

# Budget Unit Brief

## FY 2017



## Veterans County Grants

### Purpose and History

The County Allocation Program began in FY 2007. The [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) is required to annually allocate \$10,000, if funding is available, to each county from the County Commission of Veterans Affairs Fund. The money must be used for the administration and maintenance of the [county commission of veterans affairs office](#). Staff must agree to maintain the current spending level compared to the previous fiscal year. Each participating county is required to submit a detailed report to the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs to identify how each county increased services to veterans with the allocation moneys.

Funds remaining in the County Commission of Veterans Affairs Fund after the allocations have been distributed to the counties will be used by the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide for County Commission of Veterans Affairs training programs.

The Department is required to submit a report by October 1 of each year to the General Assembly summarizing the impact of the allocation Program on increasing services to veterans at the county level.

Some of the most popular uses of the moneys by the counties, as reported to the state, are as follows:

- New offices
- Office furniture
- Increased office hours or personnel
- Computers, including laptops
- Veterans Information Management System (VIMS) software
- Copier
- Printer
- Office supplies
- Office rent
- Phone
- Outreach
- State and national training

### Funding

Iowa Code section [35A.16](#) has a standing appropriation of \$1.0 million. The appropriation is usually reduced to \$990,000 in the annual Health and Human Services Appropriation Bill. The money is intended to be used for outreach to veterans in the communities.

### Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [35A.16](#)  
[801](#) Iowa Administrative Code chapter [7](#)

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### More Information

Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs: <https://va.iowa.gov/>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

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