



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Veterans Services

Steven J. Combs
Acting Commissioner

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December 4, 2019

The Honorable Carlos Hopkins
Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs
1000 Bank St, 3rd Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

The Honorable S. Chris Jones
Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
900 East Main St, 13th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

The Honorable Emmett Hanger
Co-Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
900 East Main St, 14th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

The Honorable Thomas K. Norment
Co-Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
900 East Main St, 14th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Delivered via electronic mail

Re: Annual report on the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Employment Grant

Dear Secretary Hopkins, Delegate Jones, Senator Hanger, and Senator Norment:

The Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program creates employment opportunities for Virginia veterans by educating and training employers to implement nationally recognized best practices in recruiting, hiring, and retaining veterans. Over 1,000 private and public sector employers participate in the V3 Program, and over 55,000 veterans have been hired by V3 partners to date.

The V3 Employment Grant Program was created to incentive small to medium-sized V3 partners to hire and retain veterans. \$500,000 per fiscal year is set aside in the Appropriation Act to support the grant program.

Per Chapter 854, 2019 Acts of Assembly, Item 466 A.2:

“Such funds shall be used to provide grants beginning July 1, 2015 to any business located in Virginia with 300 or fewer employees which has hired a veteran on or after July 1, 2014, with the following additional requirements: (a) each such veteran shall have been hired within five years of the date of his or her discharge from active military service and (b) each such veteran shall have been continuously employed by the business in a full-time job for at least one year. The grant shall equal

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\$1,000 per qualifying business for each veteran who has been hired, and who qualifies under the provisions of this item, up to a maximum grant of \$10,000 per business in the fiscal year.”

Chapter 854, 2019 Acts of Assembly, Item 466 A.4, directs the Department of Veterans Services to report:

“...on the demand for the program [Virginia Values Veterans – V3], and any shortage of funding resulting from requests in excess of the available appropriation.”

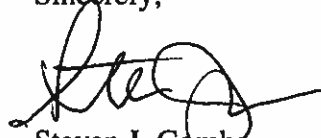
The table below details the number of applications received, the number of grants awarded, and the total amount of grant funds disbursed in Fiscal Years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Fiscal Year	2017	2018	2019
Number of applications received	92	86	104
Number of grants awarded	85	70	92
Amount of grant funds disbursed	\$85,000	\$70,000	\$92,000

To date, there have been no shortfalls in funding resulting from requests in excess of the available appropriation.

Please let me know if we may provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Steven J. Combs
Acting Commissioner

Cc: Mrs. Annie Walker, Deputy Commissioner, DVS
Mr. Ross Koenig, V3 Program Manager, DVS
Mr. David Reynolds, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, House Appropriation Committee
Ms. Caitlin Kilpatrick, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, Senate Finance Committee
Ms. Renae Vanderveldt, Budget Analyst, Department of Planning & Budget
Mr. Michael Dick, Chairman, Board of Veterans Services
Mr. Frank Wickersham III, Chairman, Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations