



## Department of Military Affairs

1999-01 Biennial Budget Overview



**A Briefing Prepared for:**

**Senate Committee on Health, Utilities,  
Veterans and Military Affairs**

**March 24, 1999**

Department of Military Affairs  
 Summary of Changes from Base Level  
 (Governor's Budget Recommendation)

	<u>1999-00</u>	<u>2000-01</u>	<u>FTE</u>
Base Level	51,999,500	51,999,500	384.875
Agency Requests	-566,700	-574,600	+0.650
<u>Governor's Actions:</u>			
Modify Agency Requests	<u>-198,000</u>	<u>-328,100</u>	<u>-1.000</u>
Proposed Funding	51,234,800	51,096,800	384.525

The agency's adjusted base level for the 1999-01 was determined to be \$51,999,500 through the base reconciliation process. The agency's budget request actually reduced overall funding levels by over \$500,000 annually. This was largely due to the removal of \$850,000 in one time expenditure authority reserved for the payment of street improvement assessments around the agency headquarters in Madison.

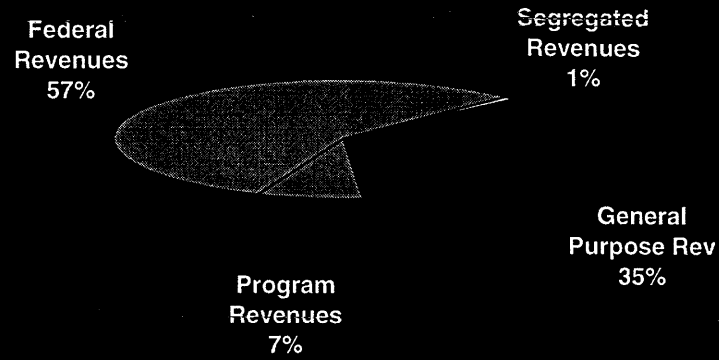
The Governor's budget recommendations further reduced overall expenditure levels to \$51,234,800 in 1999-00 and \$51,096,800 in 2000-01. The budget, as recommended by the Governor continues to fund roughly 385 full time positions in the agency.

Department of Military Affairs  
Governor's Budget Recommendations  
By Funding Source

	<u>1999-00</u>	<u>2000-01</u>	<u>FTE</u>
General Revenues	18,041,600	18,041,600	122,900
Program Revenues	3,788,600	3,781,600	28,250
Segregated Revenues	467,400	476,200	0.000
Federal Revenues	<u>28,937,200</u>	<u>28,766,400</u>	<u>233,375</u>
Totals	51,234,800	51,096,800	384,525

As the slide illustrates, the bulk of the agency's funding will continue to be derived from federal sources. Nearly 2/3 of the agency's authorized positions are funded from federal revenues.

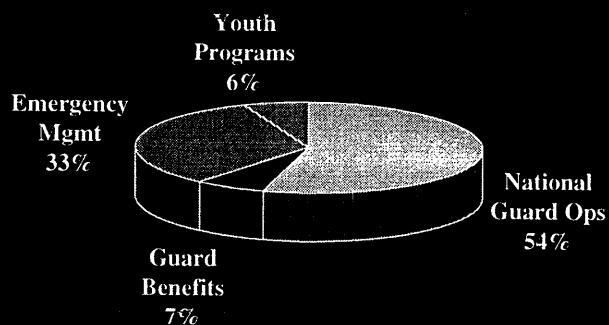
# Department of Military Affairs 1999-01 Biennial Budget by Source



As shown in the graph, General Purpose Revenues fund a little over one third of the department's operations. 57% of the agency's funding is from federal sources.

# Department of Military Affairs

## 1999-01 Biennial Budget by Program

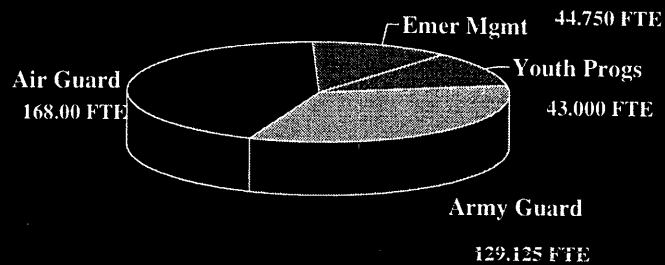


Operational support for the Wisconsin National Guard comprises 57% of budgeted costs for the upcoming biennium. This includes administrative support at the state headquarters level, the operation of armories and other military facilities throughout the state, and debt service on facilities.

One third of the agency's budget supports the state's emergency management program, both at the state and county levels through direct support of the Division of Emergency Management and pass-through funding to county governments.

The 7% budgeted for "Guard Member Benefits" is used to fund National Guard Tuition grants, pursuant to s.21.49, Stats. The remaining 6% of the budget funds services for at-risk youth, which include the Badger Challenge and Challenge Academy programs.

## Department of Military Affairs Base Level Positions by Program



This slide illustrates the allocation of the agency's state positions by major program. The largest program in terms of state employees is actually the Wisconsin Air National Guard, which operates major facilities at Mitchell Field in Milwaukee, Truax Field in Madison, and Volk Field in Camp Douglas.

Roughly 130 of the agency's 385 positions support the Wisconsin Army National Guard, either as headquarters support personnel or facility repair workers at our outlying armories and other military facilities.

The Division of Emergency Management and the National Guard Youth Challenge Academy each have just over 40 authorized state positions.



## Wisconsin Army National Guard 1999-01 Base Level Funding

(Includes Youth Programs)

	<u>Base Level \$</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>FTE</u>
General Revenues	12,968,200	54.08%	99.200
Program Revenues	721,500	3.01%	0.750
Segregated Revenues	0	0.0%	0.00
Federal Revenues	<u>10,287,100</u>	<u>42.91%</u>	<u>72.175</u>
<b>Total-Army Guard</b>	<b>23,976,800</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>172.125</b>

This slide illustrates the base level funding for the Wisconsin Army National Guard. The Army Guard program includes the department's headquarters staff and related support costs, as well as the operational costs of armories throughout the state. General Purpose Revenues fund 54% of the department's expenditures in support of the Army Guard, yet that number is still dwarfed by the direct federal expenditures made to support Army Guard operations which are not reflected at all in the agency's state budget..

52% of the GPR budgeted to support the Army National Guard is expended on the operation and maintenance of state-owned facilities:

	<u>Facility Opers</u>	<u>Youth Programs</u>	<u>Admin &amp; Other</u>
General Program Opers	2,079,300		2,011,900
Repair & Maintenance	571,900		
Public Emergencies			48,500
Debt Service	2,769,100		
State Flags			400
Fuel & Utilities	1,390,700		
Badger Challenge		330,000	
Youth Challenge Match		715,400	
	<hr/> 6,811,000	1,045,400	5,111,800
Percent of Total	52.52%	8.06%	39.42%
Authorized Positions	54.825	10.750	33.625



## Wisconsin Air National Guard 1999-01 Base Level Funding

	<u>Base Level \$</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>FTE</u>
General Revenues	1,244,300	11.39%	9.750
Program Revenues	196,200	1.79%	4.000
Segregated Revenues	0	0.0%	0.000
Federal Revenues	<u>9,490,700</u>	<u>86.82%</u>	<u>154.250</u>
Total-Air Guard	10,931,200	100.0%	168.000

The Air National Guard program derives less than 10% of its funding from General Purpose Revenues. Over 90% of the positions associated with our Air National Guard installations in Madison, Milwaukee, and Camp Douglas are funded with federal reimbursements. State positions assigned to the Air National Guard are deployed as follows:

		<u>FTE</u>
State Headquarters	Madison	1.000
Truax Field	Madison	57.000
Mitchell Field	Milwaukee	39.000
Volk Field	Camp Douglas	<u>71.000</u>
		168.000





## Wisconsin Emergency Management 1999-01 Base Funding Levels

	<u>Base Level \$</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>FTE</u>
General Revenues	3,713,300	21.73%	9.875
Program Revenue	2,627,000	15.37%	21.500
Segregated Revenue	541,600	3.17%	0.000
Federal Revenues	<u>10,209,600</u>	<u>44.5%</u>	<u>13.375</u>
<b>Total-Emergency Mgmt</b>	<b>\$17,091,800</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>44.750</b>

The GPR support for the Division of Emergency Management is also relatively small in comparison to federal and other sources. Actual GPR support for operational costs of the division is slightly less than \$700,000, with the balance of the GPR appropriated as state match to federal disaster funding or other local assistance:

	<u>Division Ops</u>	<u>Local Aids</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Prog Ops-DEM	537,000		537,000
Helicopter Support Svcs		150,000	150,000
Disaster Recovery Aids		881,200	881,200
Regional Emer Resp Teams		1,400,000	1,400,000
Hazmat Response Admin	82,600		82,600
Emergency Response Equip		568,000	568,000
Emergency Response Train	75,500		75,500
Civil Air Patrol Aids		19,000	19,000
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	695,100	3,018,200	3,713,300

Over the years, the division has relied on program revenue sources such as the nuclear utilities and the hazardous material inventory programs.

## Repair and Maintenance

- **Agency Request:** Fund costs of new OMS in Hayward, full fund janitorial contracts, allow maintenance supplement from PR appropriation.
- **Governor:** Fund costs of Hayward OMS. Allow supplement from PR. Deny add'l funds for janitorial contracts.
- **Agency:** Satisfied.

The agency requested additional funding for repair and maintenance as follows:

	GPR	PRO	FED
Hayward OMS Costs	5,600		29,400
Full Fund Custodial Contracts	25,600		13,400
PRO Maintenance Supplement		135,600	
	31,200	135,600	42,700
Governor's Rec	-25,600		-13,400
Net Adjustment	5,600	135,600	29,400

## Youth Challenge Program

- **Agency Request:** Request an additional \$140,000 GPR per year to fund the decreasing federal share of the program.
- **Governor:** Approve the request.
- **Agency:** Satisfied.

Under the 1998 Defense Authorization act, funding was provided for National Guard Youth Programs on a permanent basis. Wisconsin chose to participate in the program for the first time, with original funding and position authority approved in 1997 Wisconsin Act 237. However, the federal act specified the following match requirements for states choosing to participate:

For programs funded in FY 1998: 75% Federal/25% State  
For programs funded in FY 1999: 70% Federal/30% State  
For programs funded in FY 2000: 65% Federal/35% State  
For programs funded in FY 2001: 60% Federal/40% State  
(and thereafter)

With a base budget of \$2,800,000, an additional \$140,000 in each year of the biennium is required to meet the escalating match requirement.

## Badger Challenge Program

- **Agency Request:** None
- **Governor:** Replace the annual GPR appropriation of \$330,000 to fund the program with TANF funds, restrict programs to TANF eligible families only.
- **Agency:** Concerned.

The Governor's budget recommendation is to shift funding for the 6 week Badger Challenge program from GPR to TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families). This would limit participation to families whose income does not exceed 200% of the federal poverty level.

The department has two primary concerns:

- 1.) Based on the best information available, less than 20% of youth that have participated in past Badger Challenge sessions would have met the TANF income requirement. Meeting TANF requirements could significantly reduce participation in the program.
- 2.) Recruitment for the July session was well underway before we were informed of this change. Administratively, changing the focus of the program within a very short timeframe will be very difficult.

## Position Changes/Safety Officer

- Agency Request: Realign funding behind 4 positions to alleviate audit concerns, create .40 FTE Safety Officer position to be shared with DATCP.
- Governor: Approve the request.
- Agency: Satisfied.

The department proposed a number of technical adjustments to four positions to alleviate funding concerns raised by auditors.

	<u>GPR</u>	<u>PRO</u>	<u>FED</u>	
Storekeeper - Camp Wms	-0.625	+1.000	-0.375	-0-
Hskpg Supv - Wis Mil Acad	0.000	-0.250	+0.500	+.250
Night Auditor- WMA	0.000	+0.500	-0.500	-0-
Safety Officer	+0.400	0.000	0.000	+.400

The adjustments were approved. The newly authorized State Safety Officer will be shared with the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection.

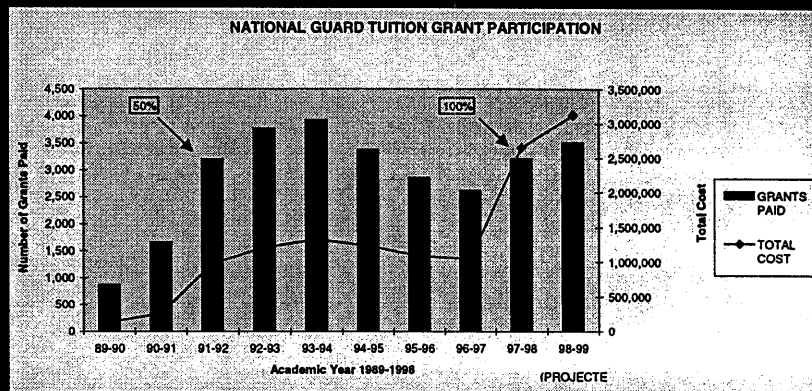
## National Guard Tuition Grants

- Agency Request: Request \$35,600 in 1999-00 and \$216,800 in 2000-01 additional GPR to offset anticipated participation and tuition increases.
- Governor: Deny the request.
- Agency: Concerned.

The agency estimated requirements for the National Guard Tuition Grant program assuming that participation in the program would increase to 3,920 grant payments per year, which is consistent with levels experienced in 1993-94 when participation in the program peaked and grants had to be suspended due to lack of funds. Our estimate also assumed 5% annual increases in UW-Madison tuition.

The State Budget Office believes the existing base level is adequate. We are concerned that underestimating participation in the program could lead to the same problems we have experience in the past.

# Tuition Grant Program Experience



The above graph indicates participation in the National Guard Tuition grant program on an academic year basis since 1989-90. We note the similarity in the pattern experienced in the past two years to levels experienced in 1991-92 and 1992-93, which led to the suspension of benefits in 1993-94.

## Level A Hazmat Teams

- Agency Request: Request \$177,400 in 1999-01 to extend 4 existing contracts thru 1999-00. Renegotiate all contracts for 2000-01.
- Governor: Approve the request, but mandate corresponding lapse from continuing supplement appropriation.
- Agency: Satisfied.

The agency requested an additional \$177,400 in 1999-01 to extend four existing Level A Hazmat contracts to June 30, 2000. The governor approved the request, but mandated a corresponding lapse from a continuing supplemental appropriation which was created to provide funding to a time for response costs in instances where a responsible party cannot be identified or is insolvent.

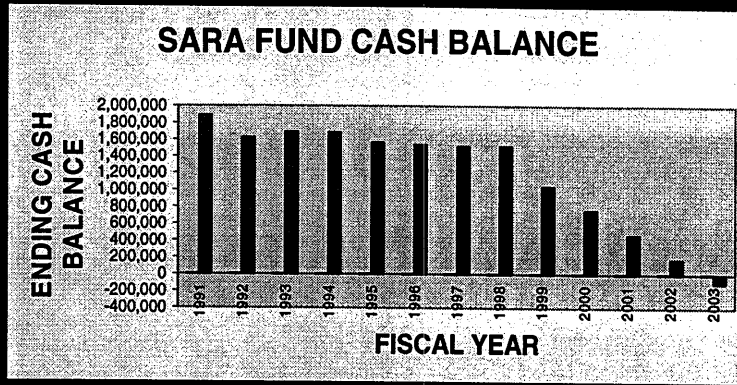


## Emergency Mgmt Federal Funds

- **Agency Request:** Request \$69,800 in 1999-00 and \$90,700 in 2000-01 as well as transfer of 2.00 FTE from FED to GPR to offset loss of federal funding.
- **Governor:** Authorize 2.00 PRO positions, shift funding to SARA appropriation. Eliminate current transfer to DNR.
- **Agency:** Concerned.

The agency requested GPR funding to partially offset a reduction in federal funding projected for the Division of Emergency Management. The Governor's recommendation instead shifted 2.000 FTE from FED to the division's SARA appropriation. The cost of the transfer was offset by the elimination of an annual transfer of funding from the appropriation to the Department of Natural Resources to fund a Spill Coordinator position in that agency.

# Projected SARA Fund Balance



The department has been concerned for several years about the declining balance in the division's SARA appropriation. While the Governor's recommendation is essentially revenue neutral due to the elimination of the DNR transfer and therefore does not aggravate the declining balance, the department is concerned that the transfer of an additional 2.00 FTE against the revenue source will require even tougher decisions in the upcoming biennium, when the balance in the appropriation will obviously have to be addressed.

SUMMARY OF GOVERNORS 1999-01 DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS  
BUDGET REQUEST

***National Guard Activation Authority***

NOTE: This provision is the same as Assembly Bill 77 which relates to National Guard call-up to deal with public disasters resulting from Y2K computer related issues.

- Expand the Governor's authority to expand the National Guard to provide that the Governor may order such activation whenever he or she considers such action to be necessary for the protection of persons or property.
- Current law allows for activation in the event of war, insurrection, rebellion, riot, invasion, or resistance to the execution of the laws of this state or the United State, AND in the event of a public disaster resulting from flood, conflagration or tornado, or upon the request of any U.S. Marshall, village president, city mayor, town boars chair, or state sheriff.

? Does the Guard think this is necessary?

**State Safety Officer:**

Provide 40-percent of position salary assigned to Department of Military Affairs, the other 60-percent funded by DATCP. This person would develop a written health and safety program for agency employees.

**Emergency Management:**

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding being reduced by \$320,000 over the biennium. FEMA will now require a 50-percent state match for certain state emergency management programs that are currently funded 100-percent from federal funds.
- Reduction being offset by transfer of funds from DNR to deal with hazardous spills coordination. Funding also provided to extend and synchronize the Level A Hazardous Materials Response teams through June of 2000.

SUMMARY OF GOVERNORS 1999-01 DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS  
BUDGET REQUEST

***Youth Challenge and Badger Challenge Program***

Governor: provide GPR \$140,000 in FY00 and \$280,000 in FY01 to meet the scheduled 5.0% annual increases in the state match requirement for the 22-week Youth Challenge Program. This program serves 16-18 year old high-school dropouts and helps them obtain a GED through a 22-week residential quasi-military program at Fort McCoy.

- Program funding

FFY 1998	75 FED / 25 GPR	\$700,000
<b>FFY 1999</b>	<b>70 / 30</b>	<b>\$840,000</b>
<b>FFY 2000</b>	<b>65 / 35</b>	<b>\$980,000</b>

Governor: recommends converting \$665,000 GPR funding for the Badger Challenge Program to Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funding. The Badger Challenge program serves 14-16 year old high school students at risk of dropping out of school through a six week summer program at Fort McCoy.

The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) budget proposal addresses this provision and states: "funding to support programs for high school *disadvantaged* youth to help them remain in and finish their high school education.

This is a mistake. This program is not for disadvantaged kids or those from poor families. This is a crime prevention program and should be funded with GPR \$, probably out of the Dept. of Corrections budget.

- ? You might want to ask about the reason TANF funding is being used for Badger Challenge.
- ? How successful was the first Youth Challenge class?
- ? Are there any plans to expand the Youth Challenge program?

***National Guard Tuition Reimbursement (NGTR) program.***

- Under 1997 Wisconsin Act 27 (state budget bill), NGTR reimbursement increased from 50% to 100% of tuition (still capped by tuition rates set at UW-Madison). Eligibility for warrant officers restored.
- Results of this have been positive: recruits up 15.8% in the first year of the 100% tuition grant program. FY98 Wisconsin Army National Guard strength at 92.47% of authorized, an increase of 5.9% over FY96 level of 87.95% of authorized.
- Governor's budget did not provide increased funding for tuition program (\$35,600 in FY00 and \$216,800 in FY01) in anticipation of the expected program participation increase.

? You might want to ask about National Guard projections for recruitment and this program over the biennium and whether existing funding will be sufficient to meet expected need

## MILITARY AFFAIRS

Budget Summary						FTE Position Summary				
Fund	1998-99 Adjusted Base	Governor		1999-01 Change Over Base Year Doubled		1998-99	Governor		2000-01 Over 1998-99	
		1999-00	2000-01	Amount	%		1999-00	2000-01	Number	%
GPR	\$17,925,800	\$18,041,600	\$18,072,600	\$262,600	0.7%	119.08	120.75	122.90	3.82	3.2%
FED	29,987,400	28,935,900	28,765,100	-2,273,800	-3.8	239.81	235.28	233.38	-6.43	-2.7
PR	3,544,700	3,790,000	3,783,000	483,600	6.8	26.25	28.50	28.25	2.00	7.6
SEG	541,600	467,400	476,200	-139,600	-12.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$51,999,500</b>	<b>\$51,234,900</b>	<b>\$51,096,900</b>	<b>-\$1,667,200</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>	<b>385.14</b>	<b>384.53</b>	<b>384.53</b>	<b>-0.61</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>

### Budget Change Items

#### 1. STANDARD BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

**Governor:** Request adjustments totaling \$214,900 GPR, -\$744,100 FED, -\$193,800 PR, and \$700 SEG annually for: (a) turnover reductions (-\$84,800 GPR and -\$163,300 FED); (b) removal of non-continuing elements from the base (-\$658,200 FED, -\$196,300 PR, and -0.25 GPR position); (c) full funding of salary and fringe benefit costs (\$241,100 GPR, -\$311,000 FED and -\$50,700 PR); (d) full funding of financial services charges (\$7,600 GPR, \$5,800 FED, \$2,800 PR, and \$700 SEG); (e) reclassifications (\$1,200 GPR); (f) overtime (\$35,700 GPR, \$294,800 FED, and \$38,900 PR); (g) night and weekend differential (\$3,700 GPR, \$78,700 FED, and \$7,800 PR); fifth week of vacation as cash (\$10,400 GPR, \$9,100 FED and \$3,700 PR); and minor transfers within the same appropriation (no net fiscal effect; however, this involves a shift within the same PR appropriation of \$61,900 from unallocated reserve and \$18,100 from supplies and services to provide \$61,900 for salaries and \$18,100 in fringe benefits for LTEs for housekeeping at the Wisconsin Military Academy).

	Funding	Positions
GPR	\$429,800	-0.25
FED	-1,488,200	0.00
PR	-387,600	0.00
SEG	1,400	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>-\$1,444,600</b>	<b>-0.25</b>

#### 2. BASE LEVEL FUNDING REDUCTION

GPR	-\$216,800
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**Governor:** Reduce base level funding in three of the agency's GPR appropriations by a total of \$108,400 annually to make permanent a 2% annual lapse requirement imposed by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27. Reductions would be made in the agency's: (a) general program operations appropriation (-\$79,100 annually); (b) energy costs appropriation (-\$18,700 annually); and (c) emergency response training appropriation (-\$10,600 annually).

regional AHECs each serve a specific geographic region of the state, including northern, southwestern, eastern and the Milwaukee area.

[Bill Sections: 249 and 285]

**3. DEBT SERVICE REESTIMATE**

GPR	\$287,800
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**Governor:** Reestimate debt service costs by \$157,200 in 1999-00 and \$130,600 in 2000-01 from the base level of \$28,100. The increase is attributable to the sale of \$2.0 million in bonds in 1998 which was authorized in the 1993 Act 16 to aid in the construction of a basic science education facility and in the funding of a health information technology center.

**3. NON-RECURRING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COSTS**

FED	- \$77,400
PR	- 68,600
Total	- \$146,000

**Governor:** Decrease funding by \$38,700 FED and \$34,300 PR annually related to removing one-time funding for information technology initiatives that was used to bring the Department's computer systems up to a common statewide standard. Of the annual total, -\$36,600 (-\$23,800 FED and -\$12,800 PR) is related to lower usage of DOA for support and technical assistance and -\$36,400 (-\$14,900 FED and -\$21,500 PR) is related to the end of master lease funding used to purchase new hardware and software to meet the standards.

**4. SAFETY OFFICER POSITION**

	Funding Positions	
GPR	\$36,800	0.40

**Governor:** Provide \$15,800 GPR in 1999-00 and \$21,000 GPR in 2000-01 and a 0.4 GPR position authorization for a safety officer position (administrative officer 1). This position would develop a written health and safety program for agency employees. The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) plans to locate the individual in Madison and share the safety officer with DATCP (which would fund the other 60% of a full-time position). The safety program is designed to bring DMA into compliance with Executive Order 194, comprehensive written health and safety programs to promote health and safety awareness and safe work practices and reduce worker compensation claims.

**5. YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM**

	Funding Positions	
GPR	\$420,000	4.30
FED	- 420,000	- 4.30
Total	\$0	0.00

**Governor:** Provide \$140,000 GPR and -\$140,000 FED in 1999-00 and \$280,000 GPR and -\$280,000 FED in 2000-01 for the youth challenge program. The increased GPR funding is required because the current federal match of 70% decreases to 65% in FY 1999-00 and to 60% in FY 2000-01. This will then be the ongoing federal match rate. Also, shift a total of 4.30 existing positions from FED to GPR funding (2.15 positions in 1999-00 and an additional 2.15 positions in 2000-01).

The youth challenge program is a 22-week residential program for youth aged 16 to 18 who are high school dropouts or habitual truants who will not graduate from high school. The goal of the youth challenge program is to aid these youth in learning life skills, increasing employment potential, and preparing for the high school equivalency degree exam. The program was originally authorized in 1997 Act 237. DMA was appropriated \$700,000 GPR and \$2,100,000 FED and authorized 43 positions for the program in 1998-99. Under the Governor's recommendation, total funding for the program would be \$843,700 GPR and \$1,971,000 FED in 1999-01 and \$983,700 GPR and \$1,831,000 FED in 2000-01.

**6. BADGER CHALLENGE PROGRAM**

GPR	- \$665,400
PR	665,400
Total	\$0

**Governor:** Shift funds for the Badger Challenge program from

GPR to PR funding. A new program revenue appropriation would be created and the source of the program revenue funding would be the federal temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) program. Further, restrict eligibility for the Badger Challenge program to disadvantaged youth that are members of families who would be eligible to receive TANF funding. Federal law and proposed regulations describe who may be eligible for TANF funded benefits and services, and under what conditions. In general, in Wisconsin, TANF funds may be spend on families whose income is below 200% of the federal poverty level. In addition, TANF-eligible families generally must include a minor child or pregnant individual.

Under current law, the Badger Challenge program, located at Fort McCoy, is a two-phase program for "at risk" 14-16 year-olds. Eligibility is open to any youth who is at risk of dropping out of school regardless of income. Phase I consists of a six week residential stay where cadets participate in activities to improve anger management, teamwork, leadership, following and personal growth. Phase II consists of post-residential mentoring with community volunteers. In 1998-99, \$330,000 GPR was provided for the program.

[Bill Sections: 475, 497, 498, 655 and 1329]

**7. FACILITIES OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE COSTS**

GPR	\$11,200
FED	58,600
PR	271,200
Total	\$341,000

**Governor:** Request \$5,600 GPR, \$29,300 FED, and \$135,600 PR annually for increased operation and maintenance costs at Wisconsin National Guard armories and other DMA facilities. Funding is requested for: (a) contracting of custodial services for a new organizational maintenance shop in Hayward (\$5,600 GPR and \$29,300 FED annually); and (b) increasing the level of expenditures from a separate, program revenue appropriation established to supplement DMA's state GPR budget for repair and maintenance of DMA armories and other facilities from \$673,000 to \$808,600 (\$135,600 PR annually). Revenues from this program come from amory rentals to community groups, the provision of housing related to military personnel, and the proceeds from the sale of armories or other property; the last amory sale was in 1997-98 when the Whitefish Bay amory was sold for \$475,000. Under the federal Defense Act of 1950, it is the state's responsibility to maintain and operate military facilities for the training and administration of state national guard units. Currently, the Department is responsible for the operation and maintenance of 371 facilities, of which 290 are state-owned and 81 are federally-owned.

**8. DEBT SERVICE REESTIMATE**

GPR	\$109,400
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**Governor:** Provide \$23,100 in 1999-00 and \$86,300 in 2000-01 for estimated increased debt service costs related to National Guard facilities operated by DMA.



**9. CAMP WILLIAMS STOREKEEPER POSITION**

**Governor:** Convert the funding and position authority for the Camp Williams storekeeper position from a GPR and federal funded position (-\$19,900 GPR, and -\$11,900 FED annually and -0.625 GPR and -0.375 FED position) to a PR funded position (\$31,800 PR annually and 1.0 PR position). This shift is in response to a Legislative Audit Bureau study that found the current attribution of costs for the storekeeper's activities as insupportable for the federal funding. The storekeeper operates a consolidated state warehouse where supplies are shipped to various military facilities across the state. Users of the warehouse services would be charged to provide the program revenues for the costs of the conversion of the storekeeper position to PR funding.

	Funding Positions	
GPR	-\$39,800	- 0.63
FED	- 23,800	- 0.37
PR	<u>63,600</u>	<u>1.00</u>
Total	\$0	0.00

**10. MILITARY ACADEMY NIGHT AUDITOR POSITION**

**Governor:** Convert a total federally-funded night auditor position (financial specialist) to be split funded between PR (billeting revenues) and FED funding. Provide \$17,000 PR annually and delete \$17,000 FED annually and shift 0.5 FED position to PR. The night auditor operates the front desk of the dormitory facilities at Wisconsin Military Academy. Originally, the position was classified as a security position and funded entirely through federal funds. The change is necessary because the position has dual responsibilities of security and financial activities, such as accounting for daily receipts but federal funding is available only for the security aspects of the position.

	Funding Positions	
FED	-\$34,000	- 0.50
PR	<u>34,000</u>	<u>0.50</u>
Total	\$0	0.00

**11. MILITARY ACADEMY HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR POSITION**

**Governor:** Provide \$15,600 FED and \$15,600 PR annually and 1.0 housekeeping services supervisor position (0.5 FED and 0.5 PR) at the Wisconsin Military Academy and delete \$17,900 PR annually and 0.75 custodian position to provide the Academy with a full-time supervisory position for all custodial activities in the Academy's federally-supported areas.

	Funding Positions	
PR	\$31,200	0.50
FED	<u>- 4,600</u>	<u>- 0.25</u>
Total	\$26,600	0.25

**12. GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY TO ACTIVATE THE NATIONAL GUARD**

**Governor:** Expand the Governor's authority to activate the Wisconsin National Guard to provide that a Governor may order such activation whenever he or she considers such action to be necessary for the protection of persons or property. Under current law, the Governor may activate the National Guard for the following purposes: (a) in case of war, insurrection, rebellion, riot, invasion, or resistance to the execution of the laws of this state, or of the United States; (b) in the event of public disaster resulting from flood, conflagration or tornado; or (c)

upon request of any U.S. marshal, village president, city mayor, town board chairperson, or state sheriff.

[Bill Section: 654]

**13. FUNDING FOR LEVEL A HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
RESPONSE TEAMS**

GPR	\$177,400
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**Governor:** Provide \$177,400 in 1999-00 to extend allow extension of contracts with certain Level A hazardous material response teams until June 30, 2000. 1991 Wisconsin Act 104 required the establishment of regional response teams to assist in emergency response to Level A releases of hazardous materials. With base level funding of \$1,400,000 this would provide a total of \$1,577,400 in 1999-00 for the funding of contracts.

Currently, the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) has contracts with eight regional teams to respond to any Level A hazardous materials release emergencies. These contracts have staggered expiration dates depending on when they were originally signed. Two of the original contracts expired in 1997-98, but at the direction of the Joint Committee on Finance these contracts were extended for one year. Under current law, five of these contracts will expire at the end of fiscal year 1998-99 and the remaining three existing contracts will expire at the end of fiscal year 1999-00. The recommended additional funding in 1999-00 is to extend the five contracts that expire in 1998-99 for another year so that all contracts will then uniformly expire at end of fiscal year 1999-00. The Executive Budget Book indicates that this would then allow DEM to review the program to ensure that new contracts beginning in the fiscal year 2000-01 are adjusted to provide further efficiencies, economies of scale and allow the Division to renegotiate all the contracts at the same time. No additional funding above the \$1,400,000 base level funding is requested in 2000-01.

**14. EMERGENCY RESPONSE SUPPLEMENT LAPSE**

GPR-Lapse	\$177,400
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**Governor:** Require a lapse from the emergency response supplement appropriation to the general fund of \$177,400 on the general effective date of the bill. This appropriation is a GPR continuing appropriation and exists for the purpose of reimbursing regional response (Level A) teams and local (Level B) response teams for costs incurred in responding to hazardous substance releases. The appropriation may be used to provide reimbursement to a Level A teams for costs incurred in responding to Level A hazardous substances releases where those costs are not recovered from the persons responsible for the hazardous substance releases. In addition, the appropriation may also be used to reimburse local agency (Level B) teams for the costs of initial responses to hazardous substances discharges (releases), to the extent such costs are not recovered from the persons responsible for

the releases of the hazardous substances. The June 30, 1999, balance in this appropriation is estimated to be approximately \$373,900.

[Bill Section: 9235(1)]

**15. FEDERAL FUNDING DECREASE**

	Funding Positions	
FED	-\$320,200	-1.75

**Governor:** Delete \$144,700 FED and 2.0 positions in 1999-00 and \$175,500 FED and 1.75 positions in 2000-01 due to an increased match requirement for federal funding. Beginning October 1, 1999, the Federal Emergency Management Agency will require 50% state matching funds for certain state emergency management programs that are currently funded 100% from federal funds. Among the programs that will be subject to state matching requirements are: (a) the emergency management training program which provides funding and guidance for the Division of Emergency Management's training activities for local governments; (b) the exercise training program which assists local governments in preparing for responses to catastrophic events; (c) the population protection planning program which works on updating county and state emergency operations plans; and (d) the state hazard mitigation planning program.

**16. OFFSETS TO FEDERAL FUNDING REDUCTION**

	Funding Positions	
PR	-\$6,800	2.00
SEG	-141,000	0.00
Total	-\$147,800	2.00

**Governor:** *Use of SARA Funds.* Provide 2.0 PR positions and allow the Division of Emergency Management to retain base level Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA) funds that previously were transferred to DNR to fund an oil spill coordinator position in that agency. Provide a technical reduction of \$3,400 PR annually. [Note: DOA budget staff indicate that the Governor's intent was that funding for these positions should also be provided, but expenditure authority was inadvertently not included in the budget. The assumed base funding from SARA that would need to be made available to accomplish the Governor's intent would be \$68,800 PR in 1999-00 and \$70,900 PR in 2000-01.]

*Reduce Environmental Fund Support.* Reduce funding for hazardous substances emergency response training by \$74,900 SEG in 1999-00 and \$66,100 SEG in 2000-01. These funds were previously used for local government training activities and derive from the DNR environmental fund. Base level funding of \$1,000 SEG in 1999-00 and \$9,800 SEG in 2000-01 would remain in the appropriation under the Governor's recommendation.

**17. ELIMINATE FINANCIAL ANALYST POSITION**

	Funding Positions	
PR	-\$110,600	-1.00

**Governor:** Reduce funding by \$55,300 annually and delete 1.0 vacant financial analyst position from the Division of Emergency Management. The reduction consists of: (a) -\$30,300 annually for salaries and fringe

benefits for the financial analyst position; and (b) -\$25,000 annually for supplies and services. Funding for this position comes from federal Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA) funds.

#### 18. RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PLANNING PROGRAM

Funding Positions		
PR	\$27,600	-0.25

**Governor:** Provide \$17,300 in 1999-00 and \$10,300 in 2000-01 and delete 0.25 FTE for the following adjustments to radiological emergency planning (REP) program: (a) increased costs associated with a contract with DHFS to provide radiological monitoring services (\$7,200 in 1999-00 and \$13,000 in 2000-01); (b) increased charges to the program for the Division of Emergency Management administrator's salary (\$10,100 annually); (c) a decrease in the funding and position authority for the Division's public information officer attributed to this program (-\$12,800 and -0.25 position in 2000-01).

The REP program assists in the development and monitoring of emergency planning activities regarding evacuation and containment of any releases from participating nuclear power plants. Funding for this program comes from fees paid by a consortium of four utilities that operate nuclear power plants in or within 100 miles of Wisconsin's borders. These utilities are Wisconsin Electric Power Co., Wisconsin Public Service, Northern States Power, and Commonwealth-Edison. Expenditure decreases are associated with the withdrawal from the program of the Commonwealth-Edison utility due to the closure of its nuclear power plant in Zion, Illinois.

#### 19. REPEAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION REGISTRATION FEES

**Governor:** Repeal the requirement for Division of Emergency Management to promulgate rules specifying the amount of fees to be paid by individuals who are required to file statements with the federal Department of Transportation regarding hazardous materials transportation. The state Department of Transportation is currently responsible for the collection of such fees. For more detail on the repeal of the fee and hazardous materials transportation see "Department of Transportation."

[Bill Section: 2303]



## Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs  
30 W. Mifflin St., PO Box 7843  
Madison, WI 53707-7843  
(608) 266-1311  
Web site: <http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva>

### History of Wisconsin veterans' benefits

Wisconsin has earned a distinguished reputation nationally for instituting programs and services that meet the needs of its residents who served in the U.S. armed forces and their families. *[see page 6 for comparison with other states]*

The state's proud tradition of providing assistance to veterans and their families began soon after the Civil War. Most of this early assistance was intended to alleviate the suffering of destitute veterans and their families.

In 1887, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a prominent organization representing Civil War veterans, founded the Grand Army Home at King. This facility near Waupaca was eventually turned over to the State of Wisconsin and became the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King.

In 1901, the state honored Civil War veterans by establishing a GAR headquarters and museum in the State Capitol. In 1989, the Legislature authorized the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs to build a new museum, honoring veterans from all wars, across the street from the Capitol. The award-winning Wisconsin Veterans Museum opened in 1993.

In 1919, the state issued its only wartime bonus to Wisconsin veterans of World War I. In 1945, rather than issue a wartime bonus with little lasting value, the Legislature created programs that offered long-term benefits for state veterans and their families.

To administer state veterans programs, the Legislature created the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs in 1945. The department was given the administrative responsibility for the Grand Army Home at King, the GAR Memorial Hall in the Capitol, the state's economic and education assistance benefits for veterans, and other programs. It also assumed responsibility for segregated funds for veterans that were combined in 1961 to form the Veterans Trust Fund.

Today, WDVA provides an array of benefits and services to eligible state veterans, and in some instances, veterans' family members. *[Eligibility information is available on the WDVA web site and in WDVA brochure #135].*

To deliver these benefits and services, WDVA works closely with county veterans service officers (CVSOs). Each county has a veterans service officer who offers outreach, counseling and processing of benefit applications for both state and federal programs.

## Loans, grants and other direct services to veterans and their families

WDVA's loans and grant programs are financed through two separate sources --- the Veterans Trust Fund and the Veterans Mortgage Loan Repayment Fund. The Veterans Trust Fund currently finances the following programs:

- **Personal Loan Program** .... provides loans of up to \$10,000 with 10 years to repay at interest rates starting as low as 6%. The Personal Loan Program may be used to pay for education expenses (of the veteran, veteran's spouse, veteran's children), debt consolidation, medical expenses, business purchases, purchase of a mobile home, medical expenses or funeral expenses.
- **Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grants** .... reimburse a portion of the cost of tuition and fees for recently discharged veterans who are enrolled in undergraduate courses at schools in the UW System or the state's technical college system. During the 1995-1997 biennium, the reimbursement rate increased from 35% to 50%. To qualify, the veteran plus spouse's annual income may not exceed \$47,500 plus \$500 for each dependent in excess of two. Beginning with the 1997-1999 biennium, qualified veterans can obtain grants for up to 10 years after separating from military service. During the 1995-1997 biennium, this period was six years.
- **Part-Time Study Grants** .... provide reimbursement for successfully completed courses when veterans are enrolled part-time or in summer sessions at accredited schools in Wisconsin. The combined veteran plus spouse income limit is the same as the Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grant.
- **Retraining Grants** .... provide up to \$3,000 to recently unemployed or under-employed veterans who demonstrate financial need while enrolled in a training program that is expected to lead to employment. To qualify, the veteran plus spouse's annual income may not exceed \$36,600 plus \$500 for each dependent in excess of two.
- **Subsistence Aid Grants** .... provide temporary, emergency financial aid to veterans and their dependents in the event of an illness, disability or death that causes a loss in income.
- **Health Care Aid Grants** .... provide assistance for medical treatment or hospitalization when the veteran is unable to pay these expenses.
- **Veterans Assistance Program** .... helps homeless veterans and those at-risk of becoming homeless get the services they need to obtain steady employment and affordable housing.
- **CVSO Grants** .... help support the operations of county veterans service officers. During the 1995-1997 biennium, all 72 Wisconsin counties received either a \$5,000 grant for maintaining a full-time CVSO or \$500 for a part-time CVSO. The grant amounts increased in the 1997-1999 biennium.
- **Grants to veterans' organizations** .... provide financial assistance to veterans' organizations that represent veterans who are filing for federal VA benefits.

The Veterans Mortgage Loan Repayment Fund, formed in 1975, is the funding authority for the Home Loan Program. It derives funding from the sale of general obligation bonds, repayment of existing loans and interest on investments. The Home Loan Program is completely self-supporting and requires no general purpose revenue support.

The Veterans Mortgage Loan Repayment Fund financed the following programs during the 1995-1997 biennium.

- **Primary Mortgage Home Loans** .... provide 30-year, fixed rate mortgages for the purchase or construction of a veteran's principal residence. The interest rates are consistently lower than prevailing market rates.
- **Home Improvement Loan Program** .... provides low-interest rate loans for repairs, alternations, construction, and renovation of a veteran's principal residence. Qualified veterans may borrow up to \$15,000 with up to 15 years to repay.

### **Other services for veterans and their families**

**WDVA Claims Bureau** .... assists state veterans and their dependents with claims for federal VA compensation, pension, education, medical care and death benefits. The bureau is located at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Regional Office in Milwaukee.

**State Veterans Cemeteries** .... provide interments for veterans and their family members at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Cemetery near Union Grove and at the Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery at King. In addition, WDVA has been authorized to create a state veterans cemetery in northwest Wisconsin.

### **Legislative accomplishments**

The 1997-1999 State Biennial Budget, enacted last October, contains some of the most significant improvements in Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs' (WDVA) benefits and programs in the last 25 years. These improvements include the following provisions:

- **Peacetime veterans eligibility for WDVA benefits** .... Approximately 100,000 additional Wisconsin veterans who served two or more years on active duty during peacetime are now eligible for benefits. Wartime veterans who meet the statutory requirements are still eligible for benefits.
- **WDVA Personal Loan Program** .... This new loan program allows veterans (and in some instances members of their families) to borrow up to \$10,000 with 10 years to repay at interest rates as low as 6%.

- **WDVA Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grant (TFRG) ....** Veterans now have up to 10 years after separation from active-duty service to qualify for 50% reimbursement of tuition and fees at eligible schools. Previously, they had only six years after active-duty service to use the TFRG. Veterans with disabilities rated 30% or higher by the VA may now receive 100% reimbursement of tuition and fees.
- **Increased WDVA support for veterans' education and job training ....** WDVA's budget for education and job training grants for the biennium is \$6.2 million, which is \$2.75 million more than WDVA disbursed in the previous biennium.
- **Increased funding for home loans ....** For the first time in many years, WDVA has sufficient funds to provide Primary Mortgage Home Loans to eligible veterans who have been out of service more than 30 years or who entered service after 1976. All maximum income limits have been removed from both the Primary Mortgage Home Loan and Home Improvement Loan Program.
- **Increased WDVA support for County Veterans Service Offices ....** To help County Veterans Service Officers provide benefits counseling and assist in the application process, WDVA provides an annual grant to counties. Those counties with a full-time CVSO now may receive an annual grant ranging from \$8,500 (for counties with a population of less than 20,000) up to \$13,000 (for counties with a population of 75,000 or more). Previously, the grant amount was \$5,000 for counties with a full-time CVSO regardless of size. Counties with a part-time CVSO continue to receive \$500.

The recent improvements in WDVA benefits and services contained in the state biennial budget continue a trend of increased support for veterans. Here are some more examples of progress during the past 10 years:

The **Home Improvement Loan Program** was created in 1989 to provide low-interest loans of up to \$15,000 with 10 years to repay.

The **Retraining Grant Program** began in 1989 to assist recently unemployed veterans who have a financial need while being retrained for employment.

The asset base of the **Veterans Trust Fund** was stabilized in 1993 through a plan to transfer surplus insurance reserves from the Home Loan Program to the trust fund. This funding was used to start the Consumer Loan Program, which continues to bring money into the trust fund. In 1994, the trust fund received repayment of \$4.2 million in loans used for operational expenses at the Wisconsin Veterans Home.

**Ainsworth Hall**, at the Wisconsin Veterans Home, opened in 1993. This state-of-the-art, 205-bed, skilled nursing care facility includes special features to accommodate members with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia.

Also in 1993, the **Wisconsin Veterans Museum** opened on the Capitol Square.



The **Veterans Assistance Program** for homeless veterans and those at-risk of becoming homeless began operating in 1994. The program will expand with the opening of a fourth veterans assistance center this year at Southern Wisconsin Center, near Union Grove.

The **Persian Gulf War** was designated a wartime period in 1994, making all Gulf War veterans who served on active duty for at least 90 days eligible for WDVA benefits.

Most **income limits on the Home Loan Program** were canceled in 1994. And in 1997, a new funding source for the Home Loan Program allowed WDVA to remove all income limits on its Primary Mortgage Home Loan Program.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, an array of communities and organizations around the state participated in the Department of Defense's **World War II Commemorative Communities Program** in 1995. Wisconsin was sixth in the nation in participation with nearly 250 commemorative communities.

In 1996, the **state residency requirement** for receiving WDVA benefits was reduced from 10 years to five years for those veterans who were not state residents when they joined the military.

The **Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery** began burials in 1996 on the same day that the Wood National VA Cemetery in Milwaukee reached its capacity.

To serve a part of the state that contains approximately 200,000 veterans, WDVA in 1998 received authorization to begin planning for a **second state veterans home** to be located in southeast Wisconsin.

## Comparison with other states

Wisconsin is a national leader in offering comprehensive benefits and services to veterans and their families.

Wisconsin is one of only five states that provide home mortgage loans, according to the directory of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs. The others are Alaska, California, Texas and Oregon. Mississippi's program is no longer active. Only Wisconsin and Texas offer home improvement loans to veterans.

Wisconsin is one of only four states offering personal loans. The others are Maine, South Dakota and North Dakota.

Fifteen states offer education benefits to veterans. Many others provide education benefits for the children of veterans killed or disabled in wartime action. Wisconsin provides education benefits that directly assist veterans, such as grants that pay up to 50 percent of full-time and part-time students' tuition and fees.

Wisconsin has two state veterans cemeteries in addition to the federally operated Wood National VA Cemetery in Milwaukee. The new Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery near Union Grove is one of the finest facilities of its kind and will be officially dedicated on May 31, 1998. WDVA has received authorization to build a state veterans cemetery in northwest Wisconsin.

The Veterans Assistance Program for homeless and at-risk veterans has attracted national attention and is becoming a prototype for other states.

The Wisconsin Veterans Home at King offers high-quality skilled nursing care and retirement options for veterans and their spouses. A second veterans home is being planned for southeast Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison attracts visitors from around the world and has earned national awards for its portrayal of veterans' history.

Thirteen states provided a World War II bonus, but most of these states do not have long-term benefits for veterans.

# STATE VETERANS' BENEFITS COMPARISON

STATE	BONUS	HOME LOANS	PERSONAL LOANS	GRANTS	VETERAN EDUCATION BENEFITS	FAMILY* EDUCATION BENEFITS	NURSING CARE
ALABAMA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
ALASKA	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
ARIZONA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NONE	NONE	YES
ARKANSAS	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
CALIFORNIA	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
COLORADO	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
CONNECTICUT	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	YES
DELAWARE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
DIST. OF COLUMBIA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
FLORIDA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
GEORGIA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
HAWAII	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE
IDAHO	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES	YES
ILLINOIS	2,K,VN,D.S	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
INDIANA	2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
IOWA	1,2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
KANSAS	1	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
KENTUCKY	1,2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
LOUISIANA	2	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
MAINE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	YES	YES
MARYLAND	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
MASSACHUSETTS	2,K,VN,D.S.	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES
MICHIGAN	1,2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES	YES
MINNESOTA	D.S	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
MISSISSIPPI	NONE	YES**	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
MISSOURI	1	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
MONTANA	1,2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES
NEBRASKA	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
NEVADA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1,2,K,VN,DS	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
NEW JERSEY	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
NEW MEXICO	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	NONE
NEW YORK	2	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
NORTH CAROLINA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
NORTH DAKOTA	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	NONE	YES
OHIO	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
OKLAHOMA	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	YES
OREGON	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES
PENNSYLVANIA	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES	YES
RHODE ISLAND	2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
SOUTH CAROLINA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,2,K,VN,D.S.	NONE	YES	NONE	YES	YES	YES
TENNESSEE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
TEXAS	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE
UTAH	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
VERMONT	VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES
VIRGINIA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
WASHINGTON	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	YES
WEST VIRGINIA	1,2,K,VN,D.S.	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
<b>WISCONSIN</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>WYOMING</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>

= WW1  
 = WW11  
 = KOREA  
 N = VIET NAM  
 DS = DESERT STORM

\* BENEFITS PRIMARILY FOR DEPENDENTS OF DECEASED OR DISABLED VETERANS  
 \*\* HOME LOAN PROGRAM CURRENTLY IS INACTIVE

Source: National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, 1997 Directory

## Demographic information

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) estimates that there are approximately 495,900 veterans living in Wisconsin as of July 1, 1997. Of that total approximately 39,000 are disabled veterans.

Contact Lana Carter, WDVA Office of Budget & Planning, at 267-0783, for a breakdown by county of Wisconsin veterans' population.

### Approximate number of Wisconsinites participating in military conflicts [Published in Wisconsin Blue Book]

Conflict	Number served	Died
Civil War	91,379	12,216
Spanish-American War	5,469	134
Mexican Border Service	4,168	0
World War I	122,215	3,932
World War II	332,200	8,390
Korean War	132,000	729
Vietnam War	165,400	1,239
Lebanon & Grenada	400	1
Panama	520	1
Desert Shield/Storm	10,400	11
Somalia	426	2

## For more information

County veterans service officers can help veterans apply for state and federal benefits. The CVSOs are listed in the phone book under "County Government."

The WDVA web site has information about eligibility for benefits, loan and grant programs, state veterans cemeteries, the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison. The WDVA web site address is <http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva>

For legislative questions, contact: John Scocos, WDVA Executive Assistant, at 266-3081. Other sources of information are:

- WDVA receptionist and general information ..... 266-1311
- Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center ..... 267-1799
- Wisconsin Veterans Museum programs and hours of operation (recorded) ..... 264-6086
- Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery ..... 414-878-5660
- Wisconsin Veterans Home at King ..... 715-258-5586
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Milwaukee Regional Office ..... 1-800-827-1000
- Fort McCoy operator ..... 608-388-2222

**Wisconsin**  
**Department of Veterans Affairs**

**Strategic Business Plan**  
**1998-2005**

*Tommy G. Thompson*  
*Governor*

*Raymond G. Boland*  
*Secretary*

*Mission First,*  
*Veterans*  
*Always*



STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



30 West Mifflin Street, P.O. Box 7843, Madison, WI 53707-7843  
(608) 266-1311 FAX (608) 267-0403  
1-800-947-8387 (WIS VETS)  
Tommy G. Thompson, Governor  
Raymond G. Boland, Secretary

**FROM THE SECRETARY  
RAYMOND G. BOLAND**

*"Mission First, Veterans Always"*



The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs has aggressively expanded its strategic business and information technology planning for the next horizon to improve and create programs that meet the changing needs of Wisconsin veterans. To assist us in this effort, we engaged consultants to conduct a management study of the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King and a feasibility study for new skilled nursing and domiciliary facilities at Southern Wisconsin Center. A consultant also led internal process action teams in streamlining our loan, grant, and federal claims delivery processes. These strategic planning efforts ultimately impact on all of our business operations, which include:

- The Wisconsin Veterans Home at King and a future retirement facility at the Southern Wisconsin Center near Union Grove.
- Benefit programs and services such as loans, grants, federal claims processing, employment and training, the Veterans Assistance Program for homeless veterans, and the Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemeteries.
- The Wisconsin Veterans Museum and its educational mission.

The ambitious goals and strategies set forth in this business plan mirror our mission and serve as the framework for future programs that contribute to long-term success. Once achieved, our goals will serve Wisconsin veterans from all service periods for decades to come.

**Raymond G. Boland  
Secretary**



## **Our Environment**

Important environmental changes and external forces are driving internal change at the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs. For example, the downsizing of the military has increased the need for job training as active-duty members return to the civilian workforce. Concurrently, the expanded role of the National Guard members and Reservists in national defense and peacekeeping missions requires us to re-examine their eligibility for state benefits.

New opportunities for growth have surfaced as well. As the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) decentralizes its programs, opportunities for states to expand their programs with the help of federal grant funds have materialized. This is especially true for major construction projects such as nursing homes and cemeteries, two of our most important initiatives for the 1998-2005 planning cycle. Once realized, these initiatives will dramatically improve long-term health care and retirement options for aging Wisconsin veterans.

Other opportunities to improve service delivery for veterans exist through the application of web-based technologies. We are modernizing our loan programs and improving tuition reimbursement, part-time study, and retraining grant options. We are also developing a plan to increase the federal dollars awarded to Wisconsin veterans and their dependents for compensation, pension, education, medical care, and death benefits.

As the years go by, preserving the history of veteran sacrifices for national peace and sustaining public support for veterans becomes increasingly important. These objectives are a central part of the educational mission of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

Coupled with our desire to forge constructive federal, state, county, community, and corporate partnerships with others serving veterans, consideration of all these forces is key to our business planning.

# **Our Values, Mission, and Vision**

Wisconsin is a national leader in offering comprehensive benefits and services for veterans and their families. Through our values, mission, and vision, we will strive to work with our partners in meeting the challenges ahead to make a difference for Wisconsin veterans.

## **Values**

The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs demonstrates leadership and advocacy for Wisconsin veterans and commits to service excellence for veterans to promote respect for veterans' achievements and sacrifices on behalf of the nation and the world.

## **Mission**

### **Mission First, Veterans Always**

This simple statement is the heart of our mission which is to design programs and services that meet the changing needs of veterans, from all service periods, and their families in gratitude for and recognition of their sacrifices to preserve freedom for Wisconsin citizens and the nation.

## **Vision**

We envision an organization where management and staff work together with our federal, state, county, community, and corporate partners to identify the changing needs of Wisconsin veterans and their families. We envision an organization that has the leadership, capability, and resources to create or modify programs and services designed to serve the myriad of needs throughout the veterans' community.







**Goal 1**  
**Demonstrate leadership**

***Strategies***

**Communicate the WDVA mission and vision through a consistent, cohesive, compelling veterans' message.**

**Build on our educational mission and sustain public support through innovative museum programs that preserve the history of veteran contributions and their significance to our state and nation.**

**Set the direction for WDVA programs. Assess and revise that direction as environmental changes occur and opportunities for growth surface.**

**Capitalize on opportunities to expand programs and services for veterans. Testify before congressional committees about issues affecting Wisconsin veterans.**

***The very essence of leadership is that you have to have a vision. It's got to be a vision you articulate clearly and forcefully on every occasion.***

***-Theodore Hesburgh***



**Goal 2**  
**Promote advocacy for**  
**veterans' programs, services,**  
**and issues**

***Strategies***

**A**dvocate for programs and services that meet veterans' needs with full consideration for differences due to age, service period, and other factors.

**D**evelop and implement a marketing plan that increases federal compensation and pension benefits for Wisconsin veterans.

**E**nsure that veterans' programs are centrally coordinated in line with our statutory authority even though resources and delivery mechanisms may be decentralized.

*The good plan vigorously executed right now is far better than a perfect plan executed next week.*





**Goal 3**  
**Unify federal, state, county,**  
**community, and corporate partnerships**

***Strategies***

**C**omplement and supplement federal programs by strengthening our partnership with the federal VA. As the VA transfers functions to the regional Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs) and the states, capitalize on opportunities to develop new and improved veterans' programs.

**P**ursue opportunities through new partnerships, markets, and services that will enhance growth and prosperity for veterans' programs.

**D**evelop new and stronger partnerships with other state agencies including the Departments of Administration, Workforce Development, Health and Family Services, Military Affairs, and Corrections to serve veterans more effectively.

**C**onstruct service delivery systems that meet veterans' expectations.

*No man that does not see visions will ever  
realize any high hope or undertake  
any high enterprise.*

*-Woodrow Wilson*



## **Goal 4 Maximize use of technology**

### ***Strategies***

**P**rovide information technology (IT) funding and staff to meet DOA infrastructure standards and to support growth in users and workstations and new program initiatives.

**U**pgade CVSO hardware and software to build on the infrastructure put in place in 1998 and expand the electronic processing of veteran loan and grant applications.

**P**rovide funding for hardware and software to ensure access to remote databases and facilitate the flow of electronic information between partners using web-based technology.

**P**rovide IT funding for contract services to design and develop databases, develop electronic forms, and to provide hardware and network capacity to automate loan, grant, and federal claims processes. Database design will include automation of the base files, integration of DD 214 data, and tie-ins with federal data systems. All of these investments will significantly improve service delivery to veterans and partners by reducing cycle time, rework, and costs.

**R**esolve any problems associated with the Year 2000 date change.

*The significant problems we face cannot  
be solved at the same level of thinking we were at  
when we created them.*





**Goal 5**  
**Solidify revenue bases and**  
**manage expenditures**

***Strategies***

**E**nsure that the asset base of the Veterans Trust Fund, which finances the majority of grants, loans, and other benefits, is able and stable to meet the current and future needs of veterans.

**D**evelop and implement plans to increase Trust Fund revenues and generate long-term solvency.

**E**valuate the impact of the sale of taxable bonds on the Primary Mortgage Loan and Home Improvement Loan Programs and on revenue generation.

**E**valuate the impact of the Personal Loan Program on revenues and program usage.

**E**valuate the effect of peacetime veterans' eligibility on revenues and program usage.

**A**ggressively seek out federal funding and federal/state grants to broaden funding streams.

**A**nalyze revenues and expenditures at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King and develop a plan to make the Home self-supporting with full consideration for new federal payment guidelines.

**P**rovide adequate financing from the state's general fund (GPR) for appropriate WDVA administrative costs.

*What gets measured gets done*  
*What does not get measured atrophies on the bookshelf.*

## **Goal 6**

# **Achieve growth in programs**

### ***Strategies***

**R**efine existing programs and develop new programs to satisfy the changing needs of veterans with careful thought given to differences in age, service period, and other relevant factors.

**R**esearch inclusion of National Guard members and Reservists for state veterans' benefits and services eligibility.

**C**reate new primary health care facilities at Southern Wisconsin Center to provide skilled nursing care, adult day care, and community-based residential living facilities for veterans in southeast Wisconsin.

**P**artner with community-based organizations to develop affordable low-income and single-resident-occupancy housing facilities for veterans.

**E**xpand the Veterans Assistance Program to improve services provided for homeless and near-homeless veterans.

**D**evelop the Northern Cemetery operational plan and a marketing plan to promote all three Wisconsin Veteran Memorial Cemeteries.

**E**xpand employment and training services for veterans, including placement of veterans into the labor force. Coordinate approvals for school and educational courses to train veterans.

**E**xpand Wisconsin Veterans Museum programs and educational activities portraying veterans' history. Partner with the National Guard to promote visibility of Guard military contributions.

**E**xplore the creation of an economic development program for Wisconsin veterans.





**Goal 7**  
**Strive for seamless delivery**  
**systems to improve service to veterans**

***Strategies***

**O**perate with the efficiency, innovation, and flexibility of a well-managed business.

**A**nalyze service delivery systems for loans, grants, and federal claims services to improve operating ability and business results. Develop plans for process improvement and data collection with linkages to federal bases.

**D**ramatically improve internal processing, cycle time, and quality of service delivery for loan and grant programs.

**E**xplore automated underwriting options through the lending institutions for the Primary Mortgage Home Loan Program.

**D**evelop a plan to manage primary mortgage loan servicing within WDVA.

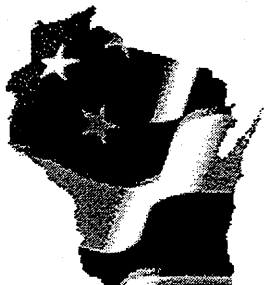
**T**arget veteran needs and population for receiving health care benefits.

*If we want to change a situation, we first have to change ourselves. And to change ourselves effectively, we first have to change our perceptions.*

*--Dr. Stephen Covey*







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