



OFFICE OF
THE CITY MANAGER
E-mail: citymanager@cityofmedford.org

CITY OF MEDFORD
411 WEST 8TH STREET
MEDFORD, OREGON 97501

TELEPHONE (541) 774-2000
FAX: (541) 618-1700
www.ci.medford.or.us

May 13, 2015

Bryan G. Guiney
Committee Administrator
Oregon State Legislature
House Committee On Veterans' Services and Emergency Preparedness

Dear Mr. Guiney:

Thank you for including the City of Medford in your invitation to provide input for the Committee on SB 87A regarding veterans' preference for public employment. Currently the City of Medford incorporates the following questions in its application process in order to properly identify veteran status eligibility:

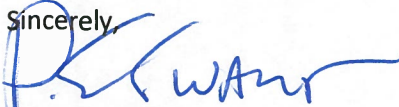
1. Under Oregon law, veterans who meet minimum qualifications for a position may be eligible for employment preference. If you think you qualify, please read the following questions carefully and answer completely. If you claim veteran's preference, any false statements may be cause for disqualification or dismissal, regardless of when discovered. Preference will not be awarded without the appropriate documentation. You must submit a copy of your long form DD-214 or 215 and certificate of honorable discharge. Documentation must be received by the City of Medford Human Resources Department as soon as possible, but no later than the close of the recruitment. Late submissions will not be processed. You may claim veteran's preference if you are a qualified veteran. "Active duty" does not include attendance at a school under military orders, except schooling incident to an active enlistment or regular tour of duty, or normal military training as a reserve officer or member of an organized reserve or National Guard unit. Did you serve on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States for a period of more than 178 consecutive days and were you discharged or released under honorable conditions?
2. Did you serve on active duty for 178 days or less and were you discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions because of a service-connected disability?
3. Did you serve on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States for at least one day in a combat zone and were you discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions?
4. Did you receive a combat or campaign ribbon for service in the Armed Forces of the United States?
5. Qualified disabled veteran's preference may be claimed by submitting a copy of your long form DD-214 or 215, your certificate of honorable discharge, and a public employment preference letter from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. These must be submitted to verify disabled veteran's preference status. Are you entitled to disability compensation under laws administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs?
6. Were you discharged or released from active duty for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty?
7. Were you awarded a Purple Heart for wounds received in combat?

8. I have attached a copy of my DD-214 or DD-215 and/or a copy of my honorable discharge paperwork. (Note: You MUST provide this documentation to receive veteran's preference.)
9. Please describe ONLY specific MILITARY experience that directly and substantially relates to the position you are applying for. (Responses MUST thoroughly describe how your MILITARY experience/training pertains to the position you are applying for.)

Once the application is completed and the applicant is eligible for veterans' preference, the City provides 5 veterans' preference points at each stage of the process and 10 veterans' preference points to a disabled veteran. The City will appoint a veteran to a vacant position if the results of a veteran's or disabled veteran's application examination, when combined with the veteran's or disabled veteran's preference, are equal to or higher than the results of an application examination for an applicant who is not a veteran or disabled veteran.

As for the proposed changes to veterans' preference law in SB 87A, the City is supportive.

Sincerely,



P. Eric Swanson
City Manager

- c: Representative Deborah Boone
Representative Sal Esquivel
Representative Paul Evans
Representative John Huffman
Representative John Lively
Representative Julie Parish
Representative Carla Piluso
Cindy Robert