

# Veterans Report to the Legislature

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities  
February 15, 2016



**Minnesota**  
STATE COLLEGES  
& UNIVERSITIES

The 2013 Legislature adopted the following language which can be found in 2013 Minn. Laws Chap. 99 Art. 2 Sec. 23 Subd. 2a (b):

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities must adopt a policy recognizing for applicants who are veterans, the applicant’s veteran status as a positive factor in determining whether to grant admission to a graduate or professional academic degree program. The Board of Trustees must report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over higher education policy and finance annually by February 15 on the number of veterans who apply for a graduate or professional academic degree program and the number accepted.

The vast majority of veterans that apply for admission to graduate programs at the state universities are accepted. There were 97 veteran applicants to graduate programs in fiscal year 2014 and 83 were accepted, as shown in Table 1 below. The number of veteran applicants increased to 130 in fiscal year 2015 and 111 were accepted.

<b>Table 1: Veteran Applicants to Graduate Programs</b>				
<b>Minnesota State Universities</b>				
<b>Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015</b>				
	<b>Fiscal Year 2014</b>		<b>Fiscal Year 2015</b>	
<b>University</b>	<b>Applicants</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<b>Applicants</b>	<b>Accepted</b>
Bemidji State University	4	4	17	16
Metropolitan State University	26	20	28	19
Minnesota State University Moorhead	7	6	17	11
Minnesota State University, Mankato	29	29	36	35
Southwest Minnesota State University	6	5	3	3
St. Cloud State University	18	12	14	14
Winona State University	7	7	15	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>111</b>

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities served over 10,500 veterans through instructional programs, veteran-friendly policies and support services during fiscal year 2015. This number represents a 53 percent increase from the 6,900 veterans that were served in fiscal year 2008. We provide veteran-oriented and service member-oriented information, interactive military-to-college tools, access to military-friendly services and help. Access to veteran and service member resources is made possible by partnerships between Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Higher Education Veterans Program, the Minnesota Army National Guard, other branches of the armed services and state and federal agencies.

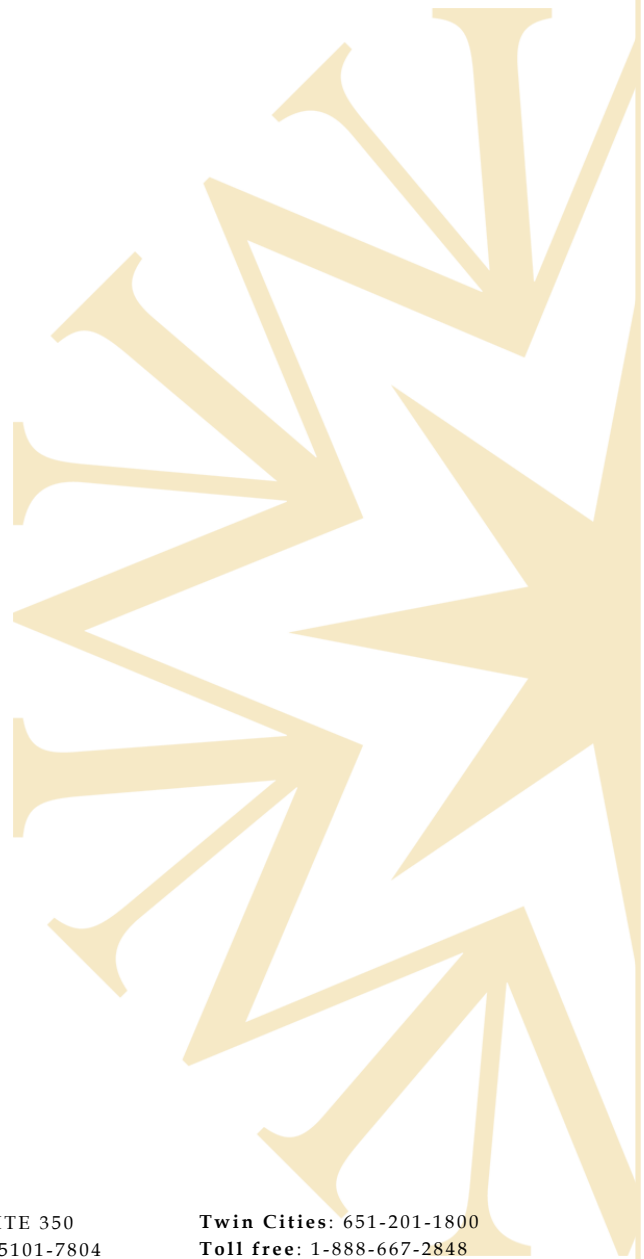
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities is a corporate member of the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Initiative. Each of the state colleges and universities is also a member of the Servicemember Opportunity College consortium and offers a wealth of campus-specific resources to veterans and service members. We have achieved national recognition for our innovative Veterans Education Transfer System. Governor Dayton has awarded the system with Yellow Ribbon business status.



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