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Office of the Auditor General

Report Summary

Performance Audit

*Michigan National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program (MiNGSTAP)
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA)*

Report Number:
511-0400-18

Released:
April 2019

Public Act 259 of 2014 created MiNGSTAP to provide tuition assistance to members of the Michigan National Guard. MiNGSTAP's objective includes bolstering military readiness by increasing recruitment and retention of the Michigan Army and Air National Guard members, improving the Michigan Army and Air National Guard's ability to compete for military recruits and federal dollars, and increasing the pool of eligible Michigan Army and Air National Guard members to become commissioned officers. For fiscal years 2016 and 2017 and from October 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, MiNGSTAP provided tuition assistance totaling \$3.2 million, \$5.6 million, and \$4.0 million to or on behalf of 679, 1,275, and 1,077 Michigan National Guard members, respectively.

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective: To assess the effectiveness of DMVA's administration of MiNGSTAP.			Moderately effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
DMVA did not verify that 61% of the 38 students that we reviewed, who had completed their courses, met the grade point average requirement. Also, for the 43 students that we reviewed, no verification occurred to ensure that the assistance did not exceed their total tuition (<u>Finding #1</u>).		X	Agrees
DMVA had not evaluated program effectiveness, leaving management and the Legislature without complete information to make decisions regarding the strategic direction of MiNGSTAP (<u>Finding #2</u>).		X	Agrees

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Office of the Auditor General
201 N. Washington Square, Sixth Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Doug A. Ringler, CPA, CIA
Auditor General

Laura J. Hirst, CPA
Deputy Auditor General