

## STATE GRANTS

<b>BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE</b>						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	<b>FY 2008 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2009 Enacted</b>	<b>Diff. FY08 Enacted / FY09 Enacted</b>	<b>Recovery Act</b>	<b>FY 2010 Request</b>	<b>Diff. FY09 Enacted / FY10 Req</b>
<b>Activity Appropriation</b>	<b>161,894</b>	<b>168,894</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>172,394</b>	<b>3,500</b>
FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0

### **Introduction**

The Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) administers two programs through formula grants to States that directly meet the goals in its strategic plan: (1) the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP); and (2) the Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) Program. In addition, this budget activity supports VETS' responsibility within the Transition Assistance Program (TAP), which is to provide TAP Employment Workshops to service members transitioning to the civilian workforce.

The Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) is a State grant program authorized by Section 4103(A) of Title 38, United States Code. DVOP specialists provide outreach services, and intensive employment assistance to meet the employment needs of eligible veterans. DVOP specialists provide employment services at Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) offices and recovery and employment assistance to wounded and injured service members receiving care at military treatment facilities through the Recovery & Employment Assistance Lifelines (REALifelines) program. Priority of service is given to those veterans needing intensive services, including special disabled veterans, disabled veterans, and other eligible veterans. In providing these services, the maximum emphasis is placed on meeting the employment needs of economically or educationally disadvantaged veterans.

The Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) program is a State grant program, authorized by Section 4104(A), Title 38, United States Code. LVER staff conduct outreach to employers and engage in advocacy efforts with hiring executives to increase employment opportunities for veterans, encourage the hiring of disabled veterans, and generally assist veterans to gain and retain employment. LVER staff conduct seminars for employers and job search workshops for veterans seeking employment, and facilitate the provision of service in regard to employment, training, and placement services furnished to veterans by all staff of the employment service delivery system. In addition, LVER staff maintain cooperative working relationships with community organizations.

VETS provides annual formula grants to States for the operation of the DVOP and LVER programs, in accordance with 38 U.S.C. Chapter 41. The Jobs for Veterans Act of 2002 (JVA) amended 38 U.S.C. 4103(A) and enables the States to employ full or part-time DVOP and LVER staff as the State determines the number of individual DVOP and LVER positions necessary to carry out the above duties.

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A set-aside in the funding formula supports the delivery of TAP employment workshops and provides VETS with the flexibility to provide targeted funding in response to exigent circumstances. Funding is also made available from the set aside to provide TAP Employment Workshops at military installations overseas and to continue the National Hire Veterans Campaign.

### **TAP Employment Workshops**

The Department of Defense set a goal for TAP Employment Workshop participation of 85 percent of separating service members and demobilizing National Guard and Reserve Forces. TAP Employment Workshop participation is expected to increase during FY 2009 and FY 2010. In FY 2009, VETS expects to deliver over 5,300 TAP Employment Workshops to 160,000 service members and spouses at military installations within the United States and overseas. In FY 2010, VETS expects to deliver over 6,100 TAP Employment Workshops to approximately 185,000 participants worldwide. This increase will target workshop delivery to spouses and family members including those with limited English proficiency.

To meet the anticipated increased demand for TAP Employment Workshops, and maximize efficiency and effectiveness, VETS will need to increase the number of contract staff who facilitate TAP Employment Workshops.

### **Five-Year Budget Activity History**

<b><u>Fiscal Year</u></b>	<b><u>Funding</u></b> (Dollars in Thousands)	<b><u>FTE</u></b>
2005	161,097	0
2006	160,791	0
2007	160,791	0
2008	161,894	0
2009	168,894	0

NOTE: Excludes Recovery Act Funding. See budget activity head table.

### **FY 2010**

A total of \$172,394,000 is requested in FY 2010 for Jobs for Veterans State Grants, an increase of \$3,500,000 above the FY 2009 funding level. Funding at this level will support 1,064 DVOP specialists and 972 LVER staff, respectively, in FY 2010. The number of veterans and transitioning service members receiving employment services at out-stationed areas such as military clinics and hospitals, VA Vocational and Rehabilitation Centers, and homeless veteran reintegration grantees will increase in FY2010. This will require an increase of Jobs for Veteran State staff to meet this requirement.

The staffing levels below reflect VETS projections, however, States are permitted to determine the precise allocation of their grant funds to DVOP specialists and LVER staff.

- In FY 2010, the State grants will support approximately 1,064 DVOP specialists.
- In FY 2010 the State grants will support approximately 972 LVER staff.

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VETS' request anticipates an increased demand for TAP Employment Workshops in FY 2010 as the military service branches work to achieve the DoD goal of an 85 percent TAP Employment Workshop participation rate. In FY 2010, VETS expects to deliver over 6,100 TAP Employment Workshops to approximately 185,000 participants worldwide. This increase will target workshop delivery to spouses and family members including those with limited English proficiency.

### **FY 2009**

VETS received its request of \$168,894,000 in FY 2009 – \$7,000,000 above the FY 2008 level – funding transition services to veterans via One-Stop Career Centers and TAP Employment workshops. In FY 2009, VETS expects to deliver over 5,300 TAP Employment Workshops to 160,000 service members and spouses at military installations within the United States and overseas. In FY 2009, the State grants will support approximately 1,048 DVOP specialists. In FY 2009 the State grants will support approximately 954 LVER staff.

### **FY 2008**

VETS received its request of \$161,894,000 in FY 2008. This level of funding allowed VETS to support the Jobs for Veterans State Grants and the Transition Assistance Program (TAP). This funding strategy permitted an increase in the total number of veterans served by One-Stop Career Centers and TAP Employment Workshops, an increase over the level achieved in FY 2007.

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## WORKLOAD SUMMARY

	<b>FY 2008 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2009 Target</b>	<b>FY 2010 Target</b>
<b>Jobs for Veterans' State Grants</b>			
Number of Participants 1/	614,440	639,750	653,000
<b>Budget Activity Total</b>	<b>614,440</b>	<b>639,750</b>	<b>653,000</b>

1/ Participant is a veteran who has been determined to be eligible to participate in and who has received at least one service by a DVOP or LVER.

### Workload Summary

A total of \$172,394,000 is requested for FY 2010 for Jobs for Veterans State Grants, an increase of \$3,500,000 above the FY 2009 funding level. VETS' request anticipates that separations from active duty during FY 2010 will stabilize at a level roughly comparable to that attained during FY 2009.

Consistent with the anticipated stabilization of separations from active duty, VETS also anticipates that beyond FY 2010, the number of service members receiving TAP Employment Workshops will hold steady around the level of 185,000. The increase from FY 2009 to FY 2010 reflects the continuing expansion of TAP Employment Workshops overseas and, in the U.S., ongoing delivery of TAP Employment Workshops to separating active duty service members and also to Guard and Reserve members as they demobilize.

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<b>BUDGET ACTIVITY by OBJECT CLASS</b>						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
		<b>FY 2008 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2009 Enacted</b>	<b>Recovery Act</b>	<b>FY 2010 Request</b>	<b>Change FY 10 Req / FY 09 Enacted</b>
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	532	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	1,472	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services	800	0	0	0	0
25.3	Other Purchases of goods and services from Government accounts 1/	80	0	0	0	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	159,010	168,894	0	172,394	3,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>161,894</b>	<b>168,894</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>172,394</b>	<b>3,500</b>
1/Other Purchases of Goods and Services From Government Accounts						
	Census Services	80	0	0	0	0