

Veterans' Services, Division of

Mission

The core mission of the New York State Division of Veterans' Services (DVS) is to link veterans, members of the armed forces, and their families and dependents to various personal, medical, and financial benefits available to them as the result of active duty military service. DVS's professional counseling staff prepares, presents and prosecutes claims, including applications for monthly compensation and pension awards, education benefits, burial benefits, vocational rehabilitation training, health care, nursing home care, tax exemptions and other services.

Organization and Staffing

DVS is led by a Director. DVS's workforce primarily consists of Veterans' Benefit Advisors located in all State regions to allow veterans better access to services. DVS is hosted by the Office of General Services, which provides administrative, budgetary, and human resources support.

Budget Highlights

The FY 2021 Executive Budget recommends \$19.6 million for DVS. This represents a \$1.6 million net decrease in funding from FY 2020, which reflects the elimination of legislative adds. The Executive Budget recommends a workforce of 98 full-time employees, unchanged from FY 2020 levels.

Program Highlights

Blind Veteran Annuity Assistance Program

The Blind Veteran Annuity Assistance Program provides annuities to legally blind veterans and eligible surviving spouses.

Veterans' Benefits Advising Program

The Veterans' Benefits Advising Program offers advocacy and assistance services to veterans to secure and maintain Federal Veterans' Affairs benefits.

Veterans' Education Program

The Veterans' Education Program staff investigates and approves educational programs on behalf of veterans who qualify for these benefits.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available FY 2020	Appropriations Recommended FY 2021	Change From FY 2020	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2021
State Operations	8,747,000	8,747,000	0	4,627,000
Aid To Localities	12,504,000	10,859,000	(1,645,000)	12,813,000
Total	21,251,000	19,606,000	(1,645,000)	17,440,000

NYS DOB | FY2021 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
ALL FUND TYPES
PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM
FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	FY 2020 Estimated FTEs 03/31/20	FY 2021 Estimated FTEs 03/31/21	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	4	4	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising			
General Fund	86	86	0
Veterans Education			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	8	8	0
Total	98	98	0

STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Fund Type	Available FY 2020	Recommended FY 2021	Change
General Fund	6,722,000	6,722,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	2,025,000	2,025,000	0
Total	8,747,000	8,747,000	0

STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Program	Available FY 2020	Recommended FY 2021	Change
Administration			
General Fund	480,000	480,000	0
Veterans Education			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	2,025,000	2,025,000	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising			
General Fund	6,242,000	6,242,000	0
Total	8,747,000	8,747,000	0

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2021 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	367,000	0	367,000	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising	5,804,000	0	5,781,000	0
Total	6,171,000	0	6,148,000	0

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Veterans' Benefits Advising	0	0	23,000	0
Total	0	0	23,000	0

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2021 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	113,000	0	10,000	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising	438,000	0	63,000	0
Total	551,000	0	73,000	0

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	14,000	0	70,000	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising	104,000	0	181,000	0
Total	118,000	0	251,000	0

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	19,000	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising	90,000	0
Total	109,000	0

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2021 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Veterans Education	2,025,000	0	1,199,000	0
Total	2,025,000	0	1,199,000	0

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Veterans Education	826,000	0
Total	826,000	0

NYS DOB | FY2021 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Fund Type	Available FY 2020	Recommended FY 2021	Change
General Fund	12,004,000	10,359,000	(1,645,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	500,000	500,000	0
Total	12,504,000	10,859,000	(1,645,000)

AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Program	Available FY 2020	Recommended FY 2021	Change
Administration			
General Fund	999,000	999,000	0
Blind Veteran Annuity Assistance			
General Fund	6,380,000	6,380,000	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising			
General Fund	4,625,000	2,980,000	(1,645,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	500,000	500,000	0
Total	12,504,000	10,859,000	(1,645,000)

Note: Most recent estimates as of 01/29/2020