



**OREGON DEPARTMENT
of VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

**United Veteran Groups of Oregon
October 13, 2018 | Salem, Oregon**

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Legislative Report

Contact: Laurie Skillman, Senior Policy Advisor
laurie.skillman@state.or.us

- 1. November 6, 2019: Election Day**
- 2. December Legislative Days: December 11-13**

The Legislature convenes during the interim for special meeting days, called "Legislative Days." During Legislative Days, committees may hold informational hearings on topics that could lead to legislation in upcoming sessions, hear updates on implementations of past legislation, hear reports from state agencies and Task Forces, and keep current on the subject areas which affect Oregonians. During Legislative Days, the Senate may also convene for the purpose of making executive appointments.

- 3. January Legislative Organization Days: January 14-16, 2019 (Monday – Wednesday)**

Members will be sworn in; all pre-session-filed measures introduced (first read); and the Senate and House will meet in joint session for the purpose of swearing-in the Governor. Training and orientation for members

- 4. Legislative Session Begins: January 22, 2019 (Tuesday)**

The first day of the Legislative Session is provided in statute. For many years, all Legislative sessions would begin on or about the first day of February. The 2018 Legislature passed SB 1542 that changed these dates.

- Beginning in the 2019 session, Legislative sessions in odd-numbered years will start on the Tuesday after the holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday.
- Sessions in even-numbered years will start on the first day of February (except if February 1 is a Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday, the session will start the following Monday).

Legislative Session for 2019:

- **Begins Tuesday, January 22, 2019 and must end 160 days later, or June 30, 2019.**

5. Legislative Concepts

ODVA submitted three legislative concepts, primarily technical and housekeeping concepts, that are in the process of being drafted as bills.

- LC 447: Technical/housekeeping on Conservatorship program
- LC 448: Technical/housekeeping on Home Loans
- LC 449: Technical/housekeeping on Veterans Homes

6. Reports to the Legislature

Under a number of statutes, ODVA was directed to write and submit five reports to the Legislature that were due in August and September 2018.

Attached are Executive summaries of the following reports:

- Campus Grant program
- Veteran Services Grant Program
- Roseburg Veterans Home

Report	Bill	Date due to Legislature	Addressee
Women Veteran Coordinator --Implementation report	HB 3479 (2015)	September 15, 2018	House/Senate Veterans Committees
LGBTQ Coordinator -- Implementation report	SB 946 (2015)	September 15, 2018	House/Senate Veterans Committees
Campus Grant -- Implementation report	SB 143 (2017)	August 31, 2018, ODVA send to VAAC and VAAC due September 15, 2018	House/Senate Veterans Committees To VAAC for them to review and recommend by September 15, 2018
Roseburg Veterans Home --Status of establishing home	HB 4038 (2018)	September 1, 2018	Legislative Assembly
Rural Medical Workgroup --Findings/recommendations	HB 5006 (2017) Budget Note Pg. 25	September 15, 2018	Legislative Assembly

In addition, ODVA is submitted the following informational letters to the House and Senate Veterans Committee in September.

Informational letter	Bill	Date due to Legislature	Addressee
Veteran Services Grant Fund --Implementation Report	HB 2891 (2017)	Not required, submit September 2018 Legislative Days	None specified Will submit to House/Senate Veterans Committees

Attachments

- Campus Grant program
- Veteran Services Grant Program
- Roseburg Veterans Home



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Veterans' Affairs

700 Summer St NE

Salem, OR 97301

800-828-8801 | 503-373-2085

www.oregon.gov/odva

DATE: August 27, 2018

TO: House Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee, Senate Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Legislative Administrator

FROM: Mitch Sparks, Acting Director
sparksm@odva.state.or.us

Executive Summary of Legislative Report: SB 143 Campus Veterans Resource Grant Program Implementation

Overview

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) is pleased to submit this executive summary of the Legislative Report on the implementation of the Campus Veterans Resource Grant program created under [Senate Bill 143 \(2017\)](#) that provided \$1 million in grant funds to ODVA to be awarded to public universities and community colleges for campus veteran resource centers and programs, including campus veteran resource coordinators. SB 143 directs ODVA to prepare a legislative report on the implementation of the grant program and additional steps required to expand the program during the 2019-21 Biennium. In addition, SB 143 directs the Veterans Affairs' Advisory Committee to provide an additional Legislative Report.

Purpose of the Grant Program

The purpose of the Campus Veterans Grant Program is to expand veteran resource centers and programs to help veterans: 1) successfully transition from military service to college life; 2) succeed in college and complete educational goals; and 3) transition from college to the workforce and the community.

Uses of Grant Funds

SB 143 limited the use of funds to expanding and enhancing existing campus veteran resource centers to:

- Recruit and employ campus veteran resource coordinators who can serve as liaisons to provide advocacy, understanding and resource connections for veterans.
- Attract veterans to enroll in/attend programs at community colleges/public universities.
- Provide assistance, guidance and support to veterans in completing educational goals.
- Provide resources to college administrators, faculty, and staff to facilitate an understanding and appreciation of the strengths, unique challenges and needs of veterans.
- Refer campus veterans to local county veterans' service officers for benefits.
- Assist veterans in successfully transitioning to work and community life.

Implementation, Grant Awards and Outcomes

ODVA wrote rules and then issued a Request for Grant Proposals on October 10, 2017, with a submission deadline of November 21, 2017. An eight-member grant evaluation committee was formed that included three members of the ODVA Advisory Committee, two ODVA staff member, a member of the Oregon National Guard, one outside veteran, and a private university registrar. Fourteen of the 25 public universities and community colleges submitted grant proposals. Note that some community colleges do not have a large enough veteran enrollment to support a campus veteran program. ODVA hired a Campus Student Veteran Coordinator in November 2017.

The public universities and community colleges requested a total of \$1,109,851. The evaluation committee awarded \$1 million to 14 schools and Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs disbursed the funds on December 20, 2017.

Campus Veteran Resource Center Grant Program Funds Awarded		
School	Total Request	Total Award
Blue Mountain CC - Pendleton	\$81,000	\$50,500
Chemeketa CC - Salem	\$32,429	\$32,429
Clackamas CC - Oregon City	\$85,683	\$85,683
Eastern Oregon University – La Grande	\$33,732	\$33,732
Klamath CC - Klamath Falls	\$89,997	\$85,896
Lane CC - Eugene	\$100,000	\$100,000
Linn-Benton CC - Albany	\$98,900	\$92,900
Mt. Hood CC - Gresham	\$83,720	\$60,720
Oregon State University - Corvallis	\$98,251	\$78,251
Portland CC - Portland	\$100,000	\$85,000
Rogue CC - Grants Pass	\$100,000	\$100,000
Southwestern Oregon CC - Coos Bay	\$54,092	\$54,092
University of Oregon - Eugene	\$65,347	\$54,097
Western Oregon University - Monmouth	\$86,700	\$86,700
Total Amount Requested/Awarded	\$1,109,851	\$1,000,000

Although the program is only into its seventh month of operation, the schools have reported a number of positive outcomes, including:

- Two schools established new veteran resource centers (VRC); a third school is in construction.
- Eight schools completed upgrades to existing VRC's; two other schools are in progress.
- Four schools recruited and hired new Campus Veteran Outreach Coordinators.
- Two schools purchased and implemented training software to increase awareness of student veteran needs for staff and faculty members.
- Two schools started a new college entry course specifically designed for student veterans.
- Four schools hosted several outreach events which include job fair and career orientations.
- One school reported a 5% increase in student veteran enrollment since receiving grant funds.
- Four schools are jointly hosting a statewide student veteran conference in September 2018, with guest speakers and workshops to assist veterans through school and transition to the workforce.

ODVA Campus Student Veteran Coordinator

The ODVA Campus Student Veteran Coordinator has visited eight grant recipient campuses and two non-grant recipient campuses to work with the veteran service coordinators on best practices for student veteran engagement and reviewed grant implementation and outcomes. He is working with the VA Education Liaison Representative and Higher Education Coordinating Commission student veteran representatives to coordinate advising and training for public university and community college veteran service personnel. A statewide campus veteran coordinator workshop is scheduled for Spring 2019.

Expanding the Program: 2019-21 Biennium

Currently, provisions in Senate Bill 143 sunset the program on January 2, 2020. ODVA is proposing legislation to eliminate the sunset provision in order to continue the program. The Campus Veteran Grant Program already shows signs of great success. ODVA recommends funding for the 2019-21 biennium with the following priorities: veteran resource coordinators; projects and activities oriented toward transitioning to the workforce; innovative projects to enhance student veteran engagement; improvements or expansion of existing veteran resource centers (remodeling, equipment and furniture upgrades, etc.); and to allow eligible schools to apply for grant funds which did not apply during 2017-19 Biennium.

Full report: <https://www.oregon.gov/odva/Connect/Pages/Reports.aspx>

Contact: Laurie Skillman, ODVA Senior Policy Advisory on this report and related reporting at laurie.skillman@state.or.us



House Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee | September 26, 2018
Veteran Services Grant Fund Update | HB 2891 (2017)

Summary of the Grant Program

House Bill 2891 (2017) established the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Veteran Services Grant Fund, and allocated \$550,000 in Grant Funds.

The program was funded using Lottery Fund dollars established under Ballot Measure 96 that specifically limits the use of the funds to provide services for Oregon veterans. The total available for grants was \$550,000. The bills limited grants awards to a minimum of \$25,000 and a maximum of \$250,000. All grants were one-time grants and all work under the grants must be completed by the end of the 2017-19 biennium, or June 30, 2019.

The Veteran Services Grant Program had \$550,000 available for grant awards. The response to the Request for Grant Proposals was overwhelming:

- 59 grant proposals were submitted, totaling \$5,354,422
- The requests for grant funds were approximately ten times the amount of the available funds

In April 2018, the Evaluation Committee funded 10 proposals (two were partially funded)

- 17% of the total number of grant proposals submitted were funded
- 10% of the total dollar amount requested was funded

Development of Grant Application and Award Process

The Department developed a formal grant program that included processes; eligibility requirements; outcome measures; evaluation criteria; evaluation committee; grant contracts; reporting requirements; and oversight. ODVA prepared a formal Request for Grant Proposals and a streamlined electronic application. The Request for Grant Proposals was placed it on the statewide contracting network (ORPIN) and the ODVA website. ODVA provided information about the program to potential applicants through its large network of internet subscribers and the press.

Eligible Applicants

The following entities were able to apply if they had at least one year of operating history:

- Nonprofit organizations
- Veterans organizations
- Tribal, regional or local governments
- Oregon quasi-public agencies or intergovernmental agencies

Eligible Grant Projects

Grant projects must be in one of the following categories of veteran services:

- Mental or physical health care
- Housing security
- Employment opportunities and employment stability
- Education and training
- Transportation accessibility and availability
- Critical services for veterans provided by a veterans organization
- Programs identified by the Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee.

Ineligible Costs

Grant funds would not be provided for capital costs or renovations or capital campaigns; deficit financing and debt retirement; memorials or tributes; direct payments of monies to veterans or other individuals; grants to other entities or organizations; endowments; or fundraising.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria and Points

The Evaluation Committee scored each proposal using a 100-point maximum scoring system. Evaluators assigned a score for each evaluation criterion listed below up to the maximum points available. Scoring will be based on the following criteria:

1. **Goals and targeted subject area.** Whether and to what extent the Proposal meets the intended goals and purposes of the Proposal and meets one of the targeted subject areas. **20 points**
2. **Meeting the needs of veterans.** Whether and to what extent the proposed veteran services will meet the needs of veterans. **15 points**
3. **Number of veterans served.** Whether and to what extent the proposed number of veterans served is appropriate for the scale and size of the Proposer to optimize impact and resources. **15 points**
4. **Proposer capacity.** Whether and to what extent the Proposer is capable of implementing the Proposal. Factors that will be considered include: depth and history of experience providing services; and financial resources available other than Grant Funds. **15 points**
5. **Measurable outcomes.** Whether and to what extent the outcomes are measurable and demonstrate the benefits to veterans. **10 points**
6. **Fulfills gaps in services.** Whether and to what extent the Proposal fills a gap in existing services provided to veterans, including specific objectives such as geographic diversity, demographic diversity, or serving an underserved veteran population. **10 points**
7. **Budget proposal.** Whether and to what extent the proposed budget aligns with the purposes and objectives of the Proposal. **10 points**
8. **Letters of support.** Whether and to what extent the letters of support submitted by Proposer support the capability of the Proposer to implement the project. **5 points**

Evaluation Committee and Process

The seven-member evaluation committee included past and present members of the Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee. Six members were veterans of the Coast Guard, Air Force, Navy, Marines and the Oregon National Guard. One member was compliance manager and grant writer for a non-profit (that

did not submit a proposal) and one member was a manager (and veteran) from Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs.

The committee was charged with scoring each proposal based on the criteria established in the Request for Grant Proposals that assigned a numerical value to each criteria. *Scores were totaled for all grants and awards were based on total scores.*

Response to Request for Grant Proposals and Grant Awards

59 Applications for Grant Funds Totaling \$5.4 million

The Veteran Services Grant Program had \$550,000 available for grant awards. The response to the Request for Grant Proposals was overwhelming:

- 59 grant proposals were submitted, totaling \$5,354,422
- The requests for grant funds were approximately ten times the amount of the available funds
- The committee funded 10 proposals (two were partially funded)
 - Funded 17% of the total number of grant proposals submitted
 - Funded 10% of the total dollar amount requested

Grant Awards

On April 10, 2018, the Evaluation Committee, based on the scoring criteria for the grant proposals and a limitation of \$550,000 in available funds, was able to fund 10 proposals. Two of these proposals were partially funded. The committee was only able to fund 17% of all the proposals, and only 10% of the dollar amount requested. Grants were awarded in May 2018.

Unfortunately, there was not enough money to award grants to many organizations that submitted very worthy proposals. For all those organizations that are doing very important work for our veterans, the overwhelming response to the grant program is a clear demonstration of the large community of organizations in Oregon that have great programs and innovations for providing services to veterans—and a great need for funds.

The proposals submitted for the Veteran Services Grant Program demonstrated the important and valuable done by committed organizations across the state of Oregon that provide critical services to our veterans.

Award Charts

The first chart is a chart below is a chart of all grants.

The next four charts show grants that fit into one or more of four broad categories:

- Housing and Homelessness
- Employment
- Education
- Healthcare and mental health care

Note that several awards fit into several categories.

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Veteran Services Grant Program: Grants Awarded

Proposer	Location	Purpose	Grant Award
Community Connection of NE Oregon (non-profit organization)	Baker and Union Counties	Veterans Rides to Wellness. Transportation for veterans to local medical appointments.	\$ 50,000
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (sovereign tribal community)	Yamhill, Polk and Marion Counties	Outreach to all veterans, including tribal and provide medical, dental and eye care. <i>Partial funding of request.</i>	\$ 8,688
Coos County Area Transit Service District (a component of Coos County)	Coos County - south coast	Establish shuttle service for veterans between Coos County and Roseburg VA hospital. <i>Partial funding of request.</i>	\$ 130,840
Klamath/Lake Community Action Services (non-profit organization)	Klamath and Lake Counties	Emergency housing for veterans/families awaiting rehousing/permanent. Plus job training/SOAR program. Transportation.	\$ 35,000
Lane Council of Governments, Seniors and Disability Division (intergovernmental; assn. of local gov.)	Lane County	Case management for veteran's access/use of community services/benefits; develop action plan, assist on applications.	\$ 46,933
Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest (non-profit organization)	Greater Portland	Outreach and case management for Native American/Alaska Indian homeless veterans address health/mental health care, housing.	\$ 74,990
Oregon City Police Department (City government)	Oregon City	First responder for veteran homelessness prevention and assistance. Rental assistance, job training assistance.	\$ 26,664
Polk County. Family and Community Outreach Department. (County government)	Polk County	Provide homeless veterans meals, stable transitional housing, laundry, shower, connection to veteran service organizations	\$ 39,160
Project ABLE (non-profit organization)	Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Linn, Tillamook, Washington and Multnomah Co	Train veterans as veteran-specific Peer Support Specialists to support veterans with behavioral health issues	\$ 87,725
St. Andrew Legal Clinic (non-profit organization)	Yamhill, Columbia, Clackamas, Washington and Multnomah Co	Provide full legal services to veterans with a focus on issues of economic stability and housing security	\$ 50,000
		Total Grant Awards	\$ 550,000

Grant Award Categories

The grant awards that fit into four broad categories of Housing/Homeless, Employment, Education and Healthcare are outlined below. *Note that several awards fit into several categories.*

Grant Awards for Housing/Homeless

Proposer	Location	Purpose	Grant Award
Klamath/Lake Community Action Services (non-profit organization)	Klamath and Lake Counties	Emergency housing for veterans/families awaiting rehousing/permanent. Plus job training/SOAR program.	\$ 35,000
Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest (non-profit organization)	Greater Portland	Outreach and case management for Native American/Alaska Indian homeless veterans address health/mental health care, housing .	\$ 74,990
Oregon City Police Department (City government)	Oregon City	First responder for veteran homelessness prevention and assistance . Rental assistance, job training assistance.	\$ 26,664
Polk County. Family and Community Outreach Department. (County government)	Polk County	Provide homeless veterans meals, stable transitional housing, laundry, shower, connection to veteran service organizations	\$ 39,160
St. Andrew Legal Clinic (non-profit organization)	Yamhill, Columbia, Clackamas, Washington and Multnomah Co	Provide full legal services to veterans with a focus on issues of economic stability and housing security	\$ 50,000

Grant Awards for Employment

Proposer	Location	Purpose	Grant Award
Klamath/Lake Community Action Services (non-profit organization)	Klamath and Lake Counties	Emergency housing for veterans/families awaiting rehousing/permanent. Plus job training/SOAR program.	\$ 35,000
Project ABLE (non-profit organization)	Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Linn, Tillamook, Washington and Multnomah Co	Train veterans as veteran-specific Peer Support Specialists to support veterans with behavioral health issues. <i>(Note: many Peer Support Specialists are paid positions)</i>	\$ 87,725
Oregon City Police Department (City government)	Oregon City	First responder for veteran homelessness prevention and assistance. Rental assistance, job training assistance.	\$ 26,664

Grant Awards for Education

Proposer	Location	Purpose	Grant Award
Klamath/Lake Community Action Services (non-profit organization)	Klamath and Lake Counties	Emergency housing for veterans/families awaiting rehousing/permanent. Plus job training/SOAR program. Transportation.	\$ 35,000
Oregon City Police Department (City government)	Oregon City	First responder for veteran homelessness prevention and assistance. Rental assistance, job training assistance.	\$ 26,664
Project ABLE (non-profit organization)	Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Linn, Tillamook, Washington and Multnomah Co	Train veterans as veteran-specific Peer Support Specialists to support veterans with behavioral health issues. <i>(Note: many Peer Support Specialists are paid positions)</i>	\$ 87,725

Grant Awards for Health Care and Mental Health Care

Proposer	Location	Purpose	Grant Award
Community Connection of NE Oregon (non-profit organization)	Baker and Union Counties	Veterans Rides to Wellness. Transportation for veterans to local medical appointments.	\$ 50,000
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (sovereign tribal community)	Yamhill, Polk and Marion Counties	Outreach to all veterans, including tribal and provide medical, dental and eye care. Partial funding of request.	\$ 8,688
Coos County Area Transit Service District (a component of Coos County)	Coos County - south coast	Establish shuttle service for veterans between Coos County and Roseburg VA hospital. Partial funding of request	\$ 130,840
Lane Council of Governments, Seniors and Disability Division (intergovernmental; assn. of local gov.)	Lane County	Case management for veteran's access/use of community services/benefits; develop action plan, assist on applications.	\$ 46,933
Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest (non-profit organization)	Greater Portland	Outreach and case management for Native American/Alaska Indian homeless veterans address health/mental health care, housing.	\$ 74,990
Project ABLE (non-profit organization)	Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Linn, Tillamook, Washington and Multnomah Co	Train veterans as veteran-specific Peer Support Specialists to support veterans with behavioral health issues	\$ 87,725

Grant Implementation

ODVA awarded the grants in May 2018, and the first quarterly reports on spending and outcomes were received July 31, 2018. Grantees reported a total spending of less than three percent, mainly due to initial program or project start up and the timing of the reporting requirements. Other grantees have hired program staff, but not yet expended funds in the first quarter.

ODVA has visited six of the ten grantees to meet with staff, observe operations and offer support. Despite relatively low spending to date, grantees have made significant progress setting up programs and mobilizing community partners.

Coos County Area Transit

Coos County Area Transit purchased a new wheelchair accessible van vehicle to transport veterans to VA medical appointments in Roseburg and Eugene. They are currently running two trips each week to Roseburg and one trip to Eugene.

Project Able

Project Able, a Salem non-profit, has conducted a needs assessment survey, and is developing veteran-centric peer-to-peer training. Individuals who complete the training will be eligible to become certified as an Oregon State Certified Peer Support Specialist to work with veterans with behavioral health issues or a Certified Recovery Mentor (CRM) to work with veterans with addictions through the Addiction Counselor Certification Board of Oregon (ACCBO).

Oregon City Police Department

Oregon City Police Department who used a small portion of its \$26,000 veterans' emergency services grant to place a homeless veteran, who was living in his car while awaiting permanent housing, into a hotel for greater safety and security.

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon received \$50,000, and launched its Rides to Wellness program in Union County in June and in Baker County in July 2018. As a result, forty-five veterans have received rides to medical appointments.

Contact: Laurie Skillman | Senior Policy Advisor | laurie.skillman@state.or.us



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Veterans' Affairs

700 Summer St NE

Salem, OR 97301

800-828-8801 | 503-373-2085

www.oregon.gov/odva

DATE: September 1, 2018

TO: Oregon Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Administrator

FROM: Mitch Sparks, Acting Director
sparksm@odva.state.or.us

Executive Summary of the Legislative Report: HB 4038 (2018) Report on the Progress of Establishing the Roseburg Oregon Veterans' Home

Overview

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) is pleased to submit this Executive Summary of the Legislative Report on the progress of establishing the Roseburg Oregon Veterans Home. House Bill 4038 (2018) directed the Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs to "study the progress of the establishment of the Roseburg Oregon Veterans' Home authorized under ORS 408.385 and shall report the findings of the study to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 1, 2018."

In addition, ODVA recommends to the Legislative Assembly that the Roseburg Oregon Veterans' Home be built on the grounds of the Roseburg campus of the Roseburg Veterans Affairs Health Care System. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) has agreed to transfer more than 13 acres on the campus to the State of Oregon for the purpose of siting the new veterans' home, a skilled nursing facility, which would be adjacent to the new main hospital on the campus.

History of Oregon Veterans' Homes

ODVA established two veterans' homes in Oregon that are owned by the state and were financed in large part by grants from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA). The Oregon Veterans' Home in The Dalles, opened in 1997, is a skilled nursing facility that can accommodate up to 151 residents. The \$40 million Edward C. Allworth Veterans' Home, located in Lebanon, is the second Veterans' Home in Oregon and opened in September 2014 and has a total capacity of 154 residents. ODVA contracts with an operator to manage the day-to-day operations of both homes. The Legislature directed ODVA to establish a third veterans' home in Roseburg under ORS 408.385.

United States Department of Veterans Affairs Construction Financing for State Veterans Homes

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) State Home Grant Program is a partnership between the USDVA and the States to construct skilled nursing facilities and for renovations to existing homes. USDVA may participate in up to 65 percent of the cost of construction; the remaining 35 percent of construction costs are provided by state and local funds and must be in place before consideration of a grant application. Grant funds may be used only for construction costs and not for land acquisition.

Basic Grant Application. The state must meet three fundamental requirements to receive grant funds. First, it must have prepared a detailed and complex grant application. Second, it must be ranked high enough on the priority list to be eligible for funding. Third, it must provide proof that the remaining 35 percent of total construction costs are available from state or local resources.

Grant Funding Priorities. First priority is accorded to feasible applications which States have provided “sufficient State funds” so that the project may proceed upon award of the grant without further State action being required to make such funds available. The first priority is further prioritized as 1) remedies for life/safety deficiencies; 2) states that have not previously applied for a construction grant for a nursing home; 3) “great” need for beds in a state; 4) renovation other than 1); 5) “significant” need for beds in a state; and (6) “limited” need for beds in a state. Note that Oregon is in the “Limited” needs category.

“Sufficient State Funds:” The 35 Percent Match. “Sufficient State Funds” funds means the State’s 35 percent matching share. These funds must be available and an authorized State official must certify that these funds are available as well as how long the funds will remain available. These matching funds are not necessarily “state government funds.” Note that all funds for Oregon’s 35 percent matching share for the Lebanon Home, in the amount of \$14 million, was provided by Linn County and no State of Oregon state funds were used. The City of Lebanon purchased and then donated the land to the State..

Partnership with the USDVA on the Roseburg Oregon Veterans Home

Letter of Intent. On July 3, 2018, following a significant number of discussions and negotiations with the USDVA, particularly with the Roseburg VA Health Care System, ODVA wrote a Letter of Intent to Recommend that ODVA Establish an Oregon Veterans’ Home on Roseburg VA Health Care Campus. The letter stated that ODVA, with the commitment of Governor Brown, will “recommend to the Legislative Assembly, no later than September 1, 2018, that an Oregon Veterans’ Home be built on the grounds of the Roseburg campus of the Roseburg VA Health Care System.” As stated in the letter of intent, the USDVA has generously agreed to transfer approximately 13.2 acres to the State of Oregon, via a federal land grant, for the purpose of establishing the veterans’ home.

Veterans’ Home Concept. The Roseburg Oregon Veterans Home would be based on the Lebanon Home as a model. The home would be built to provide 120 to 150 beds. The current concept is to have the new main hospital for Roseburg sited and constructed adjacent to the Veterans' Home, which will be greatly beneficial to the residents of the home and to their families. The Roseburg VA will build a new main hospital adjacent to the Roseburg Veteran home and will build the parking lots that provide access to these buildings. In addition, the Roseburg VA will pay for the majority of the planned utility lines.

Potential Costs

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs has done a very rough estimate of the costs of a Roseburg Veterans Home based on the costs of the Lebanon Home. It is important to note that the \$40 million for the Lebanon Home was based on costs of construction in 2012 for a 154 bed skilled nursing facility. Assuming \$40 million in total costs for a skilled nursing facility in Roseburg based on the Lebanon Home model:

- \$40 million facility with construction beginning in 2018: 126 beds. (\$45M for 150 bed facility)
- Each year of delay in construction after 2016, the construction escalation costs at 6 percent per year

The Federal VA will donate the land, parking lots, and some of the infrastructure costs (utilities). Therefore, the ODVA will need to pay additional costs that are unknown at this time. As stated, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will only provide 65 percent of the costs of construction and the state will need to match with 35 percent of the costs through state, local and county funding. Assuming \$40 million for the total costs:

- USDVA would provide approximately \$26 million
- The state and local partners need to provide \$14 million: \$10.5 million in approved capital construction bonds, leaving an additional \$3.5 million needed in additional funds

Full report: <https://www.oregon.gov/odva/Connect/Pages/Reports.aspx>

Contact: Laurie Skillman, ODVA Senior Policy Advisory on this report and related reporting at laurie.skillman@state.or.us