

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



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VA Awards \$8M in Adaptive Sports Program Grants to Aid **Disabled** Veterans

Grants promote rehabilitation, health and wellness and community reintegration

WASHINGTON - Today, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the awarding of up to \$8 million in grants for adaptive sports programs that will benefit disabled Veterans as well as disabled members of the armed forces.

Grant recipients may use the funds for planning, developing, managing and implementing adaptive sports programs.

"We are honored to partner with so many organizations across the country to provide adaptive sports programs where our Veterans live," said VA Secretary Dr. David J. Shulkin. "Adaptive sports provide opportunities for Veterans, and empower them to believe in themselves and let go of what others may see as limitations."

VA is awarding the grants to national governing bodies, which prepare high-level athletes for Paralympic competition; Veterans service organizations; city and regional municipalities; and other community groups to provide a wide range of adaptive sports opportunities for eligible Veterans and service members. The grants will support activities ranging from kayaking, sailing, cycling, skiing, equine therapy and equestrian sports, among other activities.

VA will distribute the grants to 96 national, regional and community programs serving all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Approximately 10,000 Veterans and service members are expected to benefit.

Information about the awardees and details of the program may be found at www.va.gov/adaptivesports.

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