



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS AND VETERANS SERVICES  
STATE MILITARY RESERVATION, 1 MINUTEMAN WAY  
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-5607

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March 17, 2021

Representative Lynne Ober, Chair  
And Representatives of House Finance Division I  
Legislative Office Building  
33 North Main Street  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Dear Representative Ober,

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your inquiries. Below you will find responses to each of your questions. Please do not hesitate to contact me for additional information related to our 2022-2023 budget request. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

1. **What new full-time staff has been added to your budget?**
  - a. **Cost for each staff member added (salary, benefits, IT, telecom, desk, equipment, office space).**
  - b. **Brief description of the need for each staff member added.**

For this budget, we have requested seven new positions. Three positions are 100% federally reimbursed and will directly support the NH National Guard. One position is 75% federally funded, 25% general funded and will provide maintenance support to two NH National Guard facilities. The three remaining positions are 100% general fund positions required in HB 1582, the 2020 Veterans Bill of Rights. These three positions will allow us to comply with the provisions of the newly passed law. A summary of the positions and costs follows:

**NW001-TECHNICAL SUPPORT SPEC II (02-12-12-120010-31330000)**

This position will perform analysis and evaluations of various operating systems and provide identification of exploitable computer weaknesses & troubleshoots various computer system vulnerability patching; provides timely customer services to various customers within the New Hampshire National Guard (NHNG) and the Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services (DMAVS). **100% Federal Funds.**

Description	FY2022	FY2023
Salary and Benefits	\$72,486	\$77,604

\* Federal Government provides all space and all required equipment.

**NW003-CLERK OF THE WORKS II (02-12-12-120010-22450000)**

This position is to plan, supervise and coordinate the design and construction to ensure contractor compliance with approved contract plans and specifications and to supervise technical procedures for all military construction projects. **100% Federal Funds.**

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>
Salary and Benefits	\$79,396	\$85,329

\* Federal Government provides all space and all required equipment.

**NW004-ACCOUNTANT I (02-12-120010-22450000)**

This position would provide analysis and supervision of fiscal accounts for our construction and facilities management office (CFMO). This position would also maintain inventory controls of invoices and assist in the billing reimbursement, provide oversight of account status and make recommendations for account liquidation. **100% Federal Funds.**

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>
Salary and Benefits	\$62,932	\$67,339

\* Federal Government provides all space and all required equipment.

**NW002-MAINTENANCE MECHANIC II (02-12-12-120010-30030000)**

This position would provide maintenance support to a readiness center and warehouse facility on the seacoast that have different cost shares for support. **75% Federal and 25% General Funds.**

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>
Salary and Benefits	\$59,200	\$63,184

\* Federal Government provides all space and all required equipment.

**NW134-GRANTS PROGRAM COORDINATOR (02-12-12-121010-10150000)**

Reference to the statutory requirements created by HB 1582, this position will apply and manage grants related to Veterans Service and review expanded training and apprenticeship programs for providing job training for veterans and to submit a report detailing the findings. **100% General Funds.**

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>
Salary and Benefits	\$76,941	\$82,574
Current Expenses	\$400	\$400
Equipment	\$1,000	\$1,000
In State Travel	\$600	\$600
Total	<u>\$78,941</u>	<u>\$84,574</u>

**NW135-PROGRAM SPECIALIST II (02-12-12-121010-10150000)**

Reference to the statutory requirements created by HB 1582, this position will increase veterans' awareness of the military skills test waiver program; increase acceptance of military training and experience towards the licensing requirements in certain occupations and professions; and establish an end veterans homelessness program. **100% General Funds.**

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>
Salary and Benefits	\$72,486	\$77,604
Current Expenses	\$400	\$400
Equipment	\$1,000	\$1,000
In State Travel	\$600	\$600
Total	<u>\$74,486</u>	<u>\$79,604</u>

**NW136-PROGRAM SPECIALIST II (02-12-12-121010-10150000)**

Reference to the statutory requirements created by HB 1582, this position will increase veterans' awareness of the military skills test waiver program; increase acceptance of military training and experience towards the licensing requirements in certain occupations and professions; and establish an end veterans homelessness program. **100% General Funds.**

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>
Salary and Benefits	\$72,486	\$77,604
Current Expenses	\$400	\$400
Equipment	\$1,000	\$1,000
In State Travel	\$600	\$600
Total	<u>\$74,486</u>	<u>\$79,604</u>

**2. What new part-time staff has been added to your budget?**

- a. Cost for each staff member added (salary, benefits, IT, telecom, desk, equipment, office space).**
- b. Brief description of the need for each staff member added.**

No new part-time staff have been added. However, we added a class 050 Personal Service-Temp in Accounting Unit 02-12-12-120010-22740000 (100% Federal Funds) anticipating approval from the National Guard Cooperative Agreement Centralized Personnel Plan. This position will provide support to the NH National Guard environmental compliance section.

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>
Salary and Benefits (part-time)	\$40,000	\$40,000

\* Federal Government provides all space and all required equipment.

**3. What positions had to be eliminated in order to meet the governor's budget requirements?**

No positions were eliminated.

- a. Cost for each staff member added (salary, benefits, IT, telecom, desk, equipment, office space).**  
Not applicable.
- b. Brief description of the need for each staff member added.**  
Not applicable.

**4. Is your agency adequately staffed to complete all work assigned to your agency in state law?**

If the Governor's recommended budget passes in its current form, the Department will be adequately staffed.

**5. If the answer to Q. 4 is no, please describe.**

If any of the new positions are not approved in this Governor's recommended budget, the Department's ability to support the NH National Guard and the New Hampshire's veterans will be limited.

- Without the Clerk of the Works, Accountant or Maintenance Mechanic, support to the National Guard's 1,000,000 square feet of building space and 600,000 square yards of paved surface would suffer.
- Without the Technical Support Specialist, the NH National Guard will not be able to adequately secure the Department of Defense IT infrastructure that enables operations in support of our missions to fight and win our nations wars and secure the homeland.
- Without the two Program Specialists and Grant Coordinator, we are unable to comply with the departmental specific requirements of the Veterans bill of rights including:
  - Ending veteran homelessness
  - Educating veterans on the veterans test waiver program
  - Assisting veterans with applying military training and experience with regard to licensure and certification

**a. If we cannot add adequate staffing, should we consider suspending that law for the biennium?**

There is no requirement to suspend any law as the veteran bill of rights states that it becomes effective "upon receipt of sufficient funding for positions required to carry out the purpose of this section" (RSA 110-B:73-a, b, c).

**6. What things are you doing (found in state law) that could be eliminated and why?**

Not applicable.

**7. What priorities did you have that were not funded? Cost? Description? Impact of not funding?**

There is currently no appropriation associated with Section XII of Senate Bill 143. This bill seeks to convert the NH National Guard Scholarship Program to the NH National Guard Enlistment Incentive Program. Recruiting is currently the number one priority for the NH National Guard. This program authorizes a cash incentive up to \$500 to current members of the New Hampshire National Guard in the pay grades of E-1 up to O-3 or any former member of the New Hampshire National Guard for each new or prior service recruit that they bring into the New Hampshire National Guard. Since this legislation was filed after our budget submission, there is no request in the current proposal. We ask that the committee consider adding \$25,000.00 to the budget to support this program.

**8. Please be prepared to discuss any HB2 sections that apply to your agency.**

Section 1: 21-1082.0: Makes an appropriation to the Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services in order to provide grants to veterans' organizations for safety upgrades and other capital improvements to their facilities. \$1,500,000 – 100% General Funds. This was added at the Governor's direction. We learned of it when HB 2 became public. The intent is to address veteran mental health issues that resulted from the

pandemic. This is the first proposed appropriation in direct support of veterans' services since the reorganization of the Department.

Thank you for your continued support of the New Hampshire National Guard and taking the time to discuss the intent of the Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services in regards to our mission requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Mikolaities  
Major General, NH National Guard  
The Adjutant General