

Scott Walker, Governor

John A. Scocos, Secretary

James Bond, Administrator



**STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Division of Veterans Benefits**

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July 15, 2016

WDVA Bulletin No. 1050

TO: Tribal Veterans Service Offices

SUBJECT: WDVA 2017 American Indian Veterans' Service Grant

In accordance with the newly revised Wis. Stats. s. 45.82(4) and Wisconsin Administrative Code Section VA 15, the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) announces the 2017 American Indian Veterans' Service (AIVS) Grant for improvement of services to tribal veterans, on strictly a reimbursable basis. The WDVA shall twice yearly reimburse grant recipients for documented expenses, subject to the statutory annual reimbursement limit, not to exceed \$15,000.00.

To apply for a grant, pending the promulgation of Administrative Rules, the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands shall do the following:

1. File a grant application (WDVA 0056B) with WDVA for the current fiscal year (7/1/16 – 6/30/17) and submit to WDVA no later than Thursday, September 15, 2016.
2. File a Grant Agreement (WDVA 0056C) with the WDVA for the current fiscal year (7/1/16 – 6/30/17). The grant agreement must have your tribe's name inserted in the four appropriate places and be signed by a Tribal Government official and your Tribal Veterans Service Officer.
3. File a federal benefits service delivery report (WDVA 0056D) with WDVA for the preceding fiscal year (7/1/15 – 6/30/16), not "calendar" year as requested in previous years.
4. The grant application must include a statement in the application cover letter which addresses the respective tribe's success in meeting the previous years' (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) goals and objectives as well as including their goals and objectives for the current fiscal year (7/1/16 – 6/30/17).

The application packet for the 2017 County Veterans' Service Grants is attached and will soon be available online at <http://dva.state.wi.us/Pages/newsMedia/WDVAToolKit.aspx>

Completed application materials referenced above shall be mailed or faxed to the address/fax no. listed above, no later than **Thursday, September 15, 2016**. Indicate in transmittal envelope or cover sheet that it is the **2017 AIVS Grant**. Applications may also be scanned and emailed to VetsBenefitsGrants@dva.wisconsin.gov. Please use "**2017 AIVS Grant**" in the subject line.

In those cases where a federally recognized tribe or band also has status as a county, the governing body of the tribe or band may apply for an AIVS grant or for a county veterans' service grant under Wisconsin Administrative Code VA 8, but is not eligible for a grant under both programs.

With the passage of 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, as referenced above, the WDVA shall provide AIVS grants on a reimbursable basis, to the governing bodies of federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands (hereafter referred to as Tribe). Only the following expense [categories] are eligible for reimbursement this application period:

1. Information technology
2. Transportation for veterans and service to veterans with barriers
3. Special outreach to veterans
4. Training and services provided by the department and the federal department of veterans affairs
5. Salary and fringe benefit expenses incurred in 2017, except that total reimbursement for such expenses shall not exceed 25 percent of the applicable maximum grant.

To request reimbursement for documented expenses, a Tribe must use the attached template and submit to WDVA as follows:

1st Reimbursement Grant Period: Must be provided to WDVA by January 15, 2017 for documented expenses incurred July 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016.

2nd Reimbursement Grant Period: Must be provided to WDVA by June 15, 2017 for documented expenses incurred January 1, 2017 – June 15, 2017.

For questions regarding the **2016** AIVS Grant, please call 1-800-WIS-VETS (947-8387) and ask to speak with Chad McCafferty, or submit an email to *VetsBenefitsGrants@dva.wisconsin.gov*

**CERTIFICATION OF REIMBURSABLE GRANT EXPENDITURES
PURSUANT TO WIS. STAT. § 45.82**

TO: Department of Veteran Affairs
State of Wisconsin

The undersigned, a duly authorized representative of *[NAME]* County/Tribe hereby certifies that *[NAME]* County/Tribe has expended the sum of \$_____ in one or more of the following categories for the improvement of services for former military personnel of the County:

- (a) Information technology;
- (b) Transportation for veterans and service to veterans with barriers;
- (c) Special outreach to veterans;
- (d) Training and services provided by the department and the federal department of veterans affairs; and/or
- (e) Salary and fringe benefit expenses incurred in 2015; salary and fringe benefit expenses incurred in 2016, except that total reimbursement for such expenses shall not exceed 50 percent of the applicable maximum grant under sub. (2) or (4); and salary and fringe benefit expenses incurred in 2017, except that total reimbursement for such expenses shall not exceed 25 percent of the applicable maximum grant under sub. (2) or (4).

By virtue of this Certification, *[NAME]* County/Tribe respectfully requests that the Department of Veteran Affairs of the State of Wisconsin reimburse *[NAME]* County/Tribe the amounts indicated above in compliance with and pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 45.82.

By: _____

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____