



NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
**PRESENTATION TO THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON GENERAL
GOVERNMENT**

Walter E. Gaskin
Secretary

March 8, 2022

Update – Status of Construction of State Veterans Home in Kernersville

- Program is authorized by North Carolina General Statute 143B, Article 14, Part 10
- Program supports Skilled Nursing Care for Eligible Veterans
- State Veterans Home – Kernersville scheduled to open spring 2022 (99% Complete)
 - Total Construction - \$59M
 - Federal Matching Funds - \$33.6M
 - State Matching Funds - \$25.2M
 - Construction Funding Authorized (State Matching Funds): \$29M
- This project continues to be within authorized budget

Update – Status of Construction of State Veterans Home in Kernersville

- Original projected opening date was November 2021
- Amended projected opening date to be determined based on the following:
 - Redesign to incorporate infectious disease protocols during construction
 - Contractor responses to various COVID 19 outbreaks during construction
 - Redesign to incorporate approval of life safety grant during construction
 - Supply Chain Management disruption that put critical infrastructure (IT equipment) components on back order (waiting on the last pieces to complete final construction)
- Grand opening will be scheduled to immediately follow receipt of certificate of occupancy
- First day to admit new residents projected to be 8 weeks after issue of certificate of occupancy

Update - Status of the North Carolina Children of Wartime Veterans Scholarship Program

- Current Funding: \$13.5M (Escheats, \$10.7; state appropriation, \$2.8M)
- Scholarships are awarded for tuition, mandatory fees, room and/or board.
 - Tuition – No maximum, based on actual bill from college on behalf of individual
 - Room and Board not to exceed \$4800.00 per semester
- 2354 Active Scholarships:
 - 1303 students receiving scholarships enrolled for the Fall 2021 class.
 - 407 were awarded for the fall semester last July
 - 52 have been awarded for spring semester to date
 - New scholarship applications are under review
 - Will brief the Veterans Affairs Commission in April and gain approval to award
- Comprehensive report submitted in accordance with the amended North Carolina General Statute that was approved by the North Carolina General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Cooper on November 18, 2021.

Update - Status of the North Carolina Children of Wartime Veterans Scholarship Program

- SCHOLARSHIP AWARD CATEGORIES
 - Class I-A: Unlimited Number of Awardees. Veteran Parent was:
 - Killed in action or died from wounds sustained
 - Died of service-connected injuries, wounds, illness
 - Class I-B: Unlimited Number of Awardees. Veteran Parent is/was 100% Service-Connected Disability rating by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs (USDVA)
 - Class II: Not to Exceed 100 Awardees. Veteran Parent is/was:
 - Less than 100%, but greater than 20% Service-Connected Disability rating by the USDVA
 - Awarded a Purple Heart
 - Class III: Not to Exceed 100 Awardees. Veteran Parent is/was:
 - Deceased
 - Drawing pension for permanent and total disability, nonservice-connected, as rated by the USDVA
 - Served in a combat zone
 - Class IV: Unlimited Number of Awardees. Veteran Parent is/was
 - Missing in Action
 - Prisoner of War
 - Forcibly Detained by foreign government