

Subpart 22.13—Special Disabled Veterans, Veterans of the Vietnam Era, and Other Eligible Veterans

SOURCE: 66 FR 53488, Oct. 22, 2001, unless otherwise noted.

22.1300 Scope of subpart.

This subpart prescribes policies and procedures for implementing the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1972 (38 U.S.C. 4211 and 4212) (the Act); Executive Order 11701, January 24, 1973 (3 CFR 1971-1975 Comp., p. 752); the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR Part 60-250 and Part 61-250); and the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998, Public Law 105-339.

22.1301 Definition.

United States, as used in this subpart, means the States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and Wake Island.

22.1302 Policy.

(a) Contractors and subcontractors, when entering into contracts or subcontracts subject to the Act, must—

(1) List all employment openings, with the appropriate local employment service office except for—

(i) Executive and top management positions;

(ii) Positions to be filled from within the contractor's organization; and

(iii) Positions lasting three days or less.

(2) Take affirmative action to employ, and advance in employment, qualified special disabled veterans, veterans of the Vietnam era, and other eligible veterans without discrimination based on their disability or veteran's status.

(b) Except for contracts for commercial items or contracts that do not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, contracting officers must not obligate or expend funds appropriated for the agency for a fiscal year to enter into a contract for the procurement of personal property and nonpersonal

services (including construction) with a contractor that has not submitted a required annual Form VETS-100, Federal Contractor Veterans' Employment Report (VETS-100 Report), with respect to the preceding fiscal year if the contractor was subject to the reporting requirements of 38 U.S.C. 4212(d) for that fiscal year.

22.1303 Applicability.

(a) The Act applies to all contracts and subcontracts for personal property and nonpersonal services (including construction) of \$25,000 or more except as waived by the Secretary of Labor.

(b) The requirements of the clause at 52.222-35, Equal Opportunity for Special Disabled Veterans, Veterans of the Vietnam Era, and Other Eligible Veterans, in any contract with a State or local government (or any agency, instrumentality, or subdivision) do not apply to any agency, instrumentality, or subdivision of that government that does not participate in work on or under the contract.

(c) The Act requires submission of the VETS-100 Report in all cases where the contractor or subcontractor has received an award of \$25,000 or more, except for awards to State and local governments, and foreign organizations where the workers are recruited outside of the United States.

22.1304 Procedures.

To verify if a proposed contractor is current with its submission of the VETS-100 Report, the contracting officer may—

(a) Query the Department of Labor's VETS-100 Database via the Internet at <http://www.vets100.cudenver.edu/vets100search.htm> using the validation code "vets" to proceed with the search in the database; or

(b) Contact the VETS-100 Reporting Systems via e-mail at verify@vets100.com for confirmation, if the proposed contractor represents that it has submitted the VETS-100 Report and is not listed in the database.

22.1305 Waivers.

(a) The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor (Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor), may

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waive any or all of the terms of the clause at 52.222-35, Equal Opportunity for Special Disabled Veterans, Veterans of the Vietnam Era, and Other Eligible Veterans for—

(1) Any contract if a waiver is in the national interest; or

(2) Groups or categories of contracts if a waiver is in the national interest and it is—

(i) Impracticable to act on each request individually; and

(ii) Determined that the waiver will substantially contribute to convenience in administering the Act.

(b) The head of the agency may waive any requirement in this subpart when it is determined that the contract is essential to the national security, and that its award without complying with such requirements is necessary to the national security. Upon making such a determination, the head of the agency must notify the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor in writing within 30 days.

(c) The contracting officer must submit requests for waivers in accordance with agency procedures.

(d) The Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor may withdraw an approved waiver for a specific contract or group of contracts to be awarded, when in the Deputy's judgment such action is necessary to achieve the purposes of the Act. The withdrawal does not apply to awarded contracts. For procurements entered into by sealed bidding, such withdrawal does not apply unless the withdrawal is made more than 10 calendar days before the date set for the opening of bids.

22.1306 Department of Labor notices and reports.

(a) The contracting officer must furnish to the contractor appropriate notices for posting when they are prescribed by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor (see http://www2.dol.gov/dol/esa/public/ofcp_org.htm).

(b) The Act requires contractors and subcontractors to submit a report at least annually to the Secretary of Labor regarding employment of special disabled veterans, veterans of the Vietnam era, and other eligible veterans unless all of the terms of the clause at 52.222-35, Equal Opportunity for Special

Disabled Veterans, Veterans of the Vietnam Era, and Other Eligible Veterans, have been waived (see 22.1305). The contractor and subcontractor must use Form VETS-100, Federal Contractor Veterans' Employment Report, to submit the required reports.

22.1307 Collective bargaining agreements.

If performance under the clause at 52.222-35, Equal Opportunity for Special Disabled Veterans, Veterans of the Vietnam Era, and Other Eligible Veterans, may necessitate a revision of a collective bargaining agreement, the contracting officer must advise the affected labor unions that the Department of Labor will give them appropriate opportunity to present their views. However, neither the contracting officer nor any representative of the contracting officer may discuss with the contractor or any labor representative any aspect of the collective bargaining agreement.

22.1308 Complaint procedures.

Following agency procedures, the contracting office must forward any complaints received about the administration of the Act to the Veterans' Employment and Training Service of the Department of Labor, or through the local Veterans' Employment Representative or designee, at the local State employment office. The Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor is responsible for investigating complaints.

22.1309 Actions because of noncompliance.

The contracting officer must take necessary action as soon as possible upon notification by the appropriate agency official to implement any sanctions imposed on a contractor by the Department of Labor for violations of the clause at 52.222-35, Equal Opportunity for Special Disabled Veterans, Veterans of the Vietnam Era, and Other Eligible Veterans. These sanctions (see 41 CFR 60-250.66) may include—

(a) Withholding payments;

(b) Termination or suspension of the contract; or

(c) Debarment of the contractor.