



OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING

A Fact Sheet

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Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

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The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs provides assistance and protection in the event of emergencies and disasters for the citizens of Colorado, provides assistance for Colorado veterans, and houses the state's Civil Air Patrol. The National Guard maintains a ready military force that can augment the active duty military, and is available to the state for assistance during emergencies and disasters.

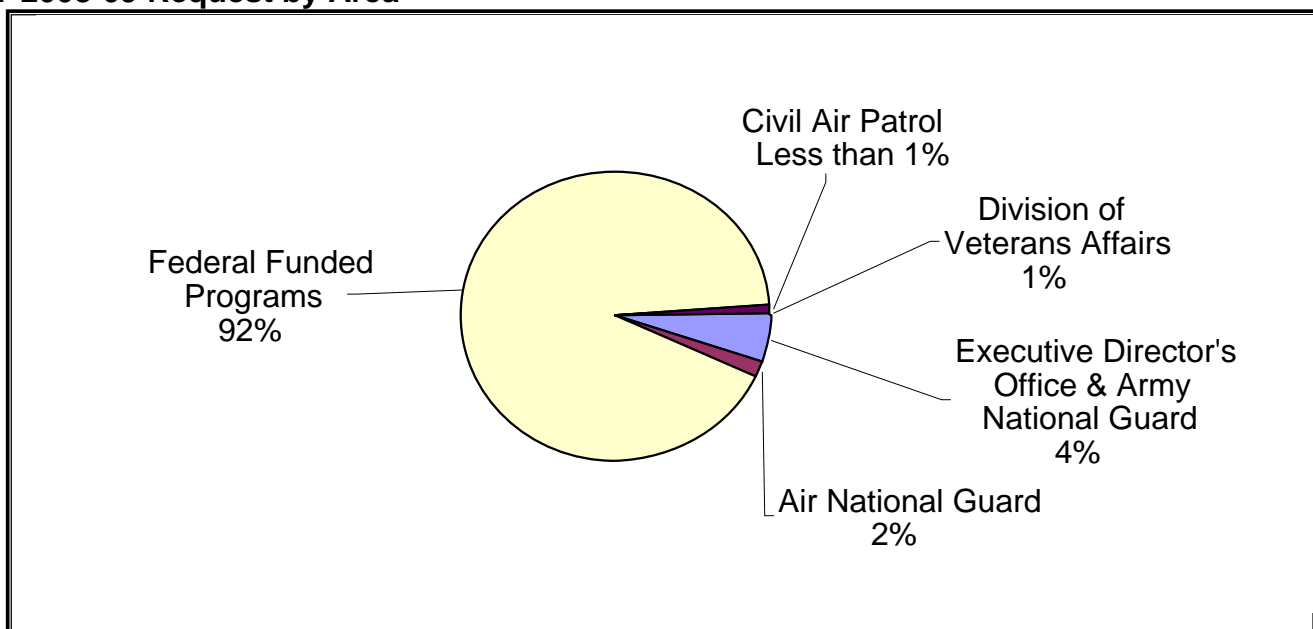
FY 2007-08 Appropriation

Total Appropriation:	\$172,694,697
Percent of Statewide Total Appropriation:	1.0%
General Fund Appropriation:	\$5,521,333
Percent of Statewide General Fund Appropriation:	0.1%
Total Full Time Equivalent Employees (FTE):	1,383.8

FY 2008-09 Budget Request

Total Request:	\$203,769,641
Percent of Statewide Total Request:	1.1%
General Fund Request:	\$6,106,947
Percent of Statewide General Fund Request:	0.1%
Total Full Time Equivalent Employees (FTE):	1,387.8

FY 2008-09 Request by Area



Department in Summary FY 2008-09

- Under the leadership of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Colorado continues to have a National Guard of highly motivated, well trained citizen soldiers who are ready to respond to natural disasters and state needs. The Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol provides Colorado's aviation community and its citizens with ready and rapid search and rescue services as well as opportunities for youth to provide service while learning about aerospace.
- The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs also provides service to the state's large veteran community through a network of well qualified county and state veteran service officers who assist veterans in obtaining the benefits they have earned from honorable military service.
- The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs carries out these above mentioned tasks through its five operational divisions. The five divisions include the (1) Executive Director and Army National Guard, (2) Division of Veterans Affairs, (3) Air National Guard, (4) Federal Funded Programs, and (5) Civil Air Patrol.

Leading Budget Change Requests for FY 2008-09:

- Requested transfer of \$2.3 million General Fund to the Veterans Trust Fund (outside the 6% limit) in FY 2008-09, to pay back the fund from the reduction it experienced in FY 2002-03. This will lead to additional funds for veteran's grants and Division of Veterans Affairs operations in the future and will require accompanying legislation in the 2008 session.
- Approximately \$585,000 in additional General Fund requested for FY 2008-09 for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, a 10.6% increase over the FY 2007-08 total appropriation.
- **Funding EDO- Operating Expenses Backlog & Continued Maintenance** - \$254,419 General Fund request will increase funding for armory maintenance and repair, addressing the remaining maintenance backlog from FY 2005-06 and future maintenance.
- **Increase County Veterans Service Officer Payments** - \$124,354 General Fund request for pilot program funding for increasing the payment to selected Colorado counties for the work provided by the County Veteran Service Officers to aid veterans in claiming earned benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Administration.
- **Facilities Manager** - \$42,128 General Fund for 0.5 FTE of a Facility Manager to aid the Department to provide oversight and execution of facility acquisition, sale and maintenance.
- **Purchasing Agent** - \$24,737 General Fund for 0.5 FTE of a Purchasing Agent to make the existing position whole (full-time) in order to increase the Department's ability to provide quotes, requests for proposals, invitations to bid, and negotiations with vendors on purchasing and contracting.
- **Budget Analyst** - \$27,700 General Fund for 0.5 FTE of a Budget Analyst to make the existing position whole (full-time) in order to increase the Department's ability to provide budgetary data to OSPB and JBC in a more timely and effective manner.

Key Issues and Legislation:

The following are key legislative items passed during the 2007 Session:

- **H.B. 07-1251:** Implements Referendum E approved in the November 2006 general election, which amends the Colorado Constitution to extend the senior homestead exemption to veterans who are 100 percent permanently disabled due to a service-connected disability. Requires the Department to notify veterans who may be eligible for the exemption by May 1, 2007, to annually verify the eligibility of each applicant, and to notify local property tax assessors of those verifications. Appropriated \$1,300 General Fund to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
- **H.B. 07-1275:** Enables the Colorado National Guard, when participating in drug interdiction and enforcement, to be authorized to receive property forfeited to the federal government. Creates the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Counterdrug Program Federal Forfeiture Fund to receive the funds associated with this property.
- **H.B. 07-1359:** Makes changes to the allocation of tobacco litigation settlement moneys, and adjusts FY 2007-08 appropriations for many departments, including increasing the spending authority from the Colorado State Veterans Trust Fund. Appropriates \$114,468 cash funds exempt from the Veterans Trust Fund to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
- **H.B. 07-1371:** Eliminates the maximum pay grade requirement for certain military personnel to receive grants from the Military Family Relief Fund. This results in more military personnel being eligible to receive these grants.

Department Wide Performance Measures:

1. Deploy initial National Guard forces and equipment within 4 hours of declaration of state emergency.
2. Provide sufficient number of trained and equipped National Guard forces for state and federal emergencies.
3. Provide search and rescue aircraft response, Army Guard and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) within 90 minutes weather permitting.
4. Enable Veterans to receive benefits to which they are entitled from the Federal Department of Veterans Administration (average amount per veteran).
5. Achieve a “satisfactory” (Category II) rating for each National Guard facility as measured by the Installation Status Report.

Links to Additional Websites

- [Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs](http://www.dmva.state.co.us/page/home) (<http://www.dmva.state.co.us/page/home>)
- [Army National Guard](http://www.arng.army.mil) (www.arng.army.mil)
- [Colorado Army National Guard](http://www.coloradoguard.com) (www.coloradoguard.com)
- [Air National Guard](http://www.ang.af.mil) (www.ang.af.mil)

For more information about this Department and its programs, please call 303-866-3174.