



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## *Department of Veterans Services*

Daniel M. Gade, PhD  
Commissioner

Telephone: (804) 786-0220  
Fax: (804) 786-0302

October 1, 2023

The Honorable Glenn Youngkin  
Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia

The Honorable Craig Crenshaw  
Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs

The Honorable Barry Knight  
Chair, House Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Janet Howell  
Co-Chair, Senate Finance and  
Appropriations Committee

The Honorable George Barker  
Co-Chair, Senate Finance and  
Appropriations Committee

### ***Delivered via electronic mail***

Re: 2023 Annual Report on the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Employment Grant Program

Dear Governor Youngkin, Secretary Crenshaw, Delegate Knight, Senator Howell, and Senator Barker:

The Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) creates employment opportunities for Virginia's veterans by educating and training employers to implement nationally-recognized best practices in recruiting, hiring, and retaining veterans. Over 3,000 private and public sector employers participate in the V3 Program, and V3 partners have hired more than 125,000 veterans to date.

The V3 Employment Grant Program was created to incentivize small to medium-sized V3 partners to hire and retain veterans. A V3 Certified employer with 300 or fewer employees can earn \$1,000 per Veteran hired and retained for one year, up to \$10,000 annually per company.

\$100,000 from the General Fund was appropriated in Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) to support the grant program. An annual report on the V3 Grant Program is mandated by Chapter 2, 2022 Acts of Assembly Special Session I, Item 470A.4.

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In FY23, the V3 Employment Grant Program awarded \$108,000 to small and medium sized V3 Certified Employers; the remaining \$8,000 to cover 8 additional grants came from unspent salary due to staff turnover.

The table below details the number of applications approved, the number of grants awarded, and the total amount of grant funds disbursed in Fiscal Years 2019-2023.

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Number of new applications approved</b>	92	85	117	75	108
<b>Number of grants awarded</b>	92	85	100	75	108
<b>Number of approved grants that could not be awarded in current FY</b>	0	0	17	0	0
<b>Available funding</b>	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
<b>Amount of grant funds disbursed</b>	\$92,000	\$85,000	\$100,000	\$92,000*	\$108,000
<b>Unspent amount</b>	\$8,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$8,000	\$0

\* Includes 17 grants (\$17,000) from prior FY.

Future initiatives to improve the V3 program are pending, but include integration into the Gold Standard Digital Hub project, including a searchable database to link job seekers with employers.

Please let me know if we may provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Daniel Gade, PhD.