

Agency 028 - DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

The Department of Veterans' Affairs was created by LB 187 and LB 240 of the 1947 Session of the Legislature. The Department's duties and organization are outlined in State Statute Chapter 80, Section 314-322, Chapter 80, Section 401-414, Chapter 80, Section 901-903, Chapter 12, Section 1301, and Chapter 55, Section 601-606. The agency also has a complete set of Rules and Regulations on file with the Secretary of State.

VISION:

It is the vision of the Department of Veterans Affairs that all Nebraska veterans and their dependents will have a quality of life that reflects the appreciation Nebraskans have for the freedoms won and preserved by veterans.

MISSION AND PRINCIPLES:

The mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs is to provide assistance to Nebraska veterans and their dependents in acquiring county, state, and federal benefits to which they are eligible by virtue of their service to this country.

GOALS:

Goals for the Department of Veterans' Affairs are reflective of the agency's vision, mission, and principles. These include the successful operation of the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance, to be accomplished to the agency's expectations, as well as continuous monitoring and improvement of all agency responsibilities and actions. Specific goals are stated in the supporting information.

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Financial Data

	FY16 Actual	FY17 Approp	FY18 Request	FY18 Recomm	FY19 Request	FY19 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	1,202,301	1,428,314	1,516,268	1,182,864	1,563,591	1,371,292
Cash Fund	45,557	45,557	45,557	295,557	45,557	125,557
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations	1,247,858	1,473,871	1,561,825	1,478,421	1,609,148	1,496,849
Aid Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding						
General Fund	1,202,301	1,428,314	1,516,268	1,182,864	1,563,591	1,371,292
Cash Fund	45,557	45,557	45,557	295,557	45,557	125,557
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	1,247,858	1,473,871	1,561,825	1,478,421	1,609,148	1,496,849

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Program 036 - DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Program 36 provides administrative support to the agency and oversees all agency benefit programs outside of the Veterans Cemetery. Program 36 also includes the State Veterans Service Office, the Commission on Military and Veterans Affairs, the Nebraska Veterans Aid fund administration and the Veteran Home Board.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide complete administrative support to the Department.
2. Administer statutorily assigned state veteran's benefits.
3. Provide administrative support to the Commission on Military and Veterans Affairs.
4. Maintain a Service Office that assists veterans and their dependents in applying for federal benefits.
5. Serve as the state's chief advocate for veteran's issues.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

The Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs utilizes self-developed and directed metrics to monitor performance and seek opportunities for efficiency in order to increase both volume and quality in the delivery of services. Technology has been utilized to enhance all areas of support in program 36 primarily in the area of the Veterans Service Office and the Veterans Registry.

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Program 036 - DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

Financial Data

	FY16 Actual	FY17 Approp	FY18 Request	FY18 Recomm	FY19 Request	FY19 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	985,423	1,170,442	1,249,763	1,176,426	1,287,998	1,191,005
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations	985,423	1,170,442	1,249,763	1,176,426	1,287,998	1,191,005
Aid Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding						
General Fund	985,423	1,170,442	1,249,763	1,176,426	1,287,998	1,191,005
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Program	985,423	1,170,442	1,249,763	1,176,426	1,287,998	1,191,005

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Program 037 - VETERAN CEMETERY SYSTEM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Nebraska State Veterans' Cemetery at Alliance is operated and maintained in a manner to meet or surpass national shrine standards as defined by the USDVA as, "a place of honor and memory that declares to the visitor or family member who views it that within its majestic setting each and every veteran may find a sense of serenity, of historic sacrifice and nobility of purpose. Each visitor should depart feeling that the grounds, the gravesites and the environs of the cemetery are a beautiful and awe-inspiring tribute to those who gave much to preserve our nation's freedom and way of life."

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide for the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System as set forth in State Statute 12-1301.
2. Operate and maintain the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance in Box Butte County and establish operational systems and standards in the State Veteran Cemetery System that meet or surpass National Shrine standards and other National Cemetery Administration regulations.
3. Continue to increase the use of cash funds and reduce reliance on general funds in the operation of the Veteran Cemetery System.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

The establishment of the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System and construction of the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance, Box Butte County represented the first new program established by this agency in many years, the first program for this agency outside of the Lincoln area and the first "ground up" development for this agency and thus requires continued coordination and oversight by all staff and affects all areas of the agency. Although the Veteran's Cemetery System and Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance have only been fully operational for 5 years we feel the data presented is accurate and effective in the development of the budget and the addressing of future needs, priorities, and issues.

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Program 037 - VETERAN CEMETERY SYSTEM

Financial Data

	FY16 Actual	FY17 Approp	FY18 Request	FY18 Recomm	FY19 Request	FY19 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	216,879	257,872	266,505	6,438	275,593	180,287
Cash Fund	45,557	45,557	45,557	295,557	45,557	125,557
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations	262,436	303,429	312,062	301,995	321,150	305,844
Aid Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding						
General Fund	216,879	257,872	266,505	6,438	275,593	180,287
Cash Fund	45,557	45,557	45,557	295,557	45,557	125,557
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Program	262,436	303,429	312,062	301,995	321,150	305,844