

The background of the slide is a stylized, wavy American flag. The stars are in the upper left corner, and the stripes flow across the rest of the page. The colors are muted, with a soft blue for the canton and a light red for the stripes.

Hardship Assistance Grant

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Agenda

- Purpose
- Policies
- Process
- Paperwork
- Issues
- Questions



Purpose

The purpose of this assistance is to provide monies taken from earned interest of the Veterans Post War Trust Fund to give aid and comfort to veterans as defined in North Dakota Century Code (N.D.C.C.) 37-14, and their spouses, un-remarried widow or widower. The applicants must have a need of dental work, dentures, optical needs, hearing aids, deposit funds for secure housing, transportation for medical reasons or a special medical or non-medical requirement.



Policies

- Qualifications

- Must be either a Veteran as defined in N.D.C.C. 37-14-01.1, a spouse of an eligible Veteran or an un-remarried widow/widower of an eligible Veteran
- Must be a resident of North Dakota for one year prior to date of application
- Meet net income guidelines

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Income Limit	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2600



Policies

- Qualifications (Cont.)
 - cannot have over \$4000 in cash assets, with the exception that the applicant and their spouse may have \$5000.00 (each) in a CD locked in for a minimum of 12 months from date of application.
- Dental (\$1,000)
 - Once per calendar year
 - Covers services required to treat pain or medical need
 - Does not cover preventative services or treatment for gum disease



Policies

- Dentures (\$3,000)
 - Once every 5 years
 - Can be used for full or partial (bridges included)
 - Requires an estimate but DOES NOT pay for the estimate if applicant is charged.
 - Can be requested in conjunction with the Dental Grant



Policies

- Optical (\$300)
 - Every two years
 - Covers exam and basic frames and lenses
 - Does not cover scratch-coating, progressive lenses, or tinting unless specifically prescribed by a doctor (e.g. light sensitivity)
 - Preventative procedures are not covered
- Hearing (\$1,500 per ear)
 - Every 4 years



Policies

- Transportation (\$250 reimbursement)
 - Covers lodging, fuel, and meals at the state rate
 - Meals up to \$34.50 per day (Current state rate)
 - Fuel is 56¢ per mile (Current rate)
 - Lodging depends on location (GSA rates)
 - For medical reasons (e.g. driving from Bismarck to Fargo VA for an appt.)
 - Proof of VA appointment
 - Need receipts!



Policies

- Housing Deposit (\$500, one-time)
 - Used to secure stable housing
 - Paid directly to property manager
 - Must sign a one-year lease. Include a copy with the grant application
 - Deposit returns to NDDVA upon lease termination
 - Does not cover pet deposits

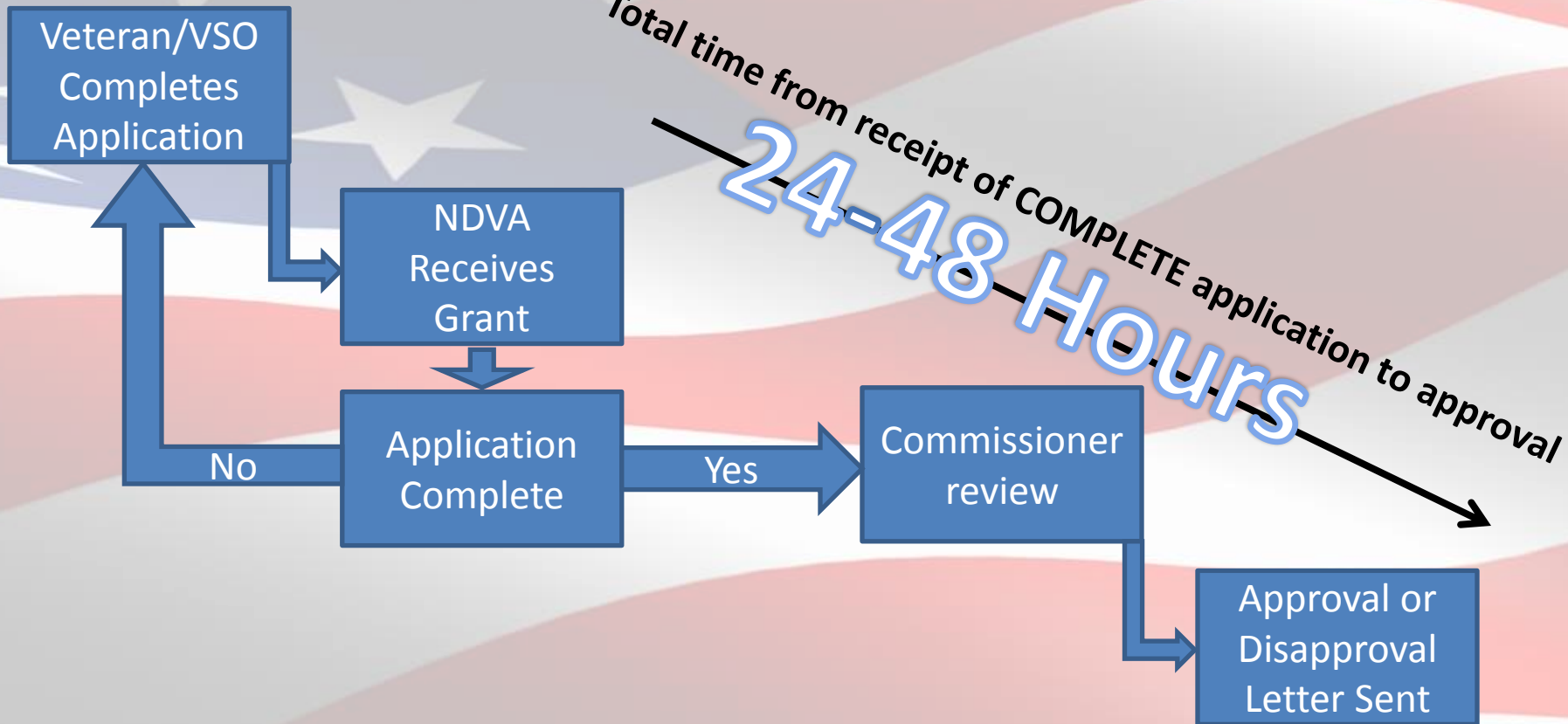


Policies

- Special or Discretionary (up to \$1000/month)
 - For a unique medical or life-threatening need
 - Grant application still needs to be completed
- Other considerations
 - \$4000 per calendar year cap
 - Patterns of program misuse may prompt stipulations upon future grant requests
 - The application must be COMPLETE with signatures and ALL required documentation
 - Work done prior to approval will not be paid
 - Payments are submitted directly to vendors
 - Grants will be cancelled after a given time period



Process





Paperwork

- Application (SFN 54410) must be filled out completely.
- The CVSO must clearly explain why the applicant needs the grant and what other attempts were made to meet the Veteran's need.
- CVSO and applicant must sign! CVSOs have two places to sign (page 3 and 4)



Paperwork

- Mandatory Documents
 - Cash Asset Verification Form
 - If the applicant doesn't have any accounts, have the applicant write a statement at the bottom of the form stating "I presently do not have any accounts at any financial institution", applicant signs and dates.
 - Two most RECENT pay stubs/statements, if employed
 - Most RECENT VA/Social Security award letter
 - 1040 tax form (first page) or a statement in the "Explanation" block stating the applicant does not file taxes, applicant signs and dates.
 - Legible copy of ND DL or ID, address should match application (does not prove residency)
 - Copy of a bill or statement 1 year or older with ND address
- Unremarried widow or spouse



Issues

- Incomplete applications
 - Letter mailed to applicant requesting info adds days if not weeks to process
- Illegible DD214s, IDs, or drivers license
- Applicant exceeds income limits, fails to meet residency requirements, or Veterans status
- Hand-written applications
 - Illegible or incomplete
 - Highly recommend using Vetraspec or fillable PDFs



Questions?