

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 Article 3, Chapter 80, Section 314-322, Article 4, Chapter 80, Section 401-412, Article 9, Chapter 80, Section 901-903, and Article 13, Chapter 12, Section 1301. 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.

Agency 028 - DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Financial Data

	FY14 Actual	FY15 Approp	FY16 Request	FY16 Recomm	FY17 Request	FY17 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	1,125,691	1,228,082	1,270,540	1,243,919	1,270,540	1,271,570
Cash Fund	25,000	10,000	25,000	35,000	25,000	35,000
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	1,150,691	1,238,082	1,295,540	1,278,919	1,295,540	1,306,570
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	1,125,691	1,228,082	1,270,540	1,243,919	1,270,540	1,271,570
Cash Fund	25,000	10,000	25,000	35,000	25,000	35,000
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	1,150,691	1,238,082	1,295,540	1,278,919	1,295,540	1,306,570

Agency 028 - DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Program 036 - DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

In order to conduct daily activities in an efficient manner, the Department of Veterans' Affairs is organized as follows: Also see the attached organization chart.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide complete administrative support to the Department.
2. Administer statutory assigned state veteran's benefits.
3. Maintain a Service Office that assists veterans and their dependents in applying for federal benefits.
4. Serve as the state's chief advocate for the veteran's position on all issues.
5. Maintain and operate the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Alliance.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

The Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs is seeing major increases in the complexity of requests for all veteran benefits. Applicant's for state benefit requests require more thorough review due to lack of information and the need to request additional facts and supporting documentation. Applicant's for federal benefits no longer request claims for single disabilities but have multiple issues to bring before the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Agency 028 - DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Program 036 - DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

Financial Data

	FY14 Actual	FY15 Approp	FY16 Request	FY16 Recomm	FY17 Request	FY17 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	880,765	963,434	985,335	993,832	985,335	1,015,475
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	880,765	963,434	985,335	993,832	985,335	1,015,475
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	880,765	963,434	985,335	993,832	985,335	1,015,475
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	880,765	963,434	985,335	993,832	985,335	1,015,475

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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.

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 3 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

	FY14 Actual	FY15 Approp	FY16 Request	FY16 Recomm	FY17 Request	FY17 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	244,927	264,648	285,205	250,087	285,205	256,095
Cash Fund	25,000	10,000	25,000	35,000	25,000	35,000
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	269,927	274,648	310,205	285,087	310,205	291,095
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	244,927	264,648	285,205	250,087	285,205	256,095
Cash Fund	25,000	10,000	25,000	35,000	25,000	35,000
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	269,927	274,648	310,205	285,087	310,205	291,095