

Department of Veterans' Affairs

DVA21000

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
General Fund	241	241	245	247	247	247	-

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
Personal Services	21,919,442	22,441,618	22,915,623	23,687,289	23,802,446	23,802,446	-
Other Expenses	3,221,896	4,066,087	4,586,113	4,106,113	5,471,457	5,521,457	50,000
Other Current Expenses							
SSMF Administration	560,345	560,344	573,430	560,345	560,345	560,345	-
Veterans' Opportunity Pilot	38,041	-	70,047	245,047	245,047	245,047	-
Veterans' Rally Point	512,764	512,764	524,738	512,764	512,764	512,764	-
Other Than Payments to Local Governments							
Burial Expenses	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666	6,666	-
Headstones	166,759	120,775	132,834	307,834	207,834	207,834	-
Various Grants	-	-	-	-	-	341,000	341,000
Agency Total - General Fund	26,425,913	27,708,254	28,809,451	29,426,058	30,806,559	31,197,559	391,000

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Policy Revisions

Provide Funding for Free Bus Passes for Veterans

Other Expenses	1,000,000	1,000,000	-
Total - General Fund	1,000,000	1,000,000	-

Background

Section 37 of PA 25-65 requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to, among other things, provide reduced bus fare of up to 50% to veterans and people 18 or younger (those under five currently ride free). No additional funding was provided in the FY 26 and FY 27 Budget for this requirement and the agency has not yet implemented any new fare discounts for these groups.

PA 26-68, the FY 27 Revised Budget, provides \$3.5 million for a related initiative: \$2.5 million to DOT for reduced fares for students and veterans and \$1 million to the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) for free bus passes for veterans.

Governor

Provide funding of \$1 million in FY 27 for free bus passes for veterans.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Provide Funding for Various VFWs

Various Grants	-	341,000	341,000
Total - General Fund	-	341,000	341,000

Legislative

Provide funding of \$341,000 in FY 27 to various Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States organizations, distributed as follows:

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference from Governor
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- \$200,000 to the Plainfield VFW Post 5446 to update the building's kitchen and sewer, and to make the building ADA compliant.
- \$141,000 to the New London VFW Post 189 for repairs to the building's roof and other required maintenance.

Appendix A identifies the FY 27 recipients of legislatively directed funds. Adjustments to funding amounts or recipient allocations contained in the FY 27 Revised Budget are detailed at the end of the agency's budget sheets.

Provide Funding for Stand Down Events

Other Expenses	-	50,000	50,000
Total - General Fund	-	50,000	50,000

Background

DVA holds six annual Stand Down events for veterans around the state aimed at increasing access to programs and services offered by state and federal agencies, veterans organizations, and community-based non-profits. These events are currently funded through the agency's Institutional General Welfare Fund.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$50,000 to DVA in FY 27 to support the agency's annual Stand Down events.

Current Services

Provide Funding for Veteran Housing and Support Services

Personal Services	115,157	115,157	-
Other Expenses	365,344	365,344	-
Total - General Fund	480,501	480,501	-

Background

The Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) provides temporary housing and rehabilitation support for veterans in need, operating a skilled nursing facility and various residential facilities in Rocky Hill. One such residential facility is Building 51, an apartment complex built in 1945 that consists of eighteen bedrooms in six apartments and an additional sixteen individual bedrooms.

Governor

Provide funding of \$480,501 in FY 27 to support veteran housing and support services provided at the skilled nursing facility and Building 51.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Reduce Funding for Headstones

Headstones	(100,000)	(100,000)	-
Total - General Fund	(100,000)	(100,000)	-

Background

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides headstones and grave markers for family members of veterans buried in private cemeteries. The account has consistently lapsed funding in recent years, including over \$150,000 in both FY 24 and FY 25.

Governor

Reduce funding by \$100,000 in FY 27 for Headstones.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	29,426,058	29,426,058	-
Policy Revisions	1,000,000	1,391,000	391,000
Current Services	380,501	380,501	-
Total Recommended - GF	30,806,559	31,197,559	391,000

Positions	Governor Revised FY 27	Legislative FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	247	247	-
Total Recommended - GF	247	247	-

FY 27 Revisions to Legislatively Directed Funds

Grantee by Account	Purpose	FY 27 Original	FY 27 Revised	FY 27 Total
GENERAL FUND				
Various Grants				
New London VFW Post 189	Roof repairs and other required maintenance	-	141,000	141,000
Plainfield VFW Post 5446	Kitchen and sewer updates; ADA compliance construction	-	200,000	200,000