# STATE OF MICHIGAN

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency
Fiscal Year 2026 Statewide Veteran Service Provision Grant
Notice of Funding Availability

### **AWARD INFORMATION**

Funding Mechanism: Grant

**Anticipated Total Available Funding:** up to \$4,041,500

Length of Grant: 1 year

Anticipated Start Date: October 1, 2025

Cost Sharing/Match Required: No

## **PURPOSE**

To aid congressionally chartered veterans service organizations, or a coalition of those organizations, in their efforts to assist the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) in achieving its veteran service provision goals and performance objectives to enhance the connection between veterans, eligible dependents, survivors, and the federal veteran benefits they may not have accessed previously.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

Eligible grant recipients are those organizations that either are recognized by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA), Office of General Council, hold a congressional charter, and can employ state accredited Veteran Service Officers, to prepare, present, and prosecute claims under the laws administered by the Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA). Eligibility is subject to legislative changes and is to be in accordance with the enacted Appropriations Bill for the grant period covered by this announcement.

Successful Grantees must have the capability and capacity for initiating and managing veteran applications throughout the entire lifecycle of the claim process, to include selection as an applicant's representative/Power of Attorney at the time of preparation. Grantees must prepare benefit applications and gather evidence to support the applications. The application process includes preparation and submission of applicable USDVA forms for the benefit(s) being sought, gathering evidence to validate both qualifying periods of service and character of discharge requirements, and required medical evidence confirming diagnosis and chronicity of the disability being sought. The Grantee must also be capable of managing an application throughout the entire lifecycle of a claim to include an appeal process and complete the following reporting requirements.

#### DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- Submit invoice monthly for reimbursement of actual costs including salary, fringes, training, and administrative costs.
- Report monthly all other supporting activities (i.e., special populations, file reviews, personal interviews, etc.)
- Report monthly the total number of applications for all federal veterans benefits through the USDVA.
- Report monthly the number of unique service-connected disability compensation claims submitted.
- Report monthly the number of healthcare enrollments submitted.
- Report monthly the number of all other claims submitted.
- Report weekly on email addresses collected for customer service surveys.
- Per Public Act 166 Section 407(1)(d)(ii), submit the number and type of claims originated by an organization other than the Grantee and submitted by the Grantee to the USDVA.
- For Veteran Service Organization Grantees only, Public Act 166 will require the Veteran Service
  Organizations to not only report claims received from a county, but to account for claims received
  from a county that were transitioned to a Veteran Service Organization and subsequently
  submitted to the USDVA by that organization.
- Submit daily time trackers for all grant funded personnel, including Directors.

#### **TIMELINE**

Interested applicants must complete and send a Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI) to <u>MVAAGrants@michigan.gov</u> no later than **5pm EST**, **April 18**, **2025**. The grant guidance and application will be made available to those who submitted an LOI on **April 21**, **2025**.