

Mission: Provide a continuum of services to lowa's Veterans and eligible family members to enhance their quality of life.



Service. Honor. Integrity. Resilience.



Iowa Veterans Home, Established 1887

- Fiscal Year 2026 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
- * 19,586 residents served since inception
- * 7/1/25: 3 WWII; 25 Korea; 209 Vietnam; 19 Gulf; 88 peacetime; 52 spouses
- Critical open positions are all nursing, ranging * from Resident Treatment Worker (CNA) to RN
- * All nursing staff are state employees-no agency nurses





FY25: 399 Population as of July 1, 2025:

396

Full Time: 542 Part Time Temporary

Total Staff:

Iowa Veterans Cemetery, Established 2008

- * 103-acre cemetery containing 6,577 veteran and 2,165 spouse internments with capacity of 90,000
- * Included in total are 3,378 cremains placed in 10 out of 12 columbarium walls
- Staff as of 7/1/25: 5 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

Fiscal Year 2025 Internments: 705 Applications for Future Internments:

Over 12,000

Fiscal Year 2025 State Appropriation:

\$1,369,205

(Shared with Iowa Veterans Benefits Bureau)

Iowa Veterans Benefits Bureau

- Appropriation is shared with Iowa Veterans Cemetery
- Supports an Iowa veteran population of 177,922 [1], which * represents 5.5% of lowa'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 148 county veteran service officers

Iowa Veteran Population:



- 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 2025:



1,373 Veteran license plate applications reviewed



503 Eligibility requests reviewed for military homeownership assistance applications, supporting \$2.2 million in Iowa Finance Authority grants



39 Eligibility determinations for hunting/fishing licenses



Staff as of 7/1/25: 4 full time



Conducted one annual county VSO training course 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 2025, the Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs approved 210 applications and disbursed \$918,165 to support veterans who met income eligibility criteria. Funding addressed critical needs, including medical and dental expenses, emergency housing and vehicle repairs, unemployment assistance, job training, counseling, and other essential services. In addition, \$152,700 in reimbursements were paid to local veterans organizations for 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)

Vacant (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)



Todd Jacobus, Commandant (641) 750-4307 todd.jacobus@ivh.state.ia.us



Mike Olson, IDVA Legislative Liaison (641) 750-6185 michael.olson@ivh.state.ia.us



Karl Lettow, IDVA Communications Director (641) 750-8052 karl.lettow@iowa.gov