edu/VA_DOL_Leadership_Webinars/).

### **V. Actions Required:**

- A. VETS' DVETs will facilitate completion of all local MOUs in their respective state with the appropriate VA and SA representatives.
- B. The new OMB approved VETS-201 will be used through May 31, 2019 for all clients. It will be available no later than October 1, 2016 on VETS Jobs for Veterans State Grants forms page located at: [https://www.dol.gov/vets/grants/state/jvsg\\_forms.htm](https://www.dol.gov/vets/grants/state/jvsg_forms.htm).

**VI. Inquiries:** States are to contact their DVETs with any questions. DVETs are to contact their Regional Administrators for Veterans' Employment and Training (RAVETs) for any clarification requested.

**VII. Expiration Date:** When rescinded or superseded.

**VIII. Attachment:** VA-VR&E/DOL-VETS Technical Assistance Guide (TAG) Revised for Release: July 2016