



STATE OF MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MINNESOTA VETERANS HOMES



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**Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)
Obtaining a Minnesota Veterans Home
in Your Community
FAQ's**

What is the process for a community site to be selected?

The Legislature and Governor need to approve the addition of a new state Veterans home, which may include appropriating bonding dollars for construction and funding on-going operational costs.

What programs and services are covered under the Federal Veterans Administration (VA) State Home Grants Program?

The Federal VA may award 65 percent of the construction costs of a new state Veterans home. Once built, the Federal VA provides per diem for operational care for Skilled Nursing, Domiciliary and Adult Day Care.

Can a Community submit a grant application directly to the Federal VA on its own?

The Federal VA only accepts applications from an authorized state agency.

If a community submits an application to the MDVA, can the Department submit it to the Federal VA?

MDVA will only submit applications to the Federal VA if it is given legislative authorization to do so.

Why can't small Veterans units be added to pre-existing long-term care facilities?

Currently the Federal VA, under its State Veterans Home Program, only participates in construction activity and provides per diem payments for care in state owned Veteran's homes. Community homes can apply to the local VA Hospital for contract nursing home beds for veterans under a different federal program.

Our community ranked well on the 2009 study; does this mean it will get a Veterans home?

Not necessarily. The intent of the study was to provide a systematic approach to identifying potential communities that would be acceptable locations for any future Veterans Home. All 17 communities met that intent. The final ranking was based on proximity to a Federal VA Medical Center and a Federal VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic.

If a community site is authorized by the Legislature, how is the 35 percent construction cost commitment achieved?

This is negotiated by the state and can include city, county and/or state participation.

If a community site is authorized by the Legislature, will the community still own the land that the home will be sited on?

No, the land must be donated to the state.

What does a community need to present to the Legislature?

The community will need legislators to carry House and Senate bills which, if passed would authorize a new Veterans home, and show how the community will meet the necessary requirements.

At what point is a pre-design needed?

The state requires pre-design prior to construction.

If a community meets all the requirements and makes it to the Federal VA Priority list, how long does it take to receive funding?

Each year the priority list is readjusted by the Federal VA depending on current State Veterans Homes with life safety projects and how much Congress allocates for the program. It could take anywhere from two to several years for the project to get the 2/3 match from the Federal VA.

What role does MDVA play in this process?

Prior to legislative authorization MDVA provides advice only, after authorization MDVA provides coordination. The site selection is made by the Legislature and Governor; MDVA is neutral in this portion of the process.

Can a community renovate an old building to be used as a Veterans home?

Federal VA State Veterans Home construction guidelines are based on a neighborhood model of long-term care that supports person-centered care. Additional information on space criteria is available at www.va.gov/facmgt/standard/space/SPchapeter106.doc

Who can I contact for more information?

Please direct inquiries to:

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