



Department of Veterans Affairs

Mission: To fulfill the promise made to Iowa's Veterans who took the oath to defend the Constitution of the United States.

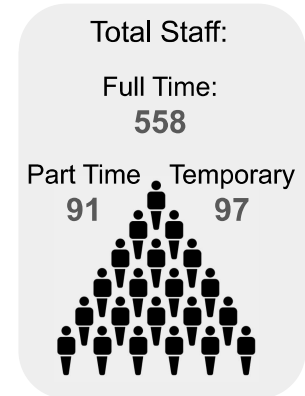
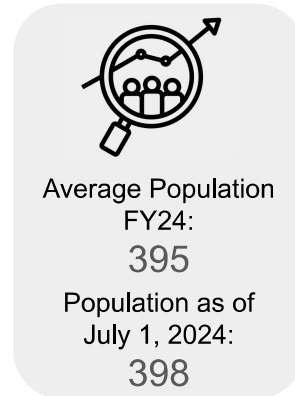
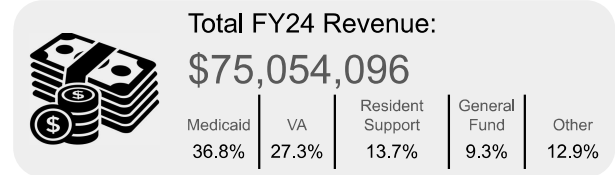


Service. Honor. Integrity. Resilience.



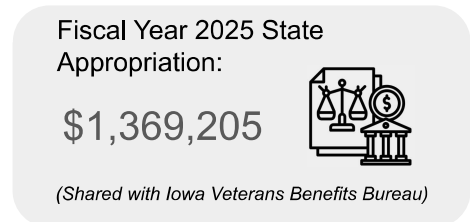
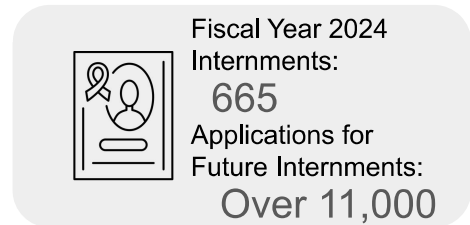
Iowa Veterans Home, Established 1887

- ❖ Fiscal Year 2025 State Appropriation: **\$8,145,736**
- ❖ Sustained Five-Star Rating (best possible) from the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services
- ❖ 158-acre campus consisting of 32 buildings totaling 850,000 square feet
- ❖ 19,509 residents served since inception
- ❖ 7/1/24: 4 WWII; 28 Korea; 209 Vietnam; 16 Gulf; 85 peacetime; 56 spouses; 2 Silver-Star recipients
- ❖ Critical open positions are all nursing, ranging from Resident Treatment Worker (CNA) to RN
- ❖ All nursing staff are state employees-no agency nurses



Iowa Veterans Cemetery, Established 2006

- ❖ 96-acre cemetery containing 6,187 veteran and 2,021 spouse internments with capacity of 90,000
- ❖ Included in total are 5,394 cremains placed in 12 columbarium walls
- ❖ Staff as of 7/1/24: 7 full time, 2 temporary
- ❖ Supported by service organizations, veterans service organizations, Iowa National Guard, and funeral directors
- ❖ Goal to achieve National Recognition for Operational Excellence through the National Cemetery Administration Compliance Review Program by calendar year 2027



Iowa Veterans Benefits Bureau

- ❖ Appropriation is shared with Iowa Veterans Cemetery
- ❖ Supports an Iowa veteran population of 177,098 ^[1], which represents 5.5% of Iowa's population of 3,241,488 ^[2]
- ❖ Center for expert training, support, outreach, credentialing, and referral for all of Iowa's 99 County veterans affairs offices and 120 county veteran service officers



[1] U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs [Veteran Population - National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics \(va.gov\)](https://www.va.gov)

[2] US Census [U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Iowa](https://www.census.gov)

- ❖ Assistance in filing for federal and state veterans benefits, repository for military records, and administration of veteran-serving programs in addition to coordination and assistance with other state agencies such as IWD, HHS, IDE, DOT, IFA, DNR on such programs
- ❖ Support provided during Fiscal Year 2024:



1,149 Veteran license plate applications reviewed



492 Eligibility requests reviewed for military homeownership assistance applications, supporting \$2,163,601 in Iowa Finance Authority grants



153 Eligibility determinations for hunting/fishing licenses



Staff as of 7/1/24: 4 full time, 1 temporary



Conducted two annual county VSO training courses and one county veterans commissioner course



Administration and disbursement of annual \$10k allocation and \$3K national training reimbursement to 99 county veterans offices



Administration of Iowa Veterans Trust Fund assistance requests in support of the Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs

Iowa Veterans Trust Fund funded by the Iowa Lottery

In Fiscal Year 2024, the Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs approved 273 applications and distributed \$876,456 to assist veterans meeting income guidelines with critical needs to include medical expenses, emergency housing and vehicle repairs, unemployment assistance, job training, counseling, and other essential services. In addition, \$192,800 in reimbursements were paid to local veterans organizations for deceased veteran honor guard services.

Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs

The Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs is comprised of Commandant Jacobus and 12 members appointed by the Governor:

Darlene McMartin, Chair (Public Member at Large)

Joella Perry, 1st Vice Chair (Iowa Association of County Veteran Services)

Lt. Col. George Mosby, 2nd Vice Chair (Iowa National Guard)

Becky Dirks Haugsted (Veterans of Foreign Wars)

David Grimm (DAV)

Dennis Jones (Marine Corps League)

Linda Jones (AMVETS)

Elizabeth Ledvina (American Legion)

Scott Miller (Paralyzed Veterans Of America)

Gregory Paulline (Vietnam Veterans of America)

Reggie Richardson (Reserve Organization of America)

Robert Suesakul (Military Order of the Purple Heart)



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