

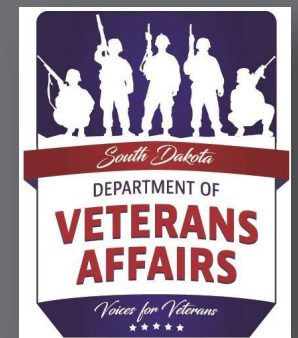


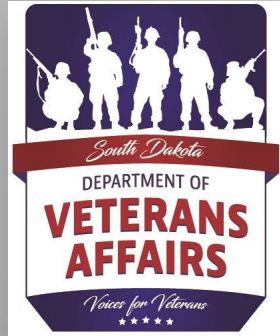
Serving Those Who Served!

# SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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FY2026 SDDVA Budget Brief





Veterans Benefits

Veterans Home

Veterans Cemetery

# SDDVA

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## 3

# Department of Veterans Affairs

## Overall Budget – Page 1 & 2 LRC Brief

Funding Source	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budgeted	FY 026 Requested	FY 2026 Governor's Recommended	FY 2026 Recommended Inc/(Dec)
General Funds	\$ 4,277,021	\$ 5,707,852	\$ 5,177,687	\$ 6,388,510	\$ 5,347,923	\$170,236
Federal Funds	\$ 2,093,561	\$ 3,438,443	\$ 3,831,941	\$ 3,417,193	\$ 3,417,193	(\$414,478)
Other Funds	\$ 7,539,638	\$ 6,792,986	\$ 7,051,399	\$ 7,281,299	\$ 7,059,229	\$7,830
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,910,219</b>	<b>\$15,939,281</b>	<b>\$16,061,027</b>	<b>\$17,087,002</b>	<b>\$15,824,345</b>	<b>(\$236,682)</b>
<b>Expenditure Detail</b>						
Personnel Services	\$ 8,372,331	\$ 9,212,339	\$11,431,297	\$11,661,297	\$11,539,297	\$105,000
Operating Expenditures	\$ 5,537,888	\$ 6,726,942	\$ 4,629,730	\$ 5,425,705	\$ 4,288,042	(\$341,682)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,910,219</b>	<b>\$15,939,281</b>	<b>\$16,061,027</b>	<b>\$17,087,002</b>	<b>\$15,824,345</b>	<b>(\$236,682)</b>
FTE	111.2	145.2	145.2	149.2	147.2	2

The title card features a background image of a wooden deck with a painted American flag pattern. The top portion of the image is blurred, showing green foliage. A white rectangular box with a thin black border is centered over the image, containing the title text.

# VETERAN BENEFITS

## Federal

- Compensation
- Dependency and Indemnity Compensation
- Pension
- Burial and Memorial Benefits
- Healthcare Benefits
- Education Benefits
- Home Loan Benefits
- Appeals and Supplemental Claims
- Life Insurance
- Re-Employment Rights
- Veterans Justice Outreach

## State

- Veterans Bonus
- Veteran ID Card Designation
- Veterans and Military License Plates
- Education Benefits
- Property Tax Exemption
- Hunting and Fishing Provisions
- State Park Admission and Camping Fees
- Veterans Preference
- Military Funeral Honor Reimbursement

Homeless Veterans – Suicide Prevention – Operation CARS – What’s Brewing  
– Fallen Hero Bridge Dedications – Training CTVSOs - Outreach

# Veterans Benefits Division

## Programs and Services:

- Admin/Finance/Communications.
- State Approving Agency/ Education Benefits.
- State Benefits:
  - i. SD Veterans Bonus Program (SDCL 33A-2-13) \$35,170 in FY24.
  - ii. Funeral Honors \$92,500 in FY24.
- Claims and Appeals - Veterans Benefits Monetary Awards in FY24 - \$414,375,490.19.

# Veterans Benefits Division

Page 3 – 6 LRC Brief

Funding Source	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budgeted	FY 2026 Requested	FY 2026 Governor's Recommended	FY 2026 Recommended Inc/(Dec)
General Funds	\$ 2,039,861	\$ 2,299,454	\$ 2,363,916	\$ 2,363,916	\$ 2,119,404	(\$244,512)
Federal Funds	\$ 194,926	\$ 273,289	\$ 281,408	\$ 281,408	\$ 281,408	\$0
Other Funds	\$ 769	\$ 61,074	\$ 61,080	\$ 61,080	\$ 0	(\$61,080)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,235,557</b>	<b>\$ 2,633,817</b>	<b>\$ 2,706,404</b>	<b>\$ 2,706,404</b>	<b>\$ 2,400,812</b>	<b>(\$305,592)</b>
<b>Expenditure Detail</b>						
Personnel Services	\$ 6,585,947	\$ 7,031,020	\$ 9,156,471	\$ 9,156,471	\$ 9,156,471	\$0
Operating Expenditures	\$ 4,869,099	\$ 5,	\$ 765,397	\$ 765,397	\$ 459,805	(\$305,592)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,235,557</b>	<b>\$ 2,633,817</b>	<b>\$ 2,706,404</b>	<b>\$ 2,706,404</b>	<b>\$ 2,400,812</b>	<b>(\$305,592)</b>
FTE	21.71	22.06	22	22	22	0

# Veterans Benefits Division (FY2026 Recommendations)

## **1. Headstone Setting/Burial Allowance**

Decrease \$52,700 General Funds/Decrease \$61,080 Other Funds

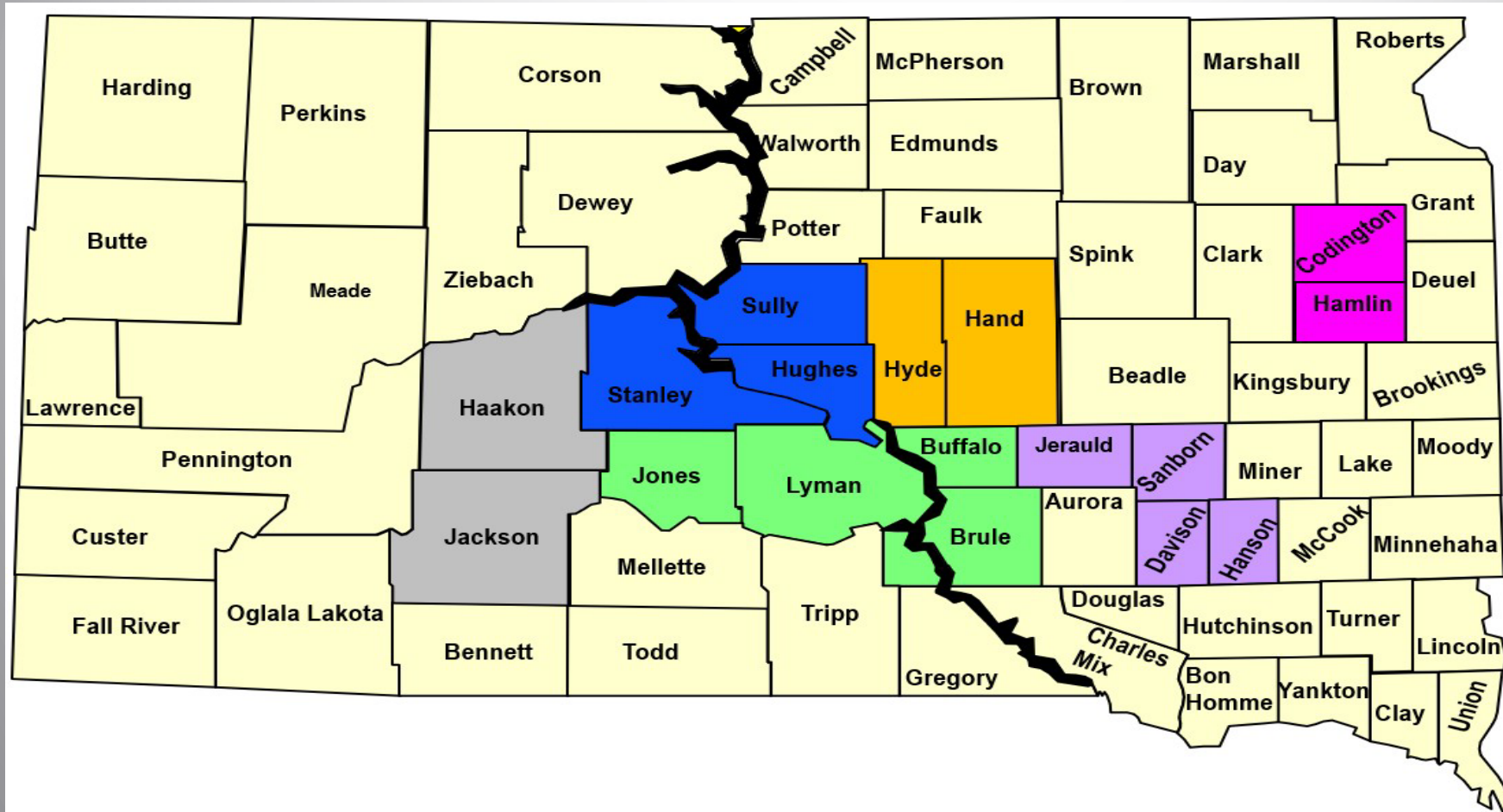
## **2. County/Tribal Veterans Service Officer Salary Supplement**

Decrease \$191,812 General Funds

### **Total:**

- Decrease \$244,512 General Funds
- Decrease \$61,080 Other Funds





# COUNTY VSO PARTNERSHIPS

# Veterans Home

At the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home, we provide quality long-term care services, rehabilitative, and social services to each resident. Our goal is to ensure that each resident experiences the highest possible quality of life, every day.

The Home is subject to the regulatory standards of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and the South Dakota Department of Health and undergoes annual licensure inspections by both agencies in areas of resident care, quality, and safety.

We focus on health of the whole person – intellectual, social, occupational, spiritual, emotional, and physical wellness.

136 years of providing care to residents at the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home; underscoring South Dakota's rich legacy and commitment to take care of our heroes.

- Nursing Care
- Domiciliary Care
- Physical Therapy
- Mental Health
- Pharmacy
- Administration
- Maintenance
- Medical Services
- Planned Supervised Recreation Activities
- Meals
- Social Services
- Spiritual Guidance



# Veterans Home Division

Page 7 – 14 LRC Brief

Funding Source	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budgeted	FY 2026 Requested	FY 2026 Governor's Recommended	FY 2026 Recommended Inc/(Dec)
General Funds	\$ 2,078,735	\$ 3,239,166	\$ 2,639,856	\$ 3,620,679	\$ 3,054,604	\$ 414,748
Federal Funds	\$ 1,898,634	\$ 3,154,654	\$ 3,550,533	\$ 3,135,785	\$ 3,135,785	(\$414,748)
Other Funds	\$ 7,477,677	\$ 6,512,885	\$ 6,752,299	\$ 6,732,199	\$ 6,706,209	(\$46,090)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,455,046</b>	<b>\$12,906,705</b>	<b>\$12,942,688</b>	<b>\$13,488,663</b>	<b>\$12,896,598</b>	<b>(\$46,090)</b>
<b>Expenditure Detail</b>						
Personnel Services	\$ 6,585,947	\$ 7,031,020	\$ 9,156,471	\$ 9,156,471	\$ 9,156,471	\$0
Operating Expenditures	\$ 4,869,099	\$ 5,875,685	\$ 3,786,217	\$ 4,332,192	\$ 3,740,127	(\$46,090)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,455,046</b>	<b>\$12,906,705</b>	<b>\$12,942,688</b>	<b>\$13,488,663</b>	<b>\$12,896,598</b>	<b>(\$46,090)</b>
FTE	87.25	118.2	118.2	118.2	118.2	0.0

# State Veterans Home Revenue Sources

Medicaid: Many residents are funded through Medicaid. Those expenses are paid at the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate.

Other Revenue Sources – State Veterans Home Operating Fund:

FY24 Resident Rents received \$903,733

- o Nursing Care - \$773,673
- o Domiciliary Care- \$130,060

FY24 VA Per Diems received \$6,720,916

- o Nursing Care Standard Per Diem \$1,044,856
- o Nursing Care Prevailing Rate \$5,473,459
- o Domiciliary Care \$202,600

FY24 Interest Earned \$59,578 (Veterans Home Capital Estates Fund and Reinert Inheritance Fund).

FY24 Miscellaneous Revenue \$159,587 (Includes employee housing income, food service bill backs, capital credits, donated funds, miscellaneous refunds).



# Veterans Home Division

## (FY2025 Amendments)

	General	Federal	Other	Total
Food Service Contract	\$354,901			\$354,901
Resident Medical Expenses	\$704,938			\$704,938
Utilities			(\$74,620)	(\$74,620)
<b>Total Recommendation</b>	<b>\$1,059,839</b>		<b>(\$74,620)</b>	<b>(\$985,219)</b>

# Veterans Home Division

## (FY2026 Recommendation)

### 1. **5% Enhanced FMAP**

- Increase \$295,404 General Funds/Decrease \$295,404 Federal Funds

### 2. **Annual FMAP Change**

- Increase \$119,344 General Funds/Decrease \$119,344 Federal Funds

### 3. **Utilities**

- Decrease \$46,090 Other Funds

Total:

- Increase \$414,748 General Funds
- Decrease \$414,748 Federal Funds
- Decrease \$46,090 Other Funds

# Veterans Cemetery

## Burial Options

The South Dakota Veterans Cemetery offers burial for eligible veterans, spouses, and dependents.

Burial options include casket burial, cremation in-ground burial, columbarium and scattering garden.

All burial options are of no cost to the veteran and are \$978 for eligible dependents.

An annual survey conducted by the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), a division of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, reported the following about our South Dakota Cemetery, after surveying next of kin and funeral directors:

- 98.4% of all respondents agreed or strongly agreed the quality of service they received from Cemetery staff was excellent.
- 100% of all respondents agreed or strongly agreed the overall appearance at the Cemetery was excellent.
- 100% of all respondents indicated they would recommend the South Dakota Veterans Cemetery to veteran families during their time of need.



# Veterans Cemetery Division

Page 15–18 LRC Brief

Funding Source	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budgeted	FY 2026 Requested	FY 2026 Governor's Recommended	FY 2026 Recommended Inc/(Dec)
General Funds	\$ 158,424	\$ 169,232	\$ 173,915	\$ 403,915	\$ 173,915	\$ 0
Federal Funds	\$ 0	\$ 10,376	\$ 10,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Other Funds	\$ 61,192	\$ 219,027	\$ 238,020	\$ 488,020	\$ 353,020	\$ 115,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 219,616</b>	<b>\$ 398,759</b>	<b>\$ 411,935</b>	<b>\$ 891,935</b>	<b>\$ 526,935</b>	<b>\$ 115,000</b>
<b>Expenditure Detail</b>						
Personnel Services	\$ 146,448	\$ 306,497	\$ 333,819	\$ 563,819	\$ 438,819	\$ 105,000
Operating Expenditures	\$ 73,168	\$ 92,262	\$ 78,116	\$ 328,116	\$ 88,116	\$ 10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 219,616</b>	<b>\$ 398,759</b>	<b>\$ 411,935</b>	<b>\$ 891,935</b>	<b>\$ 526,935</b>	<b>\$ 115,000</b>
FTE	2.24	5.0	5.0	9.0	7.0	2.0



# Veterans Cemetery Division

## (FY2025 Amendments)

	<b>General</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cemetery Expansion (SB 52)	\$75,000	\$1,500,000	\$75,000	\$1,650,000
<b>Total Recommendation</b>	\$75,000	\$1,500,000	\$75,000	\$1,650,000

# Veterans Cemetery Division

## (FY2026 Recommendations)

### 1. Cemetery Maintenance/Grounds FTE

- 2 FTE
- \$115,000 Other Funds

#### **Total Recommendation:**

- Increase \$115,000 Other Funds



# Questions?

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