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*Serving as the workforce development board for the Lower Shore of Maryland*

## **POLICY: SELECTIVE SERVICE**

### **Purpose**

To establish the process by which males who have not registered for Selective Service may request to participate in WIOA-funded services.

### **Policy**

In order to participate in WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated or Youth programs, males over age 18 must be registered with Selective Service.\*

In the event that a male over the age of 26 (and born after 1960) is seeking services but is not in compliance with Selective Service registration requirements, he should request a "Status Information Letter" from the Selective Service System.

For a man who is not registered, the letter will detail that he was either:

- (1) Not required to register; or
- (2) He was required to register.

Individuals who were not required to register are in compliance and may receive services.

Individuals who were required to register but did not are not in compliance. In order to receive services, he may show that the failure to register was not knowing and willful. Per federal policy, a non-registrant may not be denied any benefit if he can "show by a preponderance of evidence" that his failure to register was not knowing and willful.

In order for Lower Shore Workforce Alliance to consider allowing funds to be spent on him, he may submit a copy of the "Status Information Letter", a written explanation of the failure to register outlining the reasons the failure was not knowing and willful, and any additional documentation to support the claim. The burden of proof lies with the applicant and must clearly show evidence that the failure to register was not a knowing and willful failure. The director or designee will review and make a determination. The requirement to register is widely publicized; therefore, a man stating that he was not aware of the requirement has not proven that the failure to register was not knowing and willful through that statement alone. These requests will be denied unless the director or designee evaluates the evidence and concludes that the man was not aware of the requirement. Individuals who are approved to participate based on the evidence will have the information documented in their case file.

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*\*Refer to [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov) for selective service compliance information, including who must register.*

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Policy Status: Active

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