

State Agency Contingency Plans in the Event of a Federal Government  
Shutdown Impact and Contingency Plan Submitted by

CT Department of Veterans Affairs

September 30, 2025

1. **Identify which programs or services are impacted (if any) by a Federal shutdown.**

***DVA Response:***

Based on information provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (Federal VA) on the continuation of services in the event of a federal government shutdown, the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) is not anticipating an impact on programs and operations as explained below.

Included herewith as Attachment A is the Federal VA “Veterans Field Guide to Government Shutdown.” Pursuant to the Federal VA on its website page regarding “Human Capital Contingency Plan (as of September 2025)”, 100% of Veterans Health Administration (VHA) employees are excepted or exempt. See specifically the VA table entitled “Table 2: VA Contingency Plan Onboard vs. Excepted Employees by Administration or Staff Office (as of October 2023). This table is found at the following link: [Human Capital Contingency Plan - VA Contingency Planning](#)

**A. DVA Veterans on Campus**

**i. Veterans in the Residential Facility**

The majority of the DVA Residential Facility Veterans receive their medical and mental health care from the Federal VA. Additionally, many DVA Veterans are engaged in substance use treatment with the Federal VA. In the event of a federal government shutdown, the Federal VA has indicated that healthcare-related services will continue to operate (Attachment A), and as such, these services provided to the DVA Veterans in the Residential Facility are expected to continue with no interruption in the care provided to our DVA Veterans in the Residential Facility.

**ii. Veterans in the Healthcare Center**

The DVA Healthcare Center Medical Staff includes providers from the Federal VA through a Sharing Agreement, including a physician and psychiatrist. These VHA employees are expected to continue working (Attachment A). Additionally, DVA Veterans in the Healthcare Center also receive specialty care at the Federal VA, which services are also expected to continue as explained above.

Based on the foregoing, there is no expected impact of a federal government shutdown to the DVA Veterans on campus or to the DVA services and programs provided to the DVA Veterans on campus. Additionally, there is also no anticipated impact on any DVA Veterans who receive

VA benefits as those will continue in the event of a federal government shutdown (Attachment A).

## **B. Services Provided to Veterans in the Community**

The DVA Office of Advocacy and Assistance Veteran Service Officers (VSOs) provide services to Veterans in the community by assisting Veterans and their eligible family members in submitting claims for benefits. Other than the national call centers (predominantly for education), there is no anticipated impact to the DVA Office of Advocacy and Assistance. Although the Federal VA's regional offices may close, DVA VSOs do not submit claims to the regional offices; they submit all claims to the national intake center. The DVA's expectation is that claims can still be submitted and acted upon by the Federal VA. However, there is a potential for the processing of claims to slow down if there is a protracted Federal VA shutdown.

DVA Cemetery and Memorial Services, offering interment options for Veterans and eligible family members, does not anticipate any impact on operations. Although headstones will not be placed in VA cemeteries in the event of a federal government shutdown, that does not impact the DVA which operates the State Veterans Cemetery, and all burial claims will continue to be processed (Attachment A).

### **2. Identify the timing of any changes, reductions or revision in programs or services.**

**DVA Response:** Please see response above.

### **3. Identify the amount Identify the amount of any funding reduction by program or service - specify amounts affected for state fiscal year 2026. rather than federal fiscal year 2026.**

**DVA Response:**

A. The CT General Fund receives VA Per Diem based on the daily census of Veterans residing at the DVA Healthcare Center and Residential Facility. These funding sources do not go to the DVA but go into the general fund. Currently the billing is up to date. The VA Per Diem payments could possibly be delayed but we do not anticipate loss of funding to the VA Per Diem program at the DVA.

B. Medicare/ Medicaid – services are billed through DAS and claims booked by DSS. These funds also go into the general fund. We do not anticipate loss of funding for these programs.

### **4. Address your proposed method of dealing with any program or service cutbacks. outlining implementation steps where relevant.**

**DVA Response:**

At this time, the DVA is not anticipating an impact on the agency programs, operations or services. However, the DVA will continue to monitor the situation for any changes to determine whether there may be any potential impacts, and in doing so, determine ways to mitigate the impact. For example, the DVA would need to ensure that the DVA Veterans who receive care from the VHA would continue to receive care from community providers in the event that VHA were included in the federal government shutdown.

5. **Provide detail as to how DVA proposes to respond to specific federal cuts, including service cutbacks or eliminations, funding shifts, or other methods.**

***DVA Response:*** Please see response above.

6. **Identify federal funding that supports state employee payroll.**

***DVA Response:***

Other than the Federal VA medical staff in the DVA Healthcare Center mentioned above (who will continue to work in the event of a federal government shutdown), the DVA does not have any federal employees on staff. Nor are any DVA positions directly federally funded. As such, there will be no impact to DVA staff, and all staff members will continue to work and fulfill their job functions and roles.



# VETERANS FIELD GUIDE TO GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to provide quality, consistent care and services to Veterans, families, Caregivers, and Survivors. VA's mission allows no exception to this standard even when operations are limited by the absence of appropriations (commonly known as a "Government shutdown").



## SERVICES TO VETERANS NOT IMPACTED:



VA Medical Centers, Outpatient Clinics, and Vet Centers will be open as usual and providing all services.



VA benefits will continue to be processed and delivered, including compensation, pension, education, and housing benefits.



Burials will continue at VA national cemeteries. Applications for headstones, markers, and burial benefits processing will continue.



The Board of Veterans' Appeals will continue decisions on Veterans' cases.



Call Centers: VA's primary call center (1-800-MyVA411) and the Veterans Crisis Line (Dial 988, Press 1) will remain open 24/7.



Suicide prevention programs, homelessness services, and caregiver support will continue.



## HAVE A QUESTION? CALL US!

The one number all Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors can use to access VA resources 24 hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year.

1-800-MYVA411 (1-800-698-2411)



## SERVICES TO VETERANS IMPACTED:



VA will cease providing transition program assistance and career counseling.



Call Centers: VA's GI Bill (1-888-GIBILL-1) and National Cemetery Applicant Assistance (1-800-697-6947) hotlines will be closed.



VA benefits regional offices will be closed.



Public Affairs and outreach to Veterans will cease, including social media, VetResources emails, and responses to press inquiries.



No grounds maintenance or placement of permanent headstones at VA cemeteries.

Applications for pre-need burial at VA cemeteries will not be processed.

No printing of new Presidential Memorial Certificates.



No outreach to state, county, tribal, municipal, faith-based, and community-based partners by VA Central Office.

In the event of a prolonged shutdown, VA will continue to review and update its plan in conjunction with the applicable legal requirements and circumstances. Please visit [www.whitehouse.gov/omb/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/) or [www.VA.gov](http://www.VA.gov) for updated information.

VA



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

Download the VA Welcome Kit [www.va.gov/welcome-kit/](http://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/)

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Veterans Crisis Line: Dial 988, then Press 1

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