

FY 2010

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

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VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

Not to exceed [\$205,468,000] \$210,156,000 may be derived from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund to carry out the provisions of 38 U.S.C. 4100-4113, 4211-4215, and 4321-4327, and Public Law 103-353, and which shall be available for obligation by the States through December 31, [2009] 2010, of which [\$1,949,000] \$2,449,000 is for the National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute.

In addition, to carry out [the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Programs] *Department of Labor programs* under section 5(a)(1) of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Assistance Act of 2001 and the Veterans Workforce Investment Programs under section 168 of the Workforce Investment Act, [\$33,971,000] \$44,971,000, of which [\$7,641,000] \$9,641,000 shall be available for obligation for the period July 1, [2009] 2010, through June 30, [2009] 2011. (Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2009.)

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EXPLANATION OF LANGUAGE CHANGE

Updates of funding levels and years.

Clarifies the Department's authority to use appropriated funds to carry out all Department of Labor activities authorized under section 5(a)(1) of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Assistance Act of 2001, not just the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Programs.

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ANALYSIS OF APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

Not applicable

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AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION								
(Dollars in Thousands)								
	FY 2008 Enacted		FY 2009 Enacted		Recovery Act		FY 2010 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
A. Appropriation	234	31,521	234	33,971	0	0	234	44,971
Reduction pursuant to P.L. 110-161	0	-550	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Supplementals and Rescissions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Appropriation, Revised	234	30,971	234	33,971	0	0	234	44,971
Subtotal Appropriation	234	30,971	234	33,971	0	0	234	44,971
Offsetting Collections From:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reimbursements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trust Funds	234	200,631	234	205,468	0	0	234	210,156
Other Supplementals and Rescissions	0	-3,506	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	234	197,125	234	205,468	0	0	234	210,156
B. Gross Budget Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offsetting Collections	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deduction:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reimbursements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C. Budget Authority	234	228,096	234	239,439	0	0	234	255,127
Before Committee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offsetting Collections From:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reimbursements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IT Crosscut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D. Total Budgetary Resources	234	228,096	234	239,439	0	0	234	255,127
Other Unobligated Balances	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unobligated Balance Expiring	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E. Total, Estimated Obligations	231	228,096	234	239,439	0	0	234	255,127

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2010 Request	Net Change
Budget Authority			
General Funds	33,971	44,971	+11,000
Trust Funds	205,468	210,156	+4,688
Total	239,439	255,127	+15,688

Full Time Equivalents

General Funds	0	0	0
Trust Funds	234	234	0
Total	234	234	0

Explanation of Change	FY 2009 Base		Trust Funds		FY 2010 Change General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Increases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Costs of pay adjustments	234	19,021	0	380	0	0	0	380
Personnel benefits	0	4,896	0	100	0	0	0	100
Travel	0	1,549	0	8	0	0	0	8
Transportation of things	0	87	0	0	0	0	0	0
GSA Space Rental	0	840	0	4	0	0	0	4
Communications, utilities & miscellaneous charges	0	385	0	2	0	0	0	2
Printing and reproduction	0	340	0	2	0	0	0	2
Advisory and assistance services	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other services	0	4,717	0	290	0	0	0	290
Working Capital Fund	0	4,189	0	-81	0	0	0	-81
Other government accounts (DHS Charges)	0	54	0	3	0	0	0	3
Purchase of goods and services from other Government accounts	0	144	0	1	0	0	0	1
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	1
Supplies and materials	0	158	0	1	0	0	0	1
Equipment	0	92	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants	0	202,865	0	0	0	0	0	0
Built-Ins Subtotal	234	239,357	0	711	0	0	0	711
B. Program:								
Homeless Veterans Program Increase	0	26,330	0	0	0	9,000	0	9,000
NVTI Program Increase	0	1,949	0	500	0	0	0	500
State Grants Program Increase	0	168,894	0	3,500	0	0	0	3,500
Veterans Workforce Investment Program Increase	0	7,641	0	0	0	2,000	0	2,000

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Explanation of Change	FY 2009 Base		FY 2010 Change					
			Trust Funds		General Funds		Total	
Programs Subtotal			0	+4,000	0	+11,000	0	+15,000
C. Financing:								
Total Increase	+234	+239,357	0	+4,711	0	+11,000	0	+15,711
Decreases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA)	0	82	0	-23	0	0	0	-23
Built-Ins Subtotal	0	82	0	-23	0	0	0	-23
B. Program:								
C. Financing:								
Total Decrease	0	+82	0	-23	0	0	0	-23
Total Change	+234	+239,439	0	+4,688	0	+11,000	0	+15,688

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SUMMARY BUDGET AUTHORITY AND FTE BY ACTIVITY								
(Dollars in Thousands)								
	FY 2008 Enacted		FY 2009 Enacted		Recovery Act		FY 2010 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
State Grants	0	161,894	0	168,894	0	0	0	172,394
Unemployment Trust Funds	0	161,894	0	168,894	0	0	0	172,394
Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program	0	23,620	0	26,330	0	0	0	35,330
General Funds	0	23,620	0	26,330	0	0	0	35,330
Veterans Workforce Investment Program	0	7,351	0	7,641	0	0	0	9,641
General Funds	0	7,351	0	7,641	0	0	0	9,641
National Veterans Employment and Training Service Institute	0	1,949	0	1,949	0	0	0	2,449
Unemployment Trust Funds	0	1,949	0	1,949	0	0	0	2,449
Federal Administration	231	33,282	234	34,625	0	0	234	35,313
Unemployment Trust Funds	231	33,282	234	34,625	0	0	234	35,313
Total	231	228,096	234	239,439	0	0	234	255,127
General Funds	0	30,971	0	33,971	0	0	0	44,971
Unemployment Trust Funds	231	197,125	234	205,468	0	0	234	210,156

NOTE: FY 2008 reflects actual FTE.

VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

BUDGET AUTHORITY BY OBJECT CLASS						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
		FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Change FY 10 Req. / FY 09 Enacted
	Full-Time Equivalent					
	Full-time Permanent	234	234		234	0
	Total	234	234	0	234	0
	Total Number of Full-Time Permanent Positions	234	234		234	0
	Average ES Salary	158,774	165,124		168,426	3302
	Average GM/GS Grade	13.48	13.7		13.7	0
	Average GM/GS Salary	82,515	85,815		89,676	3861
11.1	Full-time permanent	18,906	18,661	0	19,011	350
11.5	Overtime and Premium Pay	204	360	0	367	7
11.9	Total personnel compensation	19,110	19,021	0	19,378	357
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	5,079	4,978	0	5,078	100
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	1,456	1,549	0	1,557	8
22.0	Transportation of things	143	87	0	87	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	823	840	0	844	4
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	1,949	385	0	387	2
24.0	Printing and reproduction	320	340	0	342	2
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	2	2	0	2	0
25.2	Other services	5,327	4,717	0	5,507	790
25.3	Other Purchases of goods and services from Government accounts 1/	3,615	4,387	0	4,310	-77
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	15	10	0	10	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	28	8	0	8	0
26.0	Supplies and materials	141	158	0	160	2
31.0	Equipment	107	92	0	92	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	189,981	202,865	0	217,365	14500
	Total	228,096	239,439	0	255,127	15,688
	1/Other Purchases of Goods and Services From Government Accounts					
	Census Services	80	0	0	0	0
	Working Capital Fund	3,413	4,189	0	4,108	-81
	DHS Services	36	54	0	57	3
	HHS Services	86	144	0	145	1

NOTE: FY 2008 reflects actual FTE.

VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

BUDGET AUTHORITY BY STRATEGIC GOAL

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Strategic Goal 1: A Prepared Workforce	DOL Strategic Goal 2: A Competitive Workforce	DOL Strategic Goal 3: Safe and Secure Workplaces	DOL Strategic Goal 4: Strengthened Economic Protections	SGTotal
Performance Goal 1:					
State Grants	172,394	0	0	0	172,394
Federal Administration	20,835	0	0	0	20,835
Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program	35,330	0	0	0	35,330
Veteran's Workforce Investment Program	9,641	0	0	0	9,641
National Veterans' Employment and Training Service Institute	2,449	0	0	0	2,449
Performance Goal 2:					
Federal Administration	0	0	14,478	0	14,478
Performance Goal 3:					
State Grants	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Total	240,649	0	14,478	0	255,127

VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

TOTAL BUDGETARY RESOURCES

FY 2008 - 2010

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2008 Enacted				FY 2009 Enacted				Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request			
	Activity Approp.	Other Approp. ^{1/}	Other Resrcs. ^{2/}	Total	Activity Approp.	Other Approp. ^{1/}	Other Resrcs. ^{2/}	Total		Activity Approp.	Other Approp. ^{1/}	Other Resrcs. ^{2/}	Total
Veterans' Employment and Training Services	228,096	0	0	228,096	239,439	0	0	239,439	0	255,127	0	0	255,127
State Grants	161,894	19,633	0	181,527	168,894	0	0	168,894	0	172,394	0	0	172,394
Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program	23,620	0	0	23,620	26,330	0	0	26,330	0	35,330	0	0	35,330
Veterans Workforce Investment Program	7,351	0	0	7,351	7,641	0	0	7,641	0	9,641	0	0	9,641
National Veterans Employment and Training Service Institute	1,949	0	0	1,949	1,949	0	0	1,949	0	2,449	0	0	2,449
Federal Administration	33,282	-31,282	0	2,000	34,625	0	0	34,625	0	35,313	0	0	35,313
Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program	0	7,655	0	7,655	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Veterans' Employment and Training Service Institute	0	3,661	0	3,661	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veteran's Workforce Investment Program	0	333	0	333	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	228,096	0	0	228,096	239,439	0	0	239,439	0	255,127	0	0	255,127

^{1/} "Other Appropriation" is comprised of resources appropriated elsewhere, but for which the benefits accrue toward the operation of the budget activities. (Mgmt Crosscut, Executive Direction, and IT Crosscut)

^{2/} "Other Resources" include funds that are available for a budget activity, but not appropriated such as, reimbursements and fees

VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE

Performance Goal — Veterans' Employment and Training Service

DOL 09-1E - Improve the employment outcomes for veterans who receive One-Stop Career Center services and Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program services.

	PY 2005		PY 2006		PY 2007		PY 2008	PY 2009	PY 2010
	Goal Achieved		Goal Not Achieved		Goal Achieved				
Performance Indicator	Target	Result	Target	Result	Target	Result	Target	Target	Target
Veteran Entered Employment Rate	59%	62%	60%	60%	61.0%	62.5%	62.5%	62.5%	62.5%
Veteran Employment Retention Rate	81%	81%	81%	79%	80.0%	81.8%	82.0%	82.0%	82.0%
Disabled Veteran Entered Employment Rate	55%	56%	55%	55%	56.0%	58.4%	58.5%	58.5%	58.5%
Disabled Veteran Employment Retention Rate	79%	80%	79%	78%	79.0%	81.1%	81.0%	81.0%	81.0%
Homeless Veteran Entered Employment Rate	65%	68%	68%	65%	65.5%	65.5%	65.0%	65.0%	65.0%
Homeless Veteran 180-Day Employment Retention Rate	58%	58%*	58.5%	64%	64.5%	TBD	64.0%	64.0%	64.0%

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SIGNIFICANT ITEMS IN APPROPRIATION COMMITTEES' REPORTS

Homeless Veterans:

Senate: The Department of Labor should work, in coordination with the Departments of Housing and Urban Development and Veterans Affairs, to address the needs of homeless veterans, including exploring new approaches for preventing additional veterans from becoming homeless.

Response: DOL will continue to work with the VA and HUD in addressing the needs of homeless veterans. This includes requiring DOL HVRP grantees to coordinate services with other agencies, and through participation on the Interagency Council for Homelessness. DOL will work with VA and HUD on the pilot program to prevent homelessness among veterans by providing employment services.

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AUTHORIZING STATUTES

Public Law / Act	Legislation
Pub. L. : 38 U.S.C. Chapter(s) 4103(A), 4104(A), 4200, 4300	Jobs for Veterans Act
Pub. L. 38 U.S.C. Chapter 2021	Jobs For Veterans Act (Homeless Veterans Re-Integration Program)
Pub. L. 29 U.S.C. Chapter 2913 (Veterans' Workforce Investment Programs - Sec. 168)	Workforce Investment Act

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APPROPRIATION HISTORY					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
	Budget Estimates to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriations	FTE
2000	185,613	185,613	184,341	184,341	255
2001	210,213	201,277	206,713	211,713	255
2002....1/	211,703	211,703	213,703	212,624	250
2003....2/	210,337	210,337	218,037	212,820	250
2004....3/	219,993	219,993	219,993	218,646	250
2005....4/	220,648	225,648	226,781	222,833	250
2006....5/	224,334	224,334	224,334	222,091	235
2007	224,887	223,189	223,189	223,189	240
2008	228,096	228,198	231,198	228,096	234
2009....6/	238,439	0	239,439	239,439	234
2010	255,127	0	0	0	0

1/ Reflects a total reduction of \$187 pursuant to P.L. 107-116 (\$79) and 107-206 (\$108).

2/ Reflects a \$1,392 reduction pursuant to P.L. 108-07.

3/ Reflects a \$1,347 reduction pursuant to P.L. 108-199.

4/ Reflects a \$1,816 reduction pursuant to P.L. 108-447.

5/ Reflects a \$2,243 reduction pursuant to P.L. 109-149.

6/ This bill was only reported out of Subcommittee and was not passed by the Full House.

VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

OVERVIEW

Introduction

The mission of the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) is to provide veterans and transitioning service members the resources and services to succeed in the workforce by maximizing their employment opportunities, protecting their employment rights, and meeting labor market demands with qualified veterans. For FY 2010, the Department is requesting \$255,127,000 for VETS, an increase of \$15,688,000, approximately 6.5% above the FY 2009 enacted level.

VETS' charter is a direct reflection of the Nation's responsibility to meet the employment, training and job security needs of Americans who served in uniform. VETS helps veterans obtain positive employment outcomes through services provided at One-Stop Career Centers and other locations. Grants are provided to State Workforce Agencies (SWA) to support staff dedicated to serving veterans. VETS ensures that veterans who return with a requirement for special employment assistance due to disabilities or other barriers to employment receive appropriate services based on their needs. VETS also provides funding, through the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) and Veterans' Workforce Investment Program (VWIP), to organizations that serve veterans who need additional services.

The U.S. military services discharge approximately 220,000 service members and approximately 90,000 Reserve and National Guard members from active duty annually. The levels of global deployment during the War on Terrorism and any associated stop-loss of selected forces may vary from year to year. VETS expects greater demand for transition assistance and employment services for veterans over the next couple of years. It is important to maintain the capacity to provide the appropriate level of services in FY 2010.

VETS also protects the reemployment and employment rights of veterans and members of the National Guard and Reserve Forces under the provisions of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) Program so that they can serve on active duty without harm to their employment status; and by assuring that veterans who seek Federal employment obtain the preferences agencies are required to apply.

VETS meets its responsibilities through five budget activities that directly support three of the four Departmental Strategic Goals: A Prepared Workforce, A Competitive Workforce, and Safe and Secure Workplaces. The first two, VETS' largest programs, both fall under the Prepared Workforce goal.

(1) **Jobs for Veterans State Grants** – The FY 2010 request of \$172,394,000, an increase of \$3,500,000 over the FY 2009 funding level, will support Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialists, Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) staff, Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Employment Workshops and respond to exigencies. The particular focus of the increased funds is on TAP workshops, including ways to make them more accessible

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to spouses of separating servicemembers, so that the entire military family can successfully transition to new jobs in new locations.

(2) **Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP)** – The FY 2010 request of \$35,330,000, an increase of \$9,000,000 over the FY 2009 funding level, will provide competitive grants to operators of employment programs that specialize in outreach, supportive services and training for homeless veterans to assist in their reintegration into the workforce. This increase reflects the commitment of the Administration to helping homeless veterans. In addition, up to \$4,000,000 of the increase is requested to serve incarcerated veterans.

(3) **National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute (NVTI)** – The FY 2010 request of \$2,449,000, an increase of \$500,000 over the FY 2009 level, will allow NVTI to continue to provide competency-based training to Federal staff and veterans service providers. The increase is requested in support of the broader Green Jobs and Green Vets initiatives, and it will be used to give the veterans service providers the tools and information they need to help veterans find green jobs.

(4) **Veterans' Workforce Investment Program (VWIP)** – The FY 2010 request of \$9,641,000, an increase of \$2,000,000 over the FY 2009 level, will allow VETS to award competitive grants geared toward focused training, re-training and employment opportunities for veterans to meet the needs of employers for qualified workers in high demand industries, particularly those occupations requiring a license or certification. The goal of VWIP has been refined to provide services to veterans that will result in new skills and employment in Green Jobs as referenced in the Green Jobs Act of 2007. Green Jobs include jobs in the energy-efficient building, construction, and retrofits industries; the renewable electric power industry; the energy efficient and advanced drive train vehicle industry; the bio-fuels industry; the deconstruction and materials use industries; the energy efficiency assessment industry serving the residential, commercial, or industrial sectors; and manufacturers that produce sustainable products using environmentally sustainable processes and materials.

(5) **Federal Management** – The FY 2010 request of \$35,313,000 will provide adequate support of VETS' planned FTE level. The Federal Management budget activity supports the management and oversight of the agency, necessary to implement VETS' budget activities, programs and initiatives. Federal Management supports: State and discretionary grant management, USERRA and Veterans Preference enforcement, and Recovery and Employment Assistance Lifelines (REALifelines), which provides employment assistance services to seriously injured and wounded service members. REALifelines provides early intervention and assistance with employment and related issues while the service members are transitioning and are not yet veterans. The services provided by the assigned veteran staff at the state agencies are mandated to serve only veterans and other eligibles with valid credentials.

VETS collaborates with the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs and with State partners and veterans' service organizations to implement USERRA and Federal Veterans' Preference enforcement activities. These programs enable veterans and members of National Guard and Reserve Forces to serve on active duty without harm to their employment status, by

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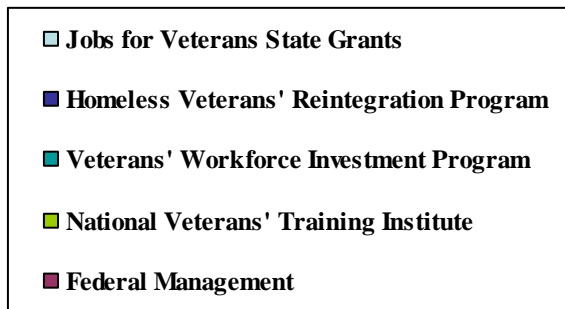
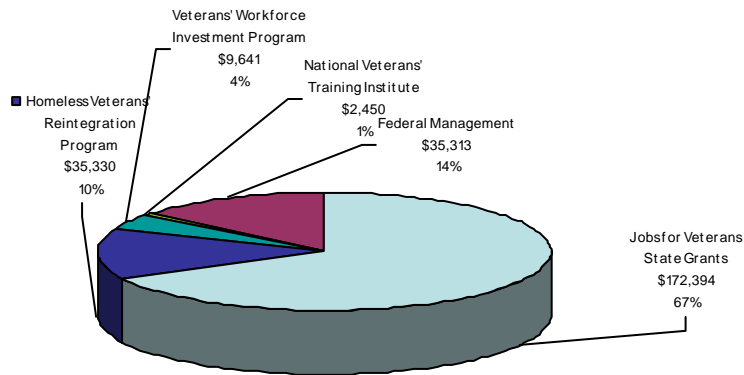
protecting their reemployment and employment rights. This also enables all veterans to obtain veterans' preference in Federal employment and employment with Federal contractors.

In FY 2010, VETS will help States more effectively integrate DVOP specialists and LVER staff into the One-Stop Career Center System and address problems faced by certain groups of veterans such as disabled, young, unemployed, recently-separated, and aging veterans. A further strategy is to expand the REALifelines program through long term employment assistance and coaching to the severely wounded and disabled, particularly for high demand or high growth occupations.

Cost Model

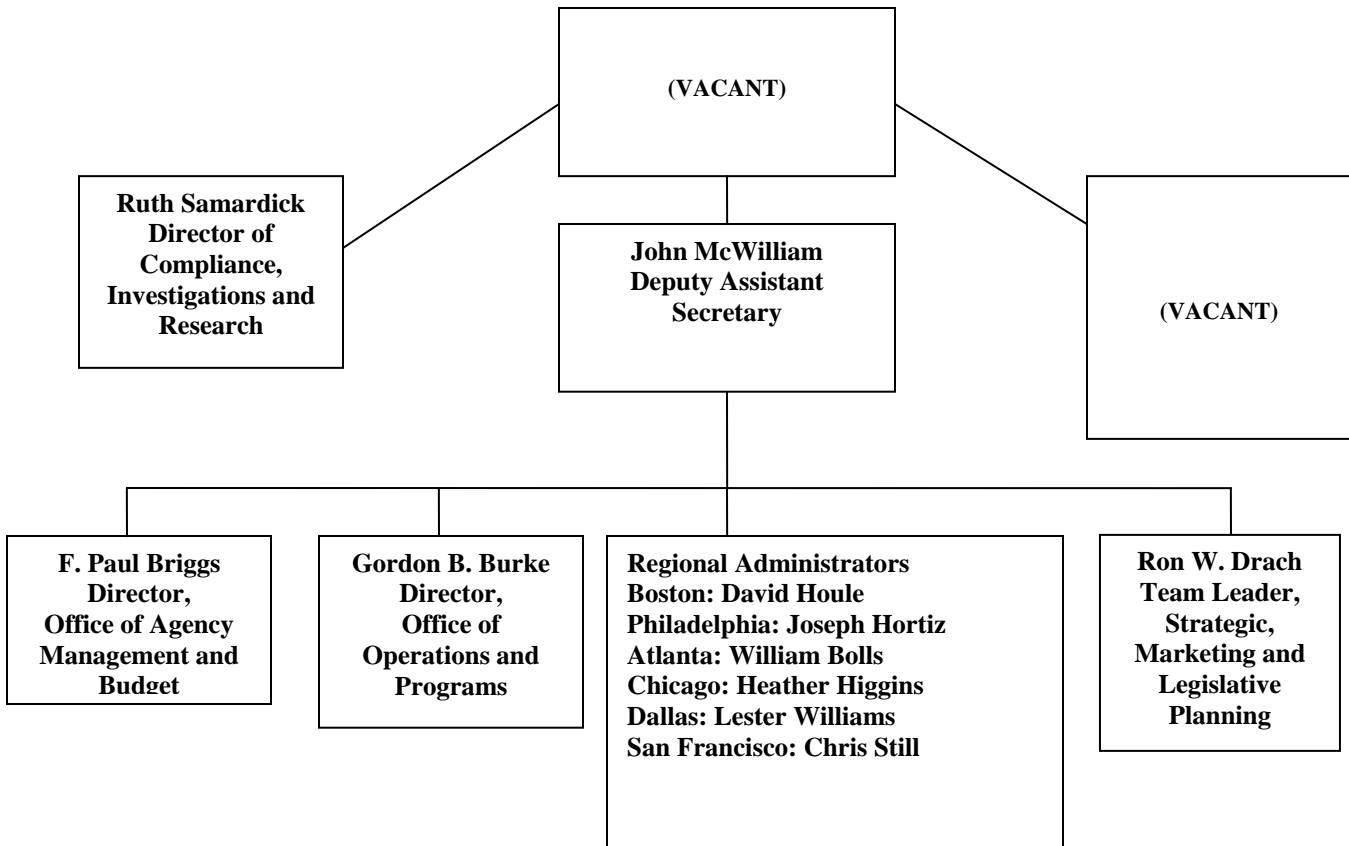
In FY 2010, VETS requests a total of \$255,127,000 an increase of approximately 6.5% or \$15,688,000 over the FY 2009 Enacted level. The overall increase will provide the additional funding VETS requires to serve our Nation's veterans.

FY 2010 Budget Request by Program Activity
 Total VETS' Budget: \$255,127
 (\$ in thousands)



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ORGANIZATION CHART



STATE GRANTS

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

STATE GRANTS

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

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
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.

STATE GRANTS

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.

STATE GRANTS

WORKLOAD SUMMARY

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

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.

STATE GRANTS

BUDGET ACTIVITY by OBJECT CLASS						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
		FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Change FY 10 Req / FY 09 Enacted
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
Total		161,894	168,894	0	172,394	3,500
	1/Other Purchases of Goods and Services From Government Accounts					
	Census Services	80	0	0	0	0

STATE GRANTS

CHANGES IN FY 2010

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes		
Built-In		
To Provide For:		
Built-Ins Subtotal		0
Net Program		3,500
Direct FTE		0
	Estimate	FTE
Base	168,894	0
Program Increase	3,500	0

HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Diff. FY08 Enacted / FY09 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Diff. FY09 Enacted / FY10 Req
Activity Appropriation	23,620	26,330	2,710	0	35,330	9,000
FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0

Introduction

The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) is authorized under 38 U.S.C. 2021 (formerly 38 U.S.C. 4111 and 42 U.S.C. 11448). HVRP is the only federally funded program that targets employment and training for homeless veterans, which is the most effective and permanent remedy to homelessness.

HVRP awards competitive grants to State and local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs); to State and local public agencies; and to private non-profit organizations, including faith-based and neighborhood partnerships, to operate employment programs that reach out to homeless veterans and help them to become reintegrated into the workforce. VETS and the grantees coordinate with the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development to: a) promote jointly funded programs; b) integrate the varied services needed by homeless veterans; and c) leverage available resources.

HVRP grants are available to target both urban and rural areas. Specialized grants are awarded to provide technical assistance to grantees.

Stand Downs – one day or longer community events that introduce a wide variety of social services – are often the catalyst that enables homeless veterans to reenter mainstream society. In PY 2007, VETS grants supported 48 Stand Down events. These events offer access to services that include temporary shelter, showers, haircuts, meals, clothing, hygiene kits, medical examinations, immunizations, legal advice, State identification cards, veterans benefit information, training program information, employment services, and referral to other supportive services.

HVRP has helped thousands of homeless veterans regain a sense of purpose and dignity. This program has widespread community and veteran service organization support, as well as, congressional interest and support. Grantees have also been successful in getting other local service providers to assist with delivery of supportive services.

Under the authority of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Assistance Act of 2001, VETS conducted a pilot program to identify the most effective ways to help formerly incarcerated veterans to avoid becoming homeless.

HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2005	20,832	0
2006	21,780	0
2007	21,809	0
2008	23,620	0
2009	26,330	0

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

FY 2010

VETS is requesting a total of \$35,330,000 for the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration program for FY 2010, an increase of \$9,000,000 above the FY 2009 funding level. VETS plans to resume its efforts to help incarcerated veterans and will coordinate its efforts with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Up to \$4,000,000 of the increase is requested to serve incarcerated veterans.

The HVRP competitive grant process will encourage new grantees and second and third-year funding of successful program year 2008 and 2009 grantees, as well as continue to support local Stand Down events.

FY 2009

The HVRP competitive grant process will encourage new grantees and second and third-year funding of successful program year 2008 and 2009 grantees, as well as continue to support local Stand Down events.

FY 2008

VETS received its request of \$26,330,000 in PY 2008, an increase of \$1,811,000. This funding level will allow HVRP to serve approximately 15,000 homeless veterans.

HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

WORKLOAD SUMMARY			
	PY 2008 Target	PY 2009 Target	PY 2010 Target
Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program			
Number of Participants	14,000	15,500	21,000

HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

BUDGET ACTIVITY by OBJECT CLASS						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
		FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Change FY 10 Req / FY 09 Enacted
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	23,620	26,330	0	35,330	9,000
Total		23,620	26,330	0	35,330	9,000

HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

CHANGES IN FY 2010

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Built-Ins Subtotal

0

Net Program

9,000

Direct FTE

0

	Estimate	FTE
Base	26,330	0
Program Increase	9,000	0

VETERANS' WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Diff. FY08 Enacted / FY09 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Diff. FY09 Enacted / FY10 Req
Activity Appropriation	7,351	7,641	290	0	9,641	2,000
FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0

Introduction

The Veterans' Workforce Investment Program (VWIP) budget activity supports efforts to ensure veterans' lifelong learning and skills development, under 29 U.S.C. 2913 (Veterans' Workforce Investment Programs - Sec. 168, Workforce Investment Act, P.L. 105-220) in programs designed to serve current eligible and targeted veteran subgroups with severe employability barriers.

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) in its Section 168 expanded eligibility to veterans with severe economic and employment disadvantages. Under the VWIP program, eligible veterans include those with service-connected disabilities, those with significant barriers to employment, those who served on active duty in the armed forces during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized, and those recently separated.

The VWIP program is a focused and innovative training and placement program for veterans with employment barriers and for recently separated veterans. Consistent with those objectives, VWIP will seek to offer high quality training and employment services to participants through annual competitive grant awards.

Grantees mix interventions that lead to long term, higher wage and career potential jobs by implementing consolidated program models that coordinate services available through other VETS programs (e.g., the employment assistance and intensive services provided by DVOP specialists and LVER staff members).

The goal of VWIP has been refined to provide services to veterans that will result in new skills and employment in Green Jobs as referenced in the Green Jobs Act of 2007. Green Jobs include jobs in the energy-efficient building, construction, and retrofits industries; the renewable electric power industry; the energy efficient and advanced drive train vehicle industry; the bio-fuels industry; the deconstruction and materials use industries; the energy efficiency assessment industry serving the residential, commercial, or industrial sectors; and manufacturers that produce sustainable products using environmentally sustainable processes and materials.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2005	8,482	0
2006	7,425	0
2007	7,435	0

VETERANS' WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

2008	7,351	0
2009	7,641	0

The FY 2010

The FY 2010 funding level requested for VWIP is \$9,641,000. VWIP continues to assist recently separated veterans to obtain work by providing information concerning occupational credentialing requirements, which facilitates licensing and certification and or employment in Green Jobs. Green Jobs include jobs in the energy-efficient building, construction, and retrofits industries; the renewable electric power industry; the energy-efficient and advanced drive train vehicle industry; the bio-fuels industry; the deconstruction and materials use industries; the energy-efficiency assessment industry serving the residential, commercial, or industrial sectors; and manufacturers that produce sustainable products using environmentally sustainable processes and materials. This definition of Green Jobs is based on language in the Green Jobs Act of FY 2007.

VWIP also will continue to coordinate its services with other programs that provide job search assistance to participating veterans to contribute to alleviating the continuing shortage of skilled workers and reduce the VWIP cost per placement by leveraging other resources. Additional leverage will be realized by coordination with Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense, and State Workforce Agencies. It is anticipated that implementation of this program model at the requested funding level will enable VETS to enroll 4,600 veterans as participants in VWIP for program year 2010.

FY 2009

VWIP received funding in the amount of \$7,641,000, which contributed to the on-going efforts to improve the competitiveness of the civilian workforce by assisting recently separated veterans to obtain the training or credentials needed to meet employers' demands for skilled workers.

FY 2008

VWIP received funding in the amount of \$7,351,000, which contributed to the on-going efforts to improve the competitiveness of the civilian workforce by assisting recently separated veterans to obtain the training or credentials needed to meet employers' demands for skilled workers. See the Workload Summary section for additional detail on number of participants.

VETERANS' WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

WORKLOAD SUMMARY			
	PY 2008 Actual	PY 2009 Target	PY 2010 Target
Veterans' Workforce Investment Program			
Number of Participants	3,575	3,700	4,600
Budget Activity Total	3,575	3,700	4,600
* VWIP supports performance that is measured on the basis of a program year period of performance, i.e. from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010			

Workload Summary

The FY 2010 funding level requested for VWIP is \$9,641,000, an increase of \$2,000,000 over the amount funded for FY 2009. Based on successful pilot projects implemented in selected States, the goal of VWIP was refined recently to emphasize service to recently separated veterans with specialized skills in occupational areas such as green jobs, information technology, trucking and health. In light of employers' demand for workers with technical knowledge, disciplined work habits and an aptitude for lifelong learning, VETS is maintaining this refinement of the VWIP service delivery strategy. Similarly, VWIP assists some participants to advance their careers by providing them with information concerning credentialing requirements in career fields for which they have shown potential, which facilitates licensing and certification for occupations in those fields.

VWIP also will continue to coordinate its services with other programs that provide job search assistance to participating veterans to contribute to alleviating the continuing shortage of skilled workers and to reduce the VWIP cost per placement by leveraging other resources, such as those available from the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Defense, as well as State Workforce Agencies. It is anticipated that implementation of the current VWIP program model at the requested funding level will enable VETS to enroll 4,600 veterans as participants in VWIP for program year 2010

VETERANS' WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

BUDGET ACTIVITY by OBJECT CLASS						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
		FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Change FY 10 Req / FY 09 Enacted
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	7,351	7,641	0	9,641	2,000
Total		7,351	7,641	0	9,641	2,000

VETERANS' WORKFORCE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

CHANGES IN FY 2010

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Built-Ins Subtotal

0

Net Program

2,000

Direct FTE

0

	Estimate	FTE
Base	7,641	0
Program Increase	2,000	0

NATIONAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE INSTITUTE

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Diff. FY08 Enacted / FY09 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Diff. FY09 Enacted / FY10 Req
Activity Appropriation	1,949	1,949	0	0	2,449	500
FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0

Introduction

The National Veterans' Training Institute (NVTI) was established in 1986 and authorized in 1988 by Public Law 100-323. NVTI provides competency based training to further develop and enhance the professional skills of veterans' employment and training service providers throughout the United States. Its main thrust is to maintain quality standards for services to veterans by training DVOP specialists, LVER staff and others who provide employment services directly to veterans. NVTI also aims to increase service providers' productivity and knowledge of all available veterans' services. In addition, NVTI trains VETS federal staff in USERRA and grants management.

NVTI training is provided by contractors; the contracts are administered by VETS staff. Training provided by NVTI is evaluated for effectiveness through post-training follow-up with participants and their supervisors.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2005	1,984	0
2006	1,964	0
2007	1,967	0
2008	1,949	0
2009	1,949	0

FY 2010

The funding level of \$2,449,000 for FY 2010 will support NVTI operations and accelerate training of new DVOP and LVER staff. NVTI will emphasize distance learning strategies and programs for providing information to training participants, thereby saving on travel to the Institute's location. NVTI will further contain costs by implementing distance learning modalities and by traveling to States that offer on-site training workshops. The \$500,000 increase in funding is requested in support of the broader Green Jobs and Green Vets initiatives. NVTI training will give the veterans service providers the tools and information they need to help veterans find green jobs.

NATIONAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE INSTITUTE

In FY 2010, VETS will continue to work with NVTI to assess the current competencies of veteran service providers, particularly those who may have last had training many years ago. VETS also will work with NVTI to identify where new competencies may be required, such as improved understanding of the evolving Workforce Investment system.

FY 2009

NVTI funding was below prior year levels (see Workload Summary below), therefore, VETS identified opportunities to improve efficiency, such as offering more courses through on-line or web based modalities.

FY 2008

Although the funding level of \$1,949,000 supported continuing NVTI operations, a slight decrease was seen in the number of participants in NVTI courses from FY 2007. NVTI continued to emphasize electronic means for providing information to training participants.

WORKLOAD SUMMARY			
	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Target	FY 2010 Target
National Veterans' Employment and Training Service Institute			
Number of Participants	2,000	1,985	2,275
Budget Activity Total	2,000	1,985	2,275

Workload Summary

The FY 2010 funding level for NVTI is \$2,449,000. Participation in NVTI training will continue to increase with the enactment of Public Law 109-461 which requires all DVOP specialists and LVER staff to attend core training provide by NVTI within three years of appointment to their position. VETS will ramp-up its efforts as funding allows to increase the number of participants in NVTI courses to ensure this statutory requirement is met. NVTI continues to emphasize electronic means for providing information to training participants.

**NATIONAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
SERVICE INSTITUTE**

BUDGET ACTIVITY by OBJECT CLASS (Dollars in Thousands)						
		FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Change FY 10 Req / FY 09 Enacted
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	30	49	0	49	0
25.2	Other services	1,919	1,900	0	2,400	500
Total		1,949	1,949	0	2,449	500

**NATIONAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
SERVICE INSTITUTE**

CHANGES IN FY 2010

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes		
Built-In		
To Provide For:		
Built-Ins Subtotal		0
Net Program		500
Direct FTE		0
	Estimate	FTE
Base	1,949	0
Program Increase	500	0

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Diff. FY08 Enacted / FY09 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Diff. FY09 Enacted / FY10 Req
Activity Appropriation	33,282	34,625	1,343	0	35,313	688
FTE	231	234	3	0	234	0

Note: FY 2009 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2008 was 234.

Introduction

The Federal Administration budget activity supports the Federal staff of the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) and provides funding for all its activities except for grant programs and the National Veterans' Training Institute.

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) provides reemployment rights to returning service members, and prohibits employer discrimination due to military obligations. VETS plays a key role in enforcing this law through outreach and education, and by investigating complaints filed by aggrieved parties. USERRA complaints are investigated by approximately 125 highly trained VETS investigators stationed across the country. After September 11, 2001, USERRA complaints rose from approximately 900 per year to over 1,500 per year, then leveled to about 1,400 per year. However, the recent downturn in the economy has contributed to a significant increase in USERRA cases in FY 2009. VETS remains strongly committed to rigorous enforcement of this very important labor law that protects the reemployment rights the brave men and women who protect our nation.

VETS is responsible for ensuring that the legislative mandates for providing special services to veterans, members of the National Guard and Reserve, and other eligible persons are provided by the DOL and its grantees in accordance with Chapters 41, 42, and 43 of Title 38, United States Code. VETS administers grants to States for the Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) program, the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP), and the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Employment Workshop, which is funded and implemented under the Jobs for Veterans State Grants Budget Activity. VETS coordinates with the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to deliver TAP employment workshops, which provide service members separating from active duty with labor market information and training in job search skills to expedite their transition from military to civilian employment.

VETS also administers competitive grants to States and other entities as authorized under the Veterans' Workforce Investment Programs (VWIP) and Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP). The Jobs for Veterans Act of 2004 requires that veterans and other eligible persons receive priority of service in all employment and training programs funded in whole or in part by DOL.

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION

VETS works with the Office of Personnel Management, to protect veterans' hiring preference in the Federal sector, and works closely with the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs to ensure the enforcement of affirmative action requirements for recently separated, disabled and campaign badge veterans. VETS also collaborates with the Department of Veterans Affairs, to coordinate vocational rehabilitation and on-the-job training programs. In addition, VETS maintains an Internet web site that enables Federal contracting officers to check on Federal contractors' submissions of the VETS-100 form, which provides information on Federal contractors' number of new hire veterans and overall veteran workforce population.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2005	30,438	250
2006	30,131	235
2007	31,187	240
2008	33,282	234
2009	34,625	234

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

FY 2010

There are several mission critical program functions of the Veterans' Employment and Training that will be supported by this budget activity in FY 2010:

USERRA

USERRA provides reemployment rights for uniformed service members following qualifying service in the uniformed services. The law prohibits employer discrimination against a person on the basis of that person's prior military service, current military obligations or intent to join a uniformed service. The law also prohibits employer retaliation against a person who seeks to enforce USERRA rights or assists in an investigation or court proceeding. On behalf of the Secretary of Labor, the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) administers USERRA, investigates complaints, and performs educational outreach activities.

Veteran's Preference

Veterans' Preference in Federal employment is provided to veterans who are disabled or who served on active duty in the Armed Forces during certain specified time periods or in military campaigns. These veterans receive preference in hiring and also in retention during reductions in force. The Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 gave the U.S. Department of Labor (VETS) the responsibility to investigate formal complaints from eligible individuals who allege that a Federal agency has violated such individual's rights under any statute or regulation relating to veterans' preference.

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION

Federal Contractor Program

Title 38, U.S.C. 4212 requires entities receiving Federal contract(s) or sub-contract(s) of \$100,000 or more to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified disabled veterans, recently separated veterans and other veterans who have served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized. This statute also mandates that Federal Government contracting officers verify that current VETS-100 reports are filed prior to contract awards. VETS provides access to the VETS-100 database to all Federal Government contracting officers.

FY 2009

On October 10, 2008, the President signed the Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2008. The bill included a number of significant changes to USERRA, including mandatory time limits on DOL USERRA case handling. VETS has implemented the majority of those changes within current budgetary constraints. However, the requirement that the Secretary share access of electronic case files with other involved federal agencies will require a significant investment in the future.

The continued demobilization of troops, coupled with the economic downturn, has brought a sharp increase in the number of USERRA complaints filed with VETS. VETS conservatively estimates a 10% increase in USERRA cases in FY 2009, followed by a more modest increase of 5% in FY 2010 as the President's stimulus spreads through the economy.

VETS also anticipates a sharp increase in Veterans Preference investigations, as more qualified veterans seek federal employment. This increase is precipitated by two factors. First, the increase in preference eligibles as a result of the protracted war, and the increase in unemployment which will drive preference eligibles to seek new jobs.

VETS and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management's (OASAM) Center for Program Planning and Results (CPPR) cosponsored a comprehensive review of VETS' USERRA case management procedures, with a view toward streamlining, quality improvement and increasing responsiveness to our veteran clients. Results of that study are expected by the end of FY 2009.

FY 2008

In FY 2008, a statutorily-mandated demonstration project sunset. The project required VETS and the Office of the Special Counsel to split the workload arising from the USERRA complaints filed by employees of Federal agencies. The project ended on December 31, 2008. Since that time, VETS has been responsible for the investigation of all USERRA complaints, regardless of whether the employer is the federal government, a state or local government, or a private sector employer.

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION

VETS also worked with the Department's Employment and Training Administration to issue final regulations on veterans priority of service for all of the Department's job training and employment programs.

WORKLOAD SUMMARY			
	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Target	FY 2010 Target
Federal Administration			
USERRA Case Activities: New Complaints Received	1,4	1,569	1,647
Education and Outreach: Number of Contacts	122,514	125,340	126,753
Veterans' Preference: Number of Cases Opened	589	677	745

Workload Summary

United States Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)

As described in the preceding sections, in FY 2009 VETS anticipates a sharp increase in both USERRA and Veterans' Preference cases, resulting from the combination of continuing demobilization of troops from the wars and the economic downturn. In FY 2010, we anticipate further increases in complaints under both programs, albeit at a slower rate.

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION

BUDGET ACTIVITY by OBJECT CLASS						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
		FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	Recovery Act	FY 2010 Request	Change FY 10 Req / FY 09 Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	18,906	18,661	0	19,011	350
11.5	Overtime and Premium Pay	204	360	0	367	7
11.9	Total personnel compensation	19,110	19,021	0	19,378	357
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	5,079	4,978	0	5,078	100
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	894	1,500	0	1,508	8
22.0	Transportation of things	143	87	0	87	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	823	840	0	844	4
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	477	385	0	387	2
24.0	Printing and reproduction	320	340	0	342	2
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	2	2	0	2	0
25.2	Other services	2,608	2,817	0	3,107	290
25.3	Other Purchases of goods and services from Government accounts 1/	3,535	4,387	0	4,310	-77
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	15	10	0	10	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	28	8	0	8	0
26.0	Supplies and materials	141	158	0	160	2
31.0	Equipment	107	92	0	92	0
Total		33,282	34,625	0	35,313	688
	1/Other Purchases of Goods and Services From Government Accounts					
	Working Capital Fund	3,413	4,189	0	4,108	-81
	DHS Services	36	54	0	57	3
	HHS Services	86	144	0	145	1

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION

CHANGES IN FY 2010

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	380
Personnel benefits	100
Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA)	-23
Travel	8
GSA Space Rental	4
Communications, utilities & miscellaneous charges	2
Printing and reproduction	2
Other services	290
Working Capital Fund	-81
Other government accounts (DHS Charges)	3
Purchase of goods and services from other Government accounts	1
Operation and maintenance of equipment	1
Supplies and materials	1
Built-Ins Subtotal	688

Estimate **FTE**

Base **35,313** **234**