



GOVERNOR, KIM REYNOLDS
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, CHRIS COURNOYER

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND IOWA VETERANS HOME
TODD JACOBUS, COMMANDANT

TO: County Veteran Service Officers
FROM: Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs
DATE: April 17, 2025
SUBJECT: 2025-2030 Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs Training for County VSOs, Commissioners, and Supervisors

In consultation with the Iowa Commission of Veteran Affairs, the Iowa Department of Veteran Affairs has developed an outline for the upcoming trainings and requirements.

1. The Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) provides regular in-person training for county veteran service officers, county commissioners, and board of supervisors members. All training is provided at no cost to participants. Spring and Fall dates will be the second full week of the month as follows:

- a. 2025: CVSO Training October 21-23; Commissioner/Supervisor Training October 13
- b. 2026: CVSO Training April 14-16 & October 13-15; Commissioner/Supervisor Training October 12
- c. 2027: CVSO Training April 13-15 & October 12-14; Commissioner/Supervisor Training October 11
- d. 2028: CVSO Training April 11-13 & October 10-12; Commissioner/Supervisor Training October 9
- e. 2029: CVSO Training April 10-12 & October 9-11; Commissioner/Supervisor Training October 8
- f. 2030: CVSO Training April 9-11 & October 15-17; Commissioner/Supervisor Training October 14

2. The October 2025 training will focus on “back to the basics”, with updates to current forms and procedures, presumptive conditions for disabilities, and other topics, TBD. As the October training gets closer, a complete training schedule and number of continuous education units will be announced.

3. IDVA training provides participants with the resources and network that county veteran service professionals need to excel in their duties. Those attending receive instruction on subjects such as: Eligibility updates; VA claims and appeals process and forms; Fiduciary process; Medicaid/SNAP; Suicide prevention; Benefits and pensions; Death and survivor benefits; Office outreach; Best practices, and more. Subject matter experts from IDVA, counties, state agencies, VA regional offices and medical facilities, and congressional offices will all be available to answer questions and become a resource for attendees.

4. Please ensure that these dates are communicated to all board of supervisors and commissioners so that they are aware of this invitation to attend at no cost with our encouragement that they join us to understand how we can better serve and connect with Iowa Veterans.

5. The IDVA point of contact is Ben Dales, Veterans Benefits Specialist, ben.dales@iowa.gov or 641-854-1683.

Sincerely,

Todd Jacobus
Commandant
Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs

Gavin Sandvig
Bureau Chief, Benefits and Cemetery
Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs