



Michigan
Office of the Auditor General
REPORT SUMMARY

Performance Audit

Report Number:
 51-300-03

Michigan Youth Challenge Program

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Released:
 April 2004

The national youth challenge program is a youth intervention program that provides military-based training, education, and supervised working experience through community service to produce program graduates with the values, skills, education, and self-discipline to succeed as adults. Under Michigan's agreement with the National Guard Bureau, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs establishes, organizes, and administers the Michigan Youth Challenge Program.

Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the Michigan Youth Challenge Program.

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Audit Conclusion:

We concluded that the Program was generally effective and efficient. However, our audit disclosed reportable conditions related to Michigan Youth Challenge Program effectiveness and Michigan Youth Challenge, Inc., internal control (Findings 1 and 2).

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Noteworthy Accomplishments:

The Michigan Youth Challenge Academy, the Program's school, achieved accreditation from the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI) during academic year 2001-02. The NCA CASI standard is a single overriding commitment to excellence that maximizes the proportion of promoted or graduated students who are self-directed learners and are prepared to make successful school-to-

school or school-to-career transitions. The five major criteria that must be present to meet the NCA CASI standard are school improvement plan; information system; process of schooling; vision, leadership-governance, and school community; and resources and allocation.

Also, during academic year 1999-2000, the Program was recognized by the National Guard Bureau for having the best educational program nationally among challenge programs.

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Agency Response:

The Department responded that it agrees with both audit findings and that it is taking the necessary steps to comply.

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