



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

Interim Joint Committee on
Veterans, Military Affairs and Public Protection

August 23, 2019

Commissioner Benjamin F. Adams, III

Brigadier General, US Army (Ret)



Funding Priorities for 2020-2022

1. \$480K to fund Nurse Student Loan Repayment Program (GS19 HB 296)
2. \$25M to fund competitive salaries for Nursing Staff
3. \$2M to fund 20 additional Benefit Reps
4. \$200K to fund Homeless Veterans Program (Executive Branch Budgetary Request)
5. \$2.5M to fund design work on Bowling Green Veterans Center Project (BR 125)

Serving Kentucky's Veterans



Legislative Priorities for 2020

1. Exempt Military Retired Pay and Survivor Benefits from State Income Tax to make KY competitive with surrounding states.
2. Exempt Veteran Service Organizations from property tax. (BR 127/BR 247)
3. Bowling Green Veterans Center, design and preconstruction. (BR 125)
4. Allow certification as a Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (DVOSB) by the US Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) for verification and evaluation who meet the criteria of veteran eligibility, ownership, and control.
5. Clarify eligibility for a special military license plate and provide for a special military license plate for spouses of veterans.
6. Allow veterans who are paid at the 100 percent rate for service-connected disabilities by the USDVA to purchase disabled veteran license plates with no initial fee or renewal fee.
7. Amend KRS 132.810 to expand the homestead exemption in the Constitution to include surviving un-remarried spouses of totally disabled veterans of the United States Armed Forces.
8. Designate the Honor and Remember flag as the state's emblem of the service and sacrifice of the men and women of the US Armed Forces who have given their lives in the line of duty. (BR 85)

Major Events

September 20, 2019

Korean War Veterans Commemoration Event
Presentation of the Republic of Korea Ambassador of Peace Medallion
by Consul General Jong-Kook Lee
Boone National Guard Center
Fleming Armory
Frankfort

June 12-13, 2020

Veterans Engagement Action Center (VEAC)
One-stop shop for Veteran Benefits, Counseling, and Services
Lexington Christian Academy
450 W. Reynolds Road
Lexington



KDVA Personnel

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On-Hand / FY20 CAP

		Fulltime	Part-time	Interim	
CFOC	Commissioner's Office	11/12	0/0	0/4	
	HR Branch	1/1	0/0	0/0	
	Benefits Branch	32/32	0/0	0/0	
	KVC West	5/6	0/0	0/0	
	KVC Central	9/9	0/0	0/0	
	KVC North	5/5	0/0	0/0	
	KVC Northeast	4/4	0/0	0/0	
	KVC Southeast	4/4	0/0	0/0	
OKVC	Exec Director's Office	7/9	0/0	0/0	
	THVC	266/354	13/19	1/15	
	EKVC	169/176	0/1	0/3	
	WKVC	144/197	0/1	4/10	
	RVC	167/260	1/1	0/0	
		824/1068	14/22	5/32	Total

as of August 16, 2019



KDVA Annual Budget

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Fiscal Year 2019

General Fund:	\$25,098,600
Restricted Fund:	\$78,959,900
TOTAL:	\$104,058,500

Fiscal Year 2019

Field Services and Cemeteries:	\$7,840,500
Kentucky Veterans' Centers:	\$96,218,000
TOTAL:	\$104,058,500

Fiscal Year 2020

General Fund:	\$25,810,200
Restricted Fund:	\$78,964,500
TOTAL:	\$104,774,770

Fiscal Year 2020

Field Services and Cemeteries	\$7,926,000
Kentucky Veterans' Centers:	\$96,848,700
TOTAL:	\$104,774,770

Serving Kentucky's Veterans



KDVA Capital Projects 2020-2022

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1.	KDVA Maintenance Pool	\$1,000,000
2.	THVC Resurface Driveway & Parking Lot	\$1,000,000
3.	RVC Construct Staff Parking Lot	\$450,000
4.	KVCC Resurface Parking Lot	\$300,000
5.	THVC Dishwasher and Hood Vent Replacement	\$200,000
6.	EKVC Facility Roof Replacement	\$400,000
7.	WKVC Heat Tape Repair/New Water Temp Control System	\$300,000
8.	WKVC HVAC Replacement	\$1,000,000
9.	RVC Outside Storage Building	\$200,000
10.	EKVC Replace Cooling Towers	\$400,000
11.	WKVC Replace Cooling Tower	\$350,000
12.	THVC Steam Boiler Replacement	\$300,000
13.	Construct Bowling Green Veterans Center	\$30,000,000

General Funds	\$12,240,000
Federal Funds	<u>\$22,660,800</u>
Total	\$35,900,000



Veterans Legislation 2019 Enacted

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- **HB 296**: Creates a student loan repayment program for registered nurses and licensed practical nurses who will be employed by KDVA
- **HB 323**: Grants occupational license reciprocity to members of the reserve, National Guard, veterans, and their spouses
- **HB 338**: Gives interview preference for state jobs to service members and their families
- **SB 55**: Adds a veterans-at-risk “Green Alert” to the “Golden Alert” System
- **HB 243**: Requires Kentucky State Police to provide personal protection to Kentucky Medal of Honor recipients at public events and ceremonies
- **HB 316**: Allows service members who receive official orders requiring relocation to terminate or suspend select services without penalty or fee
- **HB 356**: Allows service members, spouses and dependents to maintain residency status after being accepted or enrolled in a Kentucky public postsecondary institution, if the service member receives official orders to relocate
- **HB 399**: Allows military families moving into the state on official orders to pre-enroll their children in a school district before obtaining an address