



MINNESOTA STATE

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February 9, 2017

Legislative Reference Library
645 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Sir or Madam,

Enclosed please find (2) two hard copies of a report required by Minnesota Statutes 197.775 concerning graduate and professional academic degree programs offered by the Minnesota State for which veterans status is recognized for applicants. Copies of this report, Veterans Report to the Legislature, were delivered to Senator Michelle Fischbach, Chair of the Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee and Representative Bud Nornes, Chair of the House Higher Education & Career Readiness Policy and Finance Committee.

Please contact me, craig.schoenecker@so.mnscu.edu, if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Craig Schoenecker
Senior System Director for Research

c: Ron Anderson, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
Jaime Simonsen, Managing Director of Government Relations



February 15, 2017

Academic and Student Affairs

VETERANS REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Minnesota State

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 majority of veterans that apply for admission to graduate programs at the state universities are accepted. There were 163 completed veteran applications to graduate programs in fiscal year 2016 and 154 were accepted, as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Veteran Applicants to Graduate Programs		
	Fiscal Year 2016	
University	Applicants	Accepted
Bemidji State University	22	22
Metropolitan State University	33	31
Minnesota State University Moorhead	20	17
Minnesota State University, Mankato	33	30
Southwest Minnesota State University	4	4
St. Cloud State University	31	30
Winona State University	20	20
Total	163	154

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (Minnesota State) served over 10,000 veterans through instructional programs, veteran-friendly policies and support services during fiscal year 2016. This number represents a 45 percent increase from the 6,900 veterans that were served in fiscal year 2008. Minnesota State provides veteran-oriented and service member-oriented information, interactive military-to-college tools, access to military-friendly services and help. These resources are made possible by partnerships between Minnesota State 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 is a corporate member of the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Initiative. Each of the state colleges and universities is also a member of the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges consortium and offers a wealth of campus-specific resources to veterans and service members.