Mr. John B. King, Jr.
Secretary of Education
White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Fourth Floor
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Mr. King:

Enclosed is the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) fiscal year (FY) 2015 Annual Agency Report on the Actions to Assist Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) under Executive Orders 13532, 13592, 13555, 13515, and 13621. The enclosed report reflects VA's continuing support for the White House Initiatives' objectives.

During FY 2015, VA funded a total of $185,480,870.90 in Legislative Funds and $152,859,239.16 in Discretionary Funds to MSIs. The amounts represent educational benefits made to VA eligible beneficiaries enrolled in MSIs, financial support of MSI students who elected to train at VA facilities and funds awarded to third-party diversity internship programs that recruited from MSIs.

VA will continue to encourage expansion of affiliation efforts with MSIs, and will continue to publicize the positive long-term educational and professional benefits of VA training programs for MSIs students.

VA will also explore implementing other efforts to further support Executive Orders by increasing participation of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Asian American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions and Predominantly Black Institutions in VA-sponsored programs.

Questions regarding this submission may be directed to Ms. Georgia Coffey, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Diversity and Inclusion, at (202) 461-4131.

Sincerely,

Meghan Flanz
Acting

Enclosure
Fiscal Year 2015

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
ANNUAL AGENCY PERFORMANCE REPORT
ON ACTIONS TO ASSIST
MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS

In response to

The White House Initiatives on
Historically Black Colleges and Universities (Executive Order 13532)
American Indian and Alaska Native Education (Executive Order 13592)
Educational Excellence for Hispanics (Executive Order 13555)
Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (Executive Order 13515) and
Educational Excellence for African Americans (Executive Order 13621)
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Section D: Tables of FY 2015 Federal Agency Awards, by Institution and by Program Category (Separate reports)

Section E: FY 2015 Awards Narrative (Separate reports)

Part II: Definitions of Terms

Part III: Presidential Executive Order - HBCU 13532
Presidential Executive Order - AIANE 13592
Presidential Executive Order - EEH 13555
Presidential Executive Order - AAPI 13515
Presidential Executive Order - EEAA 13621
Part I

Agency Performance Report on Department of Veterans Affairs
Actions to Assist
Minority Serving Institution (MSIs)

Section A: Executive Summary

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proud to continue support for Executive Orders 13532, 13592, 13555, 13621 and 13515 to increase participation of Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Predominately Black Institutions (PBIs), and Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs) in VA-sponsored programs and initiatives, specifically with regards to student training programs, Veteran educational benefits, and recruiting HBCU, TCU, HSI, PBI and AANAPISI students for VA career and internship opportunities.

As the second largest Cabinet level agency, VA employs 361,946 (permanent and temporary) individuals and provides health care, benefits, and memorial services to approximately 21.8 million Veterans, as of September 30, 2015. VA provides these services through three major organizational subcomponents: the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), through a system of 21 Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs) with 152 medical centers, 971 outpatient clinics, 133 community living centers, 98 domiciliary rehabilitation home-care programs, and 299 readjustment counseling centers; the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), through four areas with 57 regional offices managing compensation and pension, education home loans, vocational rehabilitation, and life insurance programs; and the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), consisting of 131 cemeteries offering burials, headstones and markers, burial flags, and Presidential Memorial Certificates to Veterans and their families. The VA Central Office (VACO) is the National headquarters office comprised of 12 Staff Organizations and 7 Staff Offices, reporting to the Secretary of VA.

Each Administration and VACO implemented programs designed to increase the participation of MSIs in VA-sponsored programs and initiatives, as indicated below for fiscal year (FY) 2015.

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) VHA has maintained affiliations with many of the Nation’s medical schools since 1946. Currently, VHA facilities host trainees from 170 medical schools. Additionally, VHA has educational affiliations with over 1,800 health professional schools providing educational programs in over 40 health professions. VHA welcomes trainees from accredited health profession educational programs at MSI colleges and universities. The following offices within VHA established goals and objectives in the areas of training opportunities and career outreach to include:
Office of Academic Affiliations

The Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA) provides oversight for VHA's Health Professions Training Program that provides clinical training experiences to students from institutions of higher education (IHEs), including MSIs. VHA's MSI affiliations include programs in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and other health disciplines. The VHA Health Professions Training Program is not legislatively authorized to provide awards or direct grants to colleges or universities; however, it provides direct and indirect support to VA facilities for students receiving training in VHA. Direct support includes funding used to support the salary and fringe benefits paid to physician residents and graduate level associated health trainees. Indirect educational support is provided to VA medical centers (VAMCs) for VA staff members who serve as instructors to trainees, as well as other administrative costs associated with running clinical training programs. Although the majority of the MSI students participate without compensation on an unpaid basis, the VAMCs in which they train receive indirect support associated with their training.

During FY 2015, OAA reported an overall increase in MSI awards of 85 percent or $68.565 million dollars over 2014 reported levels; this represents 8.74 percent of all VA direct and indirect training expenditures to IHEs.

It should be noted that the funding provided by OAA goes to the VAMCs affiliated with MSI designated institutions who have students coming to VA from an MSI. The funds do not go directly to the MSI rather they support the cost to the VAMC for hosting clinical education programs that benefit both MSI and non-MSI students.

Healthcare Recruitment & Marketing

The Healthcare Recruitment & Marketing Office (HRMO) uses tested best practices to strategically plan for and fill anticipated openings through targeted recruiting, in-house recruiter training, and promoting, through its two interconnected units: The Recruitment Marketing and Advertising (RMA) and the National Recruitment Program (NRP). The HRM Office actively sought to increase awareness of career opportunities through our "Take a Closer Look Campaign" designed to attract the many interns and residents of MSIs and publicize the positive long-term professional benefits or VA’s recruitment. HRM’s recruitment advertising initiatives reached to diverse students populations, including multiple targeted campaigns to HBCUs, HSIs, Native American career sites, and Asian American career Web sites. However, our ability to receive approval to attend conferences was very limited at the beginning of the FY due to the government shutdown and an executive decision that limited travel unless it was mission critical.

During FY 2015, the VHA HRMO sponsored and/or participated in the following recruiting/marketing events focused on MSIs and students at those institutions, including an After College event consisting of a $13,709 recruiting and marketing campaign with an e-Blast to the top 75 HBCU and Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) schools.
The campaign included 12 months of unlimited job posting; and a HBCU event with 12 months of job postings, other products for the event include and e-Blast, a e-Newsletter and banners for three months.

**Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)** The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) implements objectives in accordance with Executive Orders 13532, 13592, 13555, 13621, and 13515. In addition, VBA’s goals comply with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Management Directive (MD)-715, Element 1: demonstrated commitment by the agency, as it pertains to special emphasis programs. The plan also supports the Secretary’s 12 Breakthrough Priorities by improving and delivering a unified Veterans experience. The Department of Veterans Affairs Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan FY 2012-2016 focuses externally on facilitating outstanding, culturally competent public service and stakeholder relations through effective leadership and accountability. The plan also supports the Human Resources & Administration FY 2014-2020 Strategic Goals to cultivate and sustain a culture of performance excellence that embodies VA values and supports its customers.

VBA focused on informing Veterans, eligible dependents, and Service members about educational benefits that they are entitled to receive. This effort was executed through the sponsorship of targeted outreach events such as briefings, presentations, and Veteran town hall sessions. Goals and measurable objectives were not established for FY 2015. However, VBA is working on improvements for FY 2016. VBA executed focused outreach initiatives in underserved communities, in order to increase outreach to minority-serving populations. In FY 2015, VBA partnered with and attended national conferences to include the National Association of Black Veterans and the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). VBA also worked to strengthen and foster relationships within the communities in which it serves. Additionally, VBA’s Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program increased awareness of VBA educational benefits.

**Native American/Indigenous Groups:** VBA representatives partnered with the Office of Tribal Governmental Affairs. Marketing strategies were revised to address inclusiveness and culturally accepted levels of respect and dignity.

**National Cemetery Administration (NCA)** In FY 2015, NCA sponsored nine interns through the National Diversity Internship Program (NDIP) and two interns from the Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP). These programs provided opportunities for undergraduates and graduate students from diverse cultural backgrounds to gain real-world insights and exposure to actual work life, resulting in an experiential foundation for their career choices and an opportunity to build valuable business networks. All students were funded through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) centralized funding.

Also, during FY 2015, interns assisted in the launch of the Dignity and Respect Campaign. The interns held meetings with the EEO staff to provide creative ideas and feedback of how to market, engage employees and have them sign a commitment to endorse the goals of the campaign. The campaign was well received by those who participated.
NCA recognizes that internships are an integral part of the organization and are in line with the strategic plans that support productivity, revenue and staffing goals. Students serve as a valuable resource for the organization to effectively bridge the gap imposed by the requirements of changing employment needs and fill immediate assess potential candidates and to develop further the intern’s technical competence for future employment opportunities. Students can provide professional or paraprofessional staff support for short or long-term projects where it would not be advantageous to divert other qualified employees from their specialized areas. The NDIP program is a sound investment. The success of an organization depends on the people in it; NDIP students are creative, and highly motivated individuals. Through mutual commitment and joint achievement, the effort put in by the organization will reap positive benefits and serve as an investment for the future.

**Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO)** The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the President of HACU signed a renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU provides the cooperative framework for both parties to develop initiatives and perform outreach to increase employment and educational opportunities in VA for students of Hispanic-Serving Institutions, other HACU member institutions, and Veterans.

VA fully executed the Student Outreach and Retention (SOAR) program during FY 2015, establishing an MOU with Valencia College (VC), located in Orlando Florida, which has a high number of Hispanic and Veteran students. Through implementation of this MOU, ODI staff developed bilingual marketing material to promote SOAR for future use at VC events and conducted targeted recruitment outreach at the college’s Spring 2015 Job Fair. In addition, VA provided VC’s Internship and Workforce Services Staff a demonstration on MyCareer@VA, VA’s premier career development resource tool.

VA continues to pursue additional educational institutions to participate in the SOAR program, meeting criteria to ensure diverse participants in occupations relevant to VA job opportunities. VA utilizes the WRP which connects Federal employers with college students and recent graduates with disabilities, and ultimately converted some to career-conditional. Overall, VA hired 19 students during the FY 2015 WRP cycle, and there were seven conversions for which WRP students have an opportunity to become career federal employees. Of all federal agencies participating in WRP, VA ranks number two with regards to WRP conversions, and provides a record number of mentors for this program.

VA continues to conduct targeted outreach to groups with less than expected participation rates, including Hispanics. ODI has partnered with the VHA field facilities, Center for Minority Veterans, and the Veterans Employment Service Office to conduct outreach to the Hispanic community. The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Diversity and Inclusion has served as a keynote speaker and executive coach at various national outreach and training/developmental events.

To build a diverse and inclusive workforce and market VA as an Employer of Choice to the Hispanic community, ODI participated in the following events: National Hispanic Medical Association Conference; LULAC Annual Convention and Exposition/Federal Training Institute (FTI); and the LULAC FTI Partnership. Regarding the aforementioned events, ODI officials
participated in workshops, hosted exhibit booths, and served as coaches for individuals aspiring towards becoming a senior executive. ODI staff continues to serve on the LULAC FTI committee.

VA’s National Hispanic Employment Program Manager conducted quarterly conference calls with HEPMs department-wide. These conference calls featured training on various topics, discussions of workforce demographics applicable to Hispanic employment, and dialogues on, promising effective practices.

Veterans Affairs Central Office (VACO) executes the National Diversity Internship Program to increase the participation of MSIs students. Through this initiative, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) administered a centralized fund to sponsor 70 of 131 NDIP students, including 49 interns from MSIs that were identified through third party vendors that recruit and refer students attending MSIs. The NDIP continues to be a prominent vehicle to increase student participation from MSIs. To strengthen its capacity to identify and recruit students from MSIs, in FY 2011 ODI established an Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract with seven third party vendors. Through this contract and centralized funding, VA has access to diverse, qualified applicants drawn from all segments of society, including Veterans who have served our country. Additionally, VA Administrations and Staff Offices have funded interns and continue to use the IDIQ contract vehicle. VA contracted third party organizations including the Hispanic Serving Health Professional Schools, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, Minority Access Inc., The Washington Center, Careers in Transition, Indtai Inc., and National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.

Section A: Legislative and Discretionary Awards Summary

FY 2015 Legislative Award goals and measurable objectives achieved: (See Section C Table)

Goal: Fund the education of eligible Veterans and their family members attending HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs, and AANAPISIs.

Outcome: The FY 2015 total amount awarded for legislative awards was $6,145,921,116.11. This amount funded the education of eligible Veterans and their family members attending MSIs, as specified below.

Student Tuition Assistance, Scholarships, Fellowships, and Other Aid: $185,480,870.35 – This represents educational assistance payments to Veterans eligible dependents, reservists and service members enrolled in MSIs; $132,577,911.71 – HSIs, $50,893,505.92 – HBCUs, and $2,009,453.26 – TCUs, and $0 – AANAPISIs.

Direct Institutional Subsidies: $9,889,274.00 – This represents reporting fees that were provided to MSIs to cover administrative costs for processing reports and certifications required by law. The total amount of reporting fees awarded varies from year to year at each at each
educational institutions and is based on the number of Veterans and eligible beneficiaries enrolled in the institutions; $376,314 – HSIs, $103,721 – HBCUs, and $4,050 TCUs.

**FY 2015 Discretionary Award goals and measurable objectives achieved:** (See Section C Table)

1. **Goal:** Sponsor recruitment exhibits at HBCU, TCU, HSI, and AANAPISI-focused national meetings, conventions, job fairs, and other recruitment forums to recruit HBCU, TCU, HSI, and AANAPISI students and promote VA as an employer of choice.

**Outcome:** During FY 2015, VA participated in several MSI-focused recruitment events. VA contributed significantly towards efforts in Healthcare Retention and Recruitment by encouraging facilities to expand affiliation efforts with MSIs, and to publicize the positive long-term professional benefits of VA’s recruitment of MSIs students.

- **HBCU-focused:** Blacks In Government, National Black Nurses Association, the American College of Healthcare Executives, the National Association of Colleges and Employers, The American Society of Health-System Pharmacist, and the National Student Nurses Association. These events targeted minority students and educational institutions. VA representatives provided information about VA’s mission, employment opportunities, benefits, and student/intern opportunities.

- **TCU-focused:** Society of American Indian Government Employees and American Indian Science & Engineering Society. These events offered students of sovereign American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian nations the opportunity to build leadership skills while living, studying, and interning in Washington, DC. Students participating in the Washington Internship for Native Students earned academic credits while taking additional course work that focused on Native American public policy concerns.

- **HSI-focused:** Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, HACU, Society of Mexican American Engineers & Scientists, Latinos for Hire, National Hispanic Medical Association, and National Association of Hispanic Nurses.

- **ANNAPISI-focused:** Federal Asian Pacific American Council, Asian American Government Executives Network, Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership, Organization of Chinese Americans, National Association of Asian American Professional and Asian Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund. These events targeted AAPI students and educational institutions.
2. **Goal:** Utilize Federal programs to increase opportunities for HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs, and AANAPISIs through the following programs: Employment Incentive Scholarship Program; VA National Education Employment Program; VA Learning Opportunities Residency; National Nursing Education Incentive Program; and the Education Debt Reduction Program.

**Outcomes:** The FY 2015 total amount awarded for MSIs under this goal was $152,346,847 ($13,517,756 – HBCUs, $41,921,990 – TCUs & AIANSIs, $52,376,908 – HSIs, $9,739,469 – PBIs, and $34,790,724 – AANAPISIs).

**Student Tuition Assistance, Scholarships, Fellowships, and other Aid:**
$2,306,503

**Training:**
$149,546,666 – Education is one of VA’s major missions. It contributes to the recruitment and retention of the highest quality workforce at VHA’s health care facilities. VA does not have authority to provide awards or grants to universities or their students; instead, it provides direct and indirect support to VHA facilities for students receiving training within VA facilities. Direct support includes and fringe benefits. Indirect support is the cost reported by VA Medical Centers for VHA instructors and other administrative costs associated with the training program. Most trainees (e.g., medical students, nursing students) do not receive compensation, whereas some upper level trainees (e.g., medical residents, pharmacy residents, nurse practitioner students) receive a stipend during their tenure at VHA. Therefore, the number of trainees receiving clinical training at VHA is a more important measure of support than VHA’s health professional training program expenditures.

The Office of Academic Affiliations has oversight for VHA’s health professions training programs, and provided clinical training experiences to students from institutions of higher learning, which includes MSIs. In FY 2015, VHA facilities hosted trainees from 170 medical schools. Additionally, VHA has educational affiliations with over 1,800 health professional schools, colleges and universities, including MSIs providing educational programs in over 40 health professions.

3. **Goal:** Leverage third party diversity-focused internship programs to identify and sponsor HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs, and AANAPISIs undergraduate and graduate students for entry-level intern positions.

**Outcomes:** **Third-Party awards: $1,771,066.43**

During FY 2015, VA leveraged third party diversity-focused internship programs that recruited and referred MSIs students for VA internships. The total amount awarded to MSIs through NDIP was $512,392.16. The disbursement of NDIP funds was $117,623.43 – HBCUs and $394,768.73 – HSIs. There were no internships provided to TCUs, AANAPISIs, or PBIs through NDIP.
Section B: **Summary of Select Agency Initiatives by Select Category**

The [Part I, Section B EXCEL spreadsheet](#) (attached) is provided for highlighting programs or initiatives projected in FY 2015 that were accomplished in FY 2015 by select categories. These categories are:

1. Grants
2. Contracts
3. Loans
4. Services
5. Technical Assistance

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### Summary of Agency Awards, by Select Category for FY 2015

**NOTE:** All input should be provided via the EXCEL spreadsheet included with this instruction packet.

1. AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs
2. DATE: April 21, 2016
3. TOTAL FUNDS FOR AWARDS TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (IHEs):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>FY 2015 Funds to IHEs</th>
<th>FY 2015 Funds</th>
<th>Funds as % of Funds to IHEs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HBCU</td>
<td>TCU &amp; AIANSI</td>
<td>HSI</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Contracts</td>
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<td>Services</td>
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<td>Technical Assistance</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* All funds allocated to American Indian and Alaska Native-Serving Institutions (AIANSLs) should be reported in the TCU & AIANSI category. Please provide separate narrative statements for TCU and AIANSI funding in your executive summary.

** All funds allocated to Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions (NHSIs) should be reported in the AANAPISI category. Please provide separate narrative statements for AANAPISIs and NHSIs funding in your executive summary.
Section C: Summary of Agency Awards, by Program Category

The Part I, Section C spreadsheet (attached) is provided for total funding, by category, which resulted from agency initiatives to strengthen MSIs. Categories reported on for 2015:

1. Research and Development
2. Training
3. Student Tuition Assistance, Scholarships, Fellowships, and Other Aid
4. Third-Party Awards

Veterans Health Administration (VHA)

VA Office Research and Development (VA ORD) The VA HBCU Research Scientist Training Program was created to increase the number of underrepresented minority scientists participating in VA research. The centerpiece of this program is an HBCU-focused career development award that supports early career scientists that are affiliated with HBCUs in collaboration with their local VA Medical Centers. The program currently funded two projects from Howard University. In FY 2015, $161,522 was spent on one project titled “A Biomarker Risk Prediction Model for Prostate Cancer.” There was $213,097.00 spent on the second project titled “Detection and Treatment of Sarcopenia and Myosteatosis in Older African-American Veterans.”

Other HBCU specific activities by VA ORD for MSIs included recruiting efforts of the Scientific Program Manager for Rehabilitation Research and Development Service who traveled to Atlanta, Georgia to meet with junior faculty from several HBCUs that were attending the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities Annual HBCU Student Success Summit. Faculty and senior administrative staff from the top 15 research-oriented HBCUs were in attendance, which allowed the Scientific Program Manager to share information about the VA ORD HBCU program with a large audience of eligible applicants in a single setting. In addition, information was later shared with Grambling and Louisiana State University officials about the VA ORD HBCU program, and their faculty and staff were educated regarding the general research funding mechanisms available through VA ORD.

Healthcare Talent Management The Healthcare Talent Management (HTM) Office provides funding and oversight for several employee scholarships and student internship programs. The Employee Incentive Scholarship Program (EISP) authorizes VA to award scholarships to employees pursuing degrees or training in health care occupations leading to appointments or retentions in certain Title 38 Hybrid and Title 38 health care positions. The National Nursing Education Initiative (NNEI) and the VA National Education for Employees Program (VANEEN) are policy-derived programs that stem from the legislative authority of EISP. The NNEI program is limited to funding registered nurses pursuing associate, baccalaureate, and other advanced degrees. VANEEN provides facilities with salary replacement funds allowing employees to attend school full-time.
These programs help alleviate the health care workforce shortages in VA by compelling scholarship recipients to complete a service commitment at a VA health care facility after graduation and/or licensure/certification. In FY 2015, HTM provided $2,306,503 in support of 139 employees attending 62 MSIs.

In FY 2015, the VHA HTM Office committed to nine Hispanic Serving Health Professions Schools interns and six Hispanic Association Colleges and University interns at a cost of $202,724. These VHA interns received work experiences at VHA Central Office and field facilities.
Section C: **Summary of Agency Awards, by Program Category, (Continued)**

Summary of Agency Awards, by Program Category for FY 2015
NOTE: All input should be provided via the EXCEL spreadsheet included with this instruction packet.

1. **AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs (Discretionary Funding)
2. **DATE:** April 21, 2015
3. **TOTAL FUNDS FOR AWARDS TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (IHEs):** $1,715,886,609.43

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>FY 2015 Funds to IHEs</th>
<th>FY 2015 Funds</th>
<th>Funds as % of Funds to IHEs</th>
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<td>Training</td>
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<td>Economic Development</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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</table>

NOTE: All input should be provided via the EXCEL spreadsheet included with this instruction packet.
* All funds allocated to American Indian and Alaska Native-Serving Institutions (AIANSIs) should be reported in the TCU & AIANSI category. Please provide separate narrative statements for TCU and AIANSI funding in your executive summary.

** All funds allocated to Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions (NHSIs) should be reported in the AANAPISI category. Please provide separate narrative statements for AANAPISIs and NHSIs funding in your executive summary.
Section C: Summary of Agency Awards, by Program Category, (Continued)

Summary of Agency Awards, by Program Category for FY 2015
NOTE: All input should be provided via the EXCEL spreadsheet included with this instruction packet.

1. AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs (Legislative Funding)

2. DATE: April 21, 2015

3. TOTAL FUNDS FOR AWARDS TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (IHEs): $6,145,921,116.11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
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<td>Direct Institutional Subsidies</td>
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<td>Third-Party Awards</td>
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<td>Economic Development</td>
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<td>$50,893, 505.92</td>
<td>$2,009, 453.26</td>
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</tbody>
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15
Section D: Tables of FY 2015 Federal Agency Awards, by Institution and by Program Category

The Part I, Section D spreadsheets (attached) are provided to obtain program category funding awarded to each MSI and the total award to each institution by program category.

Section E: FY 2015 Awards Narrative

Provide a narrative description of activities and programs that supported each of the 12 program categories identified in Part I, Section C. If there is a significant variance in the total, please include a brief statement.

VHA implemented the following programs/activities for increasing Federal opportunities for each MSI.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)

OAA funded $12,772,393 for training to support HBCUs in FY 2015, which represents a decrease of 3,732,777 from FY 2014.

The HTM Office provided $347,919 for student tuition assistance, scholarships, fellowships, other aid, and $22,825 third party awards.

VA ORD funded $374,619 for research and development at HBCUs in FY 2015.

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)/American Indian and Alaska Native Serving Institutions (AIANSIs)

OAA funded $41,601,805 for training to support TCUs/AIANSIs in FY 2015. This represents an increase of 41.5 million over FY 2014 levels.

The HTM Office provided $320,185 for student tuition assistance, scholarships, fellowships, other aid, and $0 in third party awards to TCUs/AIANSIs.
**Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs)**

OAA funded $51,016,017 for training to support HSIs in FY 2015 which represents a decrease of $4 million over FY 2014.

The HTM Office provided $1,303,997 for student tuition assistance, scholarships, fellowships, other aid, and $56,894 in third party awards to HSIs.

**Predominately Black Institutions (PBIs)**

OAA funded $9,641,200 for training to support PBIs in FY 2015 and this represents a 99.9 percent increase as only one PBI received funding support in FY 2014.

The HTM Office provided $74,013 for student tuition assistance, scholarships, fellowships, other aid, and $24,256 in third party awards to PBIs.

**Asian American Native American and Pacific Islander – Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs)**

OAA funded $34,515,251 for training to support AANAPISIs in FY 2015 representing an increase of 25.3 million dollars over FY 2014. This increase is due to a significantly increased number of IHE’s designated as being affiliated with VA clinical training programs.

The HTM Office provided $260,390 for student tuition assistance, scholarships, fellowships, other aid, and $15,083 in third party awards to AANAPISIs.

**Total funding of awards to MSIs during FY 2015**

OAA total awards to support MSIs in FY 2015 was $149,546,666.

ORD total awards to support MSIs in FY 2015 was $374,619.

HTM total awards to support MSIs in FY 2015 was $2,306,504.

VHA’s total awards to support MSIs in FY 2015 equaled $152,346,847

**The amount of increase in funding for MSIs during FY 2015 compared to funding for these institutions during FY 2014.**

**OAA Reports**

OAA reported the overall funding to MSIs increased by $68,565,800 from $80,978,708 in FY 2014 to $149,546,666 in FY 2015. PBIs by $9,641,200.11 from $0 in FY 2014 to $9,641,200.11 in FY 2015;
The amount of any decrease in funding for MSIs during FY 2015 compared to funding for FY 2014.

While there was no overall decrease of funding for MSI programs by the OAA, funding for HBCUs decreased by $3,732,777 from $16,505,170 in FY 2014 to $12,772,393 in FY 2015; funding decreased for HSIs by $4,161,893 from $55,177,910 in FY 2014 to $51,016,017. As explained, some of FY 2013 dollars where added into the FY 2014 report, making the amount larger than it actually was, contributing to the perceived dramatic decrease in funding for MSI's.

**Highlights of noteworthy accomplishments that resulted from these investments.**

Individuals receiving clinical training in VHA while studying for their degrees demonstrate an increased likelihood of seeking employment in VHA after graduation. For example, roughly 70 percent of current VA optometrists and psychologists and 60 percent of physicians participated in VA training programs prior to employment. VHA has also instituted a direct outreach to all graduating clinical trainees sharing opportunities for employment. These efforts are expected to increase minority recruitment into VHA staff positions in the future.

VBA's educational entitlements paid to Veterans, eligible dependents, Reservists, and Service members enrolled in all institutions of higher learning (IHL) totaled $6,145,921,116.11; of which $9,889,274.00 was paid for reporting fees. MSIs entitlements during FY 2015 totaled $185,480,870.35; of which, $484,085 was paid for reporting fees.

**Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)**

HBCUs received $50,893,505.92 (.83 percent of IHL entitlements); $103,721 was paid for reporting fees. A total of 16,843 students were enrolled in HBCUs during FY 2015.

**Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)**

HSIs received $132,577,911.71 (2.16 percent of IHL entitlements); $376,314 was paid for reporting fees. A total of 72,640 students were enrolled in HSIs during FY 2015.

**Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)**

TCUs received $2,009,453.26 (.03 percent of IHL entitlements); $4,050 was paid for reporting fees. A total of 752 students were enrolled in TCU's during FY 2015.

Please note: Entitlement breakouts for HBCUs, HSIs, and TCUs are provided by the Hines Center annually. Additional information has been requested to determine whether VBA pays entitlements for other MSIs for future reporting purposes.
The amount of increased funding for MSIs during FY 2015 compared to funding for these institutions during FY 2014.

There was an increase in funding for MSIs during FY 2015 as compared to funding for these institutions during 2014. The entitlements paid increased from $177,876,742 in FY 2014 to $185,964,955 in FY 2015. This represents a 4.5-percent increase, which is attributed to an increase in the number of Veterans and eligible dependents enrolled in MSIs during FY 2015.

In FY 2015, HSIs received $132,577,911.17 in entitlements, as compared to $125,795,762.42 received in FY 2014. This demonstrates a 5.39-percent increase. TCUs received $2,009,453.26 in FY 2015, which is a 12.74-percent increase from the $1,782,353.13 received in FY 2014.

Please note: no other increases in funding during the FY 2015 cycle were reported.

The amount of decreased funding for MSIs during FY 2015 compared to funding for these institutions during FY 2014.

Funding was not decreased in FY 2015 as compared to FY 2014. The total funding provided to MSIs increased from $5,203,127,199 in FY 2014 to $6,145,921,116 in FY 2015. This is an 18.12 percent increase.

Highlights of noteworthy accomplishments that resulted from these investments.

In FY 2015, VBA continued to provide educational benefit payments to eligible individuals enrolled in approved educational institutions and programs that contributed to the shaping of future leaders. VBA conducted 14,831 hours of transition briefs at targeted outreach events for minority populations, in order to inform Veterans of benefits and employment opportunities.

Table 1. FY 2015 Minority Veteran Outreach Events - Total Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Event</th>
<th>Sum of Total Hours</th>
<th>Sum of Veteran Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minority</td>
<td>13,776</td>
<td>209,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>1,055</td>
<td>6,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub Total</td>
<td>14,831</td>
<td>216,203</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Part II

Definitions of Terms

The following definitions apply for the purpose of reporting the FY 2015 Annual Federal Performance Report:

**Administrative Infrastructure:** The management and administrative framework of an institution of higher education.

**Agency:** All executive departments, establishments, and agencies of the federal government.

**American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN):** A member of an Indian tribe, as membership is defined by the tribe.

**American Indian and Alaska Native-Serving Institution (AIANSI):** Any institution of higher education in the United States or its territories that has an institutional enrollment of undergraduate AI/AN students that is at least 10 percent or no less than 300 enrolled AI/AN students and is not a Tribal College or University.

**Asian:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam. It includes people who indicate their race as “Asian Indian,” “Chinese,” “Filipino,” “Korean,” “Japanese,” “Vietnamese,” “Other Asian,” or who provide other detailed Asian responses.

**Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI):** An AANAPISI is an institution of higher education that has an enrollment of undergraduate students that is not less than 10 percent Asian American or Native American Pacific Islander students.

**Award:** Funds that an agency provides to an institution of higher education under a grant, contract, or other assistance.

**Contract:** A legal instrument reflecting a relationship between a federal agency and an institution of higher education where the principal purpose is to acquire (by purchase, lease, or barter) goods or services.

**Direct Institutional Subsidies:** Federal financial support to institutions of higher education for education and general expenses where the federal government either places no restrictions on the uses to which the funds may be put or where the federal government provides a broad range of allowable activities within which the institution has discretion to use the funds.

**Economic Development:** Awards provided to support creation of new businesses or jobs, or expand existing businesses in order to create new markets.
**Facilities and Equipment:** Structures, works, fixed equipment, major repairs, or alterations to: structures, works, fixed equipment, facilities, or land for use by an institution of higher education.

**Fellowships, Internships, Traineeships, Recruitment, and Arrangements under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPAs):** Cooperative education, student and faculty internships, visiting professorships, and personnel and student recruitment at institutions of higher education.

**Grant:** The method of transferring property, money, services, or anything of value to a recipient to accomplish a public purpose authorized by statute when the agency is not anticipated to be substantially involved in performing the activity.

**Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU):** The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, defines an HBCU as: "... any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary [of Education] to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation...."

**Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI):** An HSI is an institution of higher education that has an enrollment of undergraduate full-time equivalent students that is at least 25 percent Hispanic students.

**Indian Tribe:** An Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community that the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe pursuant to the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994, 25 U.S.C. 479a.

**Institution of Higher Education (IHE):** For the purposes of this survey, any postsecondary education institution in the United States or its territories that offers at least two years of college-level studies.

**Measurable Objectives:** Agency activities or support for MSIs that can be quantitatively measured in dollar amounts or in discrete, nonfinancial units of measure.

**Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands. It includes people who indicate their race as "Native Hawaiian," "Guamanian or Chamorro," "Samoan," "Other Pacific Islander," or who provide other detailed Pacific Islander responses.

**Native Hawaiian-Serving Institution (NHSI):** An NHSI is an IHE with an enrollment of undergraduate students that is at least 10 percent Native Hawaiian students.
Predominantly Black Institution (PBI): A PBI is an institution of higher education that—(A) has an enrollment of undergraduate students that is not less than 40 percent Black American students; (B) at which not less than 50 percent of the undergraduate students enrolled at the institution are low-income individuals or first-generation college students; and (C) at which not less than 50 percent of the undergraduate students are enrolled in an educational program leading to a bachelor's or associate's degree that the institution is licensed to award by the State in which the institution is located.

Program Evaluation: Actions to assess the effectiveness of institutional programs and activities, as well as the effectiveness of federal programs and activities. In many cases, program evaluation activities are conducted on a continuous basis and are frequently included as salaries or other budgetary expenses.

Research and Development (R&D): Studies, observations, and other activities concerned with the identification, description, experimental investigation, and theoretical explanation of social, physical, and behavioral phenomena. Implementation activities are also included in R&D.

Student Tuition Assistance, Scholarships, and Other Aid: Federal funds awarded to an institution of higher education for students or awarded directly to students for payment of such charges as tuition and room and board.

Technical Assistance: Direct help or services to institutions of higher education in key areas such as writing proposals, negotiating awards, and managing programs and finances.

Third-Party Awards: Organizations or entities that receive federal funds on behalf of historically black colleges or universities or tribal colleges and universities. Examples of such entities include the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO); American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC); Thurgood Marshall College Fund/United Negro College Fund (UNCF); National Laboratories, such as Los Alamos or Lawrence Livermore; and other foundations and associations.

Training: Using professional personnel (federal and nonfederal) to acquire or enhance knowledge or skills at an institution of higher education.

Tribal Colleges and Universities: Tribal Colleges and Universities are institutions that are chartered by their respective Indian tribes through the sovereign authority of the tribes or by the federal government, and defined in Section 316 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1059c) and those institutions cited in section 532 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note).
Part III
Presidential Executive Orders

- Executive Order 13532 of February 26, 2010 – Promoting Excellence, Innovation, and Sustainability at History Black Colleges and Universities

- Executive Order 13592 of December 2, 2011 – Improving American Indian and Alaska Native Educational Opportunities and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities

- Executive Order 13555 of October 19, 2010 – White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics (HSIs)

- Executive Order 13621 of July 26, 2012 – White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African American

- Executive Order 13515 of October 14, 2009 – Increasing Participation of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Federal Programs