

Department of Veterans' Services

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 2024 Executive Budget recommends \$29.9 million in appropriations for DVS. This represents a \$4.78 million net decrease from FY 2023 attributable to the expiration of \$2.62 million in one-time legislative adds and \$5 million in one-time nonprofit capital funding offset by increases of \$1.1 million for the homeless veterans housing program, \$500,000 increase for the veterans' Memorial Registry, \$900,000 in new State Veterans' Cemetery operations, \$300,000 increase for the Mobile Veterans Benefit Advisor Clinics and \$43,000 for union settlement agreements.

The Executive Budget recommends a workforce of 110 full-time employees which remains unchanged from FY 2023.

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.

Veterans' Cemetery Program

The Veterans' Cemetery Program supports the establishment and maintenance of the first State Veterans' cemetery which will provide a permanent resting place to honor New York's veterans and their families.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available FY 2023	Appropriations Recommended FY 2024	Change From FY 2023	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2024
State Operations	11,294,002	13,037,000	1,742,998	5,208,000
Aid To Localities	14,479,000	12,959,000	(1,520,000)	23,110,000
Capital Projects	9,000,000	4,000,000	(5,000,000)	9,000,000
Total	34,773,002	29,996,000	(4,777,002)	37,318,000

NYS DOB | FY 2024 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
ALL FUND TYPES
PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM
FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	FY 2023 Estimated FTEs 03/31/23	FY 2024 Estimated FTEs 03/31/24	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	3	3	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising			
General Fund	99	99	0
Veterans Education			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	8	8	0
Total	110	110	0

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

Fund Type	Available FY 2023	Recommended FY 2024	Change
General Fund	8,250,452	9,083,000	832,548
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	2,143,550	3,054,000	910,450
Special Revenue Funds - Other	900,000	900,000	0
Total	11,294,002	13,037,000	1,742,998
Adjustments:			
Transfer(s) From			
Special Pay Bill			
General Fund	(140,002)		
Appropriated FY 2023	11,154,000		

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

Program	Available FY 2023	Recommended FY 2024	Change
Administration			
General Fund	505,005	1,006,000	500,995
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	0	900,000	900,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	900,000	900,000	0
Veterans Education			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	2,143,550	2,154,000	10,450
Veterans' Benefits Advising			
General Fund	7,745,447	8,077,000	331,553
Total	11,294,002	13,037,000	1,742,998

NYS DOB | FY 2024 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2024 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	393,000	995	393,000	995
Veterans' Benefits Advising	7,368,000	31,553	7,345,000	31,553
Total	7,761,000	32,548	7,738,000	32,548

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 2024 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	613,000	500,000	10,000	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising	709,000	300,000	63,000	0
Total	1,322,000	800,000	73,000	0

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	14,000	0	570,000	500,000
Veterans' Benefits Advising	104,000	0	102,000	0
Total	118,000	0	672,000	500,000

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	19,000	0
Veterans' Benefits Advising	440,000	300,000
Total	459,000	300,000

NYS DOB | FY 2024 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2024 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	1,800,000	900,000	0	0
Veterans Education	2,154,000	10,450	1,261,000	5,584
Total	3,954,000	910,450	1,261,000	5,584

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Administration	1,800,000	900,000
Veterans Education	893,000	4,866
Total	2,693,000	904,866

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

Fund Type	Available FY 2023	Recommended FY 2024	Change
General Fund	13,979,000	11,359,000	(2,620,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	500,000	500,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	0	1,100,000	1,100,000
Total	14,479,000	12,959,000	(1,520,000)

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

Program	Available FY 2023	Recommended FY 2024	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	6,600,000	3,980,000	(2,620,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	500,000	500,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	0	1,100,000	1,100,000
Total	14,479,000	12,959,000	(1,520,000)

NYS DOB | FY2024 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
CAPITAL PROJECTS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Comprehensive Construction Program	Available FY 2023	Recommended FY 2024	Change	Reappropriations FY 2024
Veteran's Nonprofit Capital Program				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	5,000,000	0	(5,000,000)	5,000,000
Veterans' Cemetery				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	2,000,000	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
Federal Capital Projects Fund	2,000,000	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
Total	9,000,000	4,000,000	(5,000,000)	9,000,000

Note: Most recent estimates as of 02/01/2023