

also shall summarize the relevant portions of the Act and the contractor's affirmative action program. Furthermore, the invitations shall state that the information is being requested on a voluntary basis, that it will be kept confidential, that refusal to provide it will not subject the applicant to any adverse treatment, and that it will not be used in a manner inconsistent with the Act. (An acceptable form for such an invitation is set forth in Appendix B of this part. Because a contractor usually may not seek advice from a special disabled veteran regarding placement and accommodation until after a job offer has been extended, the invitation set forth in Appendix B of this part contains instructions regarding modifications to be made if it is used at the pre-offer stage.)

(d) If an applicant so identifies himself or herself as a special disabled veteran, the contractor should also seek the advice of the applicant regarding proper placement and appropriate accommodation, after a job offer has been extended. The contractor also may make such inquiries to the extent they are consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), 42 U.S.C. 12101, (e.g., in the context of asking applicants to describe or demonstrate how they would perform the job). The contractor shall maintain a separate file in accordance with §60-250.23(d) on persons who have self-identified as special disabled veterans.

(e) The contractor shall keep all information on self identification confidential. The contractor shall provide the information to OFCCP upon request. This information may be used only in accordance with this part.

(f) Nothing in this section shall relieve the contractor of its obligation to take affirmative action with respect to those applicants or employees who are known to the contractor to be special disabled veterans or veterans of the Vietnam era.

(g) Nothing in this section shall relieve the contractor from liability for discrimination under the Act.

§ 60-250.43 Affirmative action policy.

Under the affirmative action obligations imposed by the Act contractors shall not discriminate because of sta-

tus as a special disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era and shall take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified special disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam era at all levels of employment, including the executive level. Such action shall apply to all employment activities set forth in §60-250.20.

§ 60-250.44 Required contents of affirmative action programs.

Acceptable affirmative action programs shall contain, but not necessarily be limited to, the following ingredients:

(a) *Policy statement.* The contractor shall include an equal opportunity policy statement in its affirmative action program, and shall post the policy statement on company bulletin boards. The contractor must ensure that applicants and employees who are special disabled veterans are informed of the contents of the policy statement (for example, the contractor may have the statement read to a visually disabled individual, or may lower the posted notice so that it may be read by a person in a wheelchair). The policy statement should indicate the chief executive officer's attitude on the subject matter, provide for an audit and reporting system (see paragraph (h) of this section) and assign overall responsibility for the implementation of affirmative action activities required under this part (see paragraph (i) of this section). Additionally, the policy should state, among other things, that the contractor will: recruit, hire, train and promote persons in all job titles, and ensure that all other personnel actions are administered, without regard to special disabled veteran or Vietnam era veteran status; and ensure that all employment decisions are based only on valid job requirements. The policy shall state that employees and applicants shall not be subjected to harassment, intimidation, threats, coercion or discrimination because they have engaged in or may engage in any of the following activities:

- (1) Filing a complaint;
- (2) Assisting or participating in an investigation, compliance evaluation, hearing, or any other activity related