

The following constitutes agreement between the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the National VA Council Regarding Circular 20-91- , Employee Development.

1. In paragraph 2, add after sex, "union affiliation".
2. In paragraph 2.b., eliminate "etc."
3. Change paragraph 2.d. to read: In all cases of scheduling employees to attend off-station training programs that require travel outside the commuting area, supervisors will make every effort to inform employees at the earliest possible date, normally 30 days in advance, so that personal arrangements may be completed before an employee begins training.
4. VBA will notify the VA-AFGE Council President of the dollar amount and percentage of the budget designated for training. Local Presidents may request station training dollar amounts from local management.
5. For positions with known mandatory training requirements which involve travel outside the commuting area in excess of one week, such requirements will be included in the position vacancy announcement.
6. This circular and agreement shall be consistent with the VA/AFGE Master Agreement and any conflicts shall be resolved in favor of the VA-AFGE Master Agreement.
7. Facility Personnel Officers, upon receipt, will provide a copy of this circular and agreement to the Local Union President.
8. Management will meet its labor-management obligation locally prior to the implementation of this circular.
9. VBA, at the local level for local courses and at the national level for national courses, will made a bonafide effort to utilize other methods of training that are more effective and efficient in conjunction with or as an alternative to off-station training programs outside the commuting area lasting more than one week.
10. VBA will consider employee requests for training in a fair and equitable manner.
11. Any return trips home during training shall be in accordance with Federal Travel Regulation 1989 dated 2-23-89, part 301-7.


For Management


For the N.V.A.C.

11-12-92
DATE

RECEIVED ON OCT 6, 1991
NATIONAL VA COUNCIL
