## PARTICIPATION IN MAJOR STATE VETERANS' PROGRAMS

The schedule below provides information regarding the number of North Dakota veterans participating in or receiving services and benefits from select major state veterans' programs.

		2015-17 Biennium		2017-19 Biennium	
		Fiscal	Fiscal	Fiscal	Fiscal
		Year	Year	Year	Year
Agency	Program	2016	2017	2018	2019
Department of Veterans' Affairs <sup>1,2</sup>	Hardship assistance grant program				
	Approved applications	185	167	96	109
	Denied applications	39	41	24	27
	Veterans' aid loan program				
	Approved applications	20	21	18	18
	Denied applications	23	24	14	14
	Stand down events <sup>3</sup>	354			
	Agent Orange program <sup>4</sup>	550	550		
	Posttraumatic stress disorder service dogs	2	2	2	2
	Nonhighly rural transport van program <sup>5</sup>				
	Transportation trips	930	930	882	882
	Veterans served	469	469	441	441
	Highly rural transportation grant program <sup>6</sup>	4 750	4 750	0.000	0.000
	Transportation trips	1,750	1,750	2,986	2,986
	Veterans served	759	759	1,120	1,120
Veterans' Home <sup>7</sup>	Skilled care bed census	52	52	52	50
	Basic care bed census	78	61	59	59
Adjutant General - National Guard <sup>8,9</sup>	National Guard state tuition program	823	909	862	969
North Dakota University System	University System tuition waivers	89	104	100	N/A
	Veterans' assistance grant program	70	92	73	171
Tax Commissioner <sup>10</sup>	Disabled veterans' property tax credit	3,111	3,329	3,571	4,017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Certain biennium data provided by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (NDVA) is presented as an average for each fiscal year of the biennium.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>During the 2017-19 biennium NDVA processed 3,915 United States Department of Veterans Affairs claims, had 3,039 office visits, and conducted 65 outreach events. The department's claim management system did not compile this information prior to the 2017-19 biennium. See <a href="Appendix A">Appendix A</a> for additional grant information provided by NDVA for the 2015-17 and 2017-19 bienniums.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>The Department of Veterans' Affairs provided additional information regarding stand down events conducted in Bismarck (<u>Appendix B</u>) and Minot (<u>Appendix C</u>) during fiscal year 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>The 2015 Legislative Assembly appropriated \$50,000 from the general fund to NDVA for grants to assist in the identification and the provision of services to North Dakota veterans who had been exposed to Agent Orange. The department did not request funding for the program for the 2017-19 biennium.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>The nonhighly rural transport van program provides transportation to veterans to medical appointments at the Veterans' Hospital in Fargo.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>The highly rural transportation grant program is a federal program that provides funding to purchase transport vans and to provide transportation to medical appointments for veterans of highly rural counties. The primary use of the vans must be for medical reasons, although vans are generally allowed to transport veterans to other locations, such as grocery stores, as long as the additional stop is reasonable and does not require an unreasonable amount of time. The department pays for all maintenance, gas, insurance, and other costs associated with the transport vans using federal funds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Veterans' Home skilled care and basic care bed census data is as of June 30<sup>th</sup> of each fiscal year. The Veterans' Home skilled capacity is 52 beds and basic care capacity is 98 beds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>In addition, the Adjutant General's office administers a military outreach program that provides information and benefits to veterans, including National Guard members. Since fiscal year 2016, the program has provided resources, information, and support to 11,358 veterans, including 498 National Guard members.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>In addition, since fiscal year 2016, the North Dakota National Guard has made 284 adjusted compensation payments to Army National Guard soldiers. During the same time period, the North Dakota National Guard has made 223 adjusted compensation payments to Air National Guard soldiers, of which 66 payments were for overseas missions and 157 payments were for non-overseas missions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>Data for the disabled veterans' property tax credit represents the number of individuals who received the credit during the current calendar year for the previous tax year. Data for calendar year 2019 is through August 2019.