

Veterans Benefits Administration



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Under Secretary for Benefits
to

Advisory Committee on Operation Iraqi Freedom and
Operation Enduring Freedom

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VBA Programs

- Compensation & Pension
- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment
- Education
- Loan Guaranty
- Insurance



Compensation & Pension

VETERANS

- **Disability compensation** - awarded for injuries/diseases incurred in or aggravated by military service or, in some cases, due to VA health care
 - Payment based on impact to average ability to seek and maintain gainful employment.

- **Disability pension** - awarded to wartime veterans with permanent and total disabilities which are not the result of military service or veterans at least 65 years of age (subject to income limitations).
 - Needs based



Compensation & Pension

FY 2006

- 2.7 Million - Receiving Compensation Benefits
 - \$25.6 Billion – Compensation Benefits Paid

- 329,000 – Receiving Pension
 - \$2.7 Billion – Pension Benefits Paid



Compensation & Pension

SURVIVORS

- **Dependency & Indemnity Compensation**
 - Death in service
 - Death due to a service-connected condition; or
 - Had a service-connected disability rated at 100% for 10 years prior to death
- **Death Pension**
 - Eligible survivors of wartime veterans (income based benefit)
- **Burial allowance as a partial reimbursement of an eligible veteran's burial and funeral costs.**



Compensation & Pension

- A Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission is carrying out a study of the benefits that are provided to compensate and assist veterans and their survivors for disabilities and deaths attributable to military service.
- The Commission members are appointed by the President and leaders of Congress, and the Commission is independent of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.



Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment

Achieve and maintain suitable employment

- Evaluation of the veteran's abilities, skills, interests, and needs
- Vocational counseling and planning
- On-the-job and non-paid work experience education or training such as certificate, two or four-year programs

Independent Living

- Training in activities of daily living
- Technological assistance
- Personal adjustment counseling



Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment

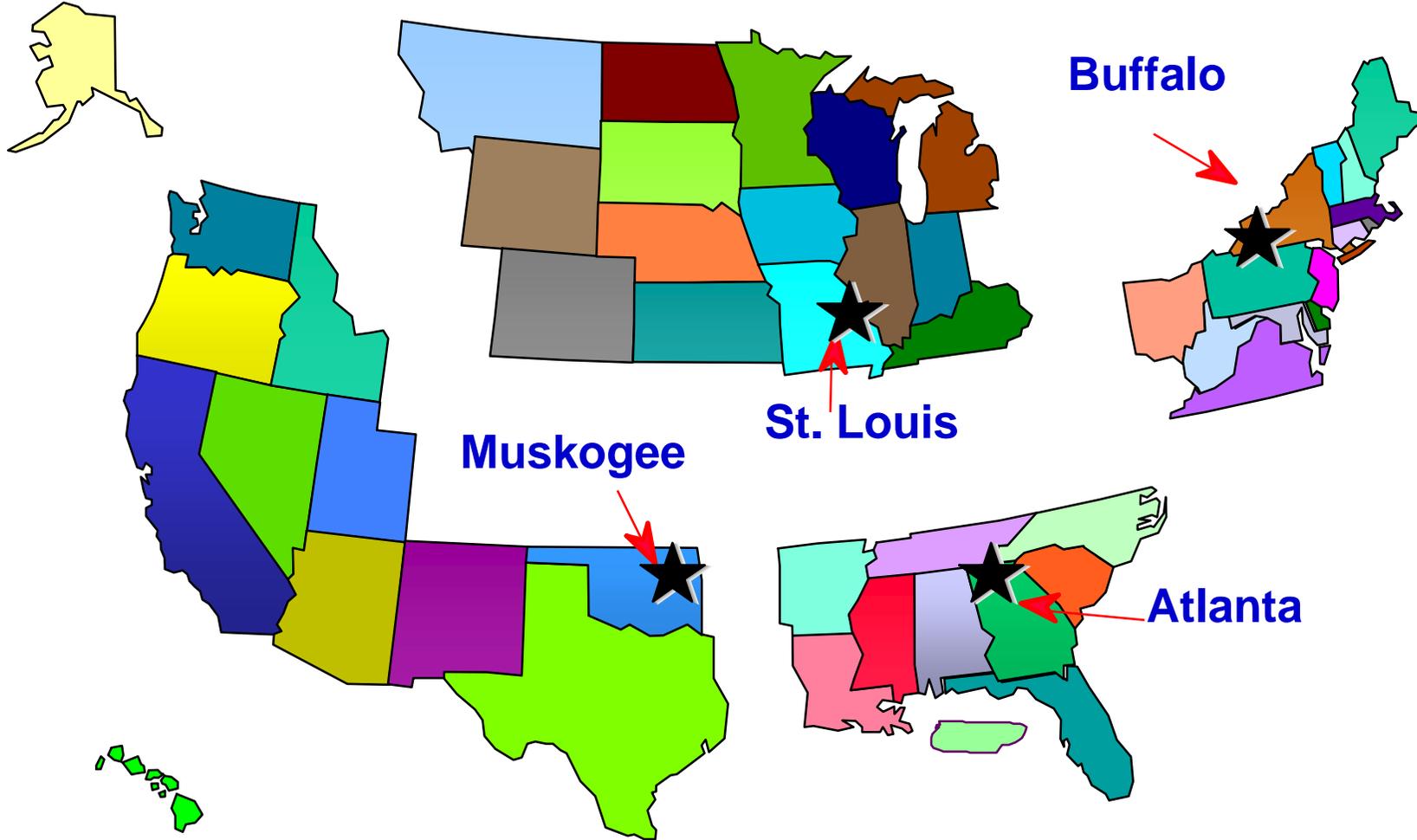
FY 2006

- 89 Thousand - Veterans Received Vocational Rehabilitation Assistance
- \$747 Million - Vocational Rehabilitation Assistance



Education

Regional Processing Offices (RPOs)





Education

VA's Education Programs:

- Provide readjustment and restore educational opportunities lost because of service to the country
- Extend benefits of higher education to qualified persons who may not otherwise be able to afford it
- Aid military recruitment & retention of highly qualified personnel
- Encourage membership in the selected reserve
- Enhance the national work force



Education

Montgomery GI Bill—Active Duty (MGIB, or Chapter 30)

- Initial active duty service after 6-30-85
- \$1200 military pay reduction

Montgomery GI Bill—Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR, or Chapter 1606)

- 6 year Selected Reserve Obligation
- Finish initial active duty training
- Funded by Department of Defense (DoD)



Education

Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance Program (VEAP, or Chapter 32)

- First entered on active duty after 12-31-76 and before 7-1-85
- Maximum contribution is \$2700
- Government matches \$2 for \$1

Survivors' & Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA, or Chapter 35)

Spouses & Children of Veterans Who:

- Died While on Active Duty, or
- Permanently & Totally Disabled, or
- Died From Service Connected Disability, or
- MIA, POW, and Hostages



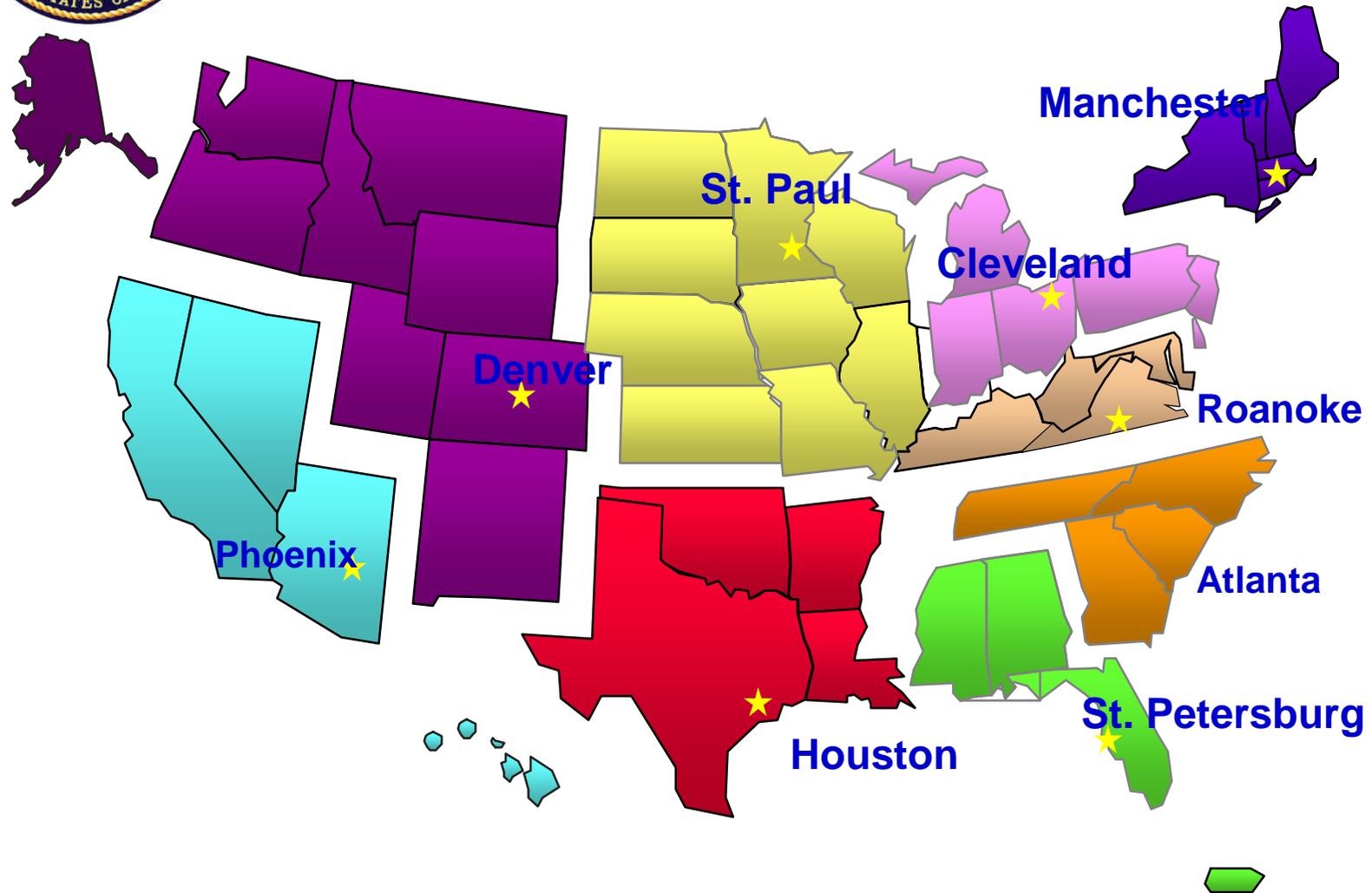
Education

Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607)

- New program established in 2005 by Department of Defense (DoD)
- Designed to provide education assistance to member of the Reserve components called or ordered to active duty in response to a war or national emergency.
- VA will administer the program and pay benefits from funds contributed by DoD.



Loan Guaranty Regional Loan Centers





Loan Guaranty

- The Home Loan Guaranty Program is a result of the original 1944 GI Bill for returning World War II servicemen and servicewomen.
- Loans are made by private lenders such as banks, savings and loan associations, and mortgage companies, and guaranteed by VA.
- A key benefit of the VA Home Loan Program is its no-downpayment feature.
- VA offers a guaranty to lenders of up to \$104,250. The maximum loan amount is generally \$417,000.



Loan Guaranty

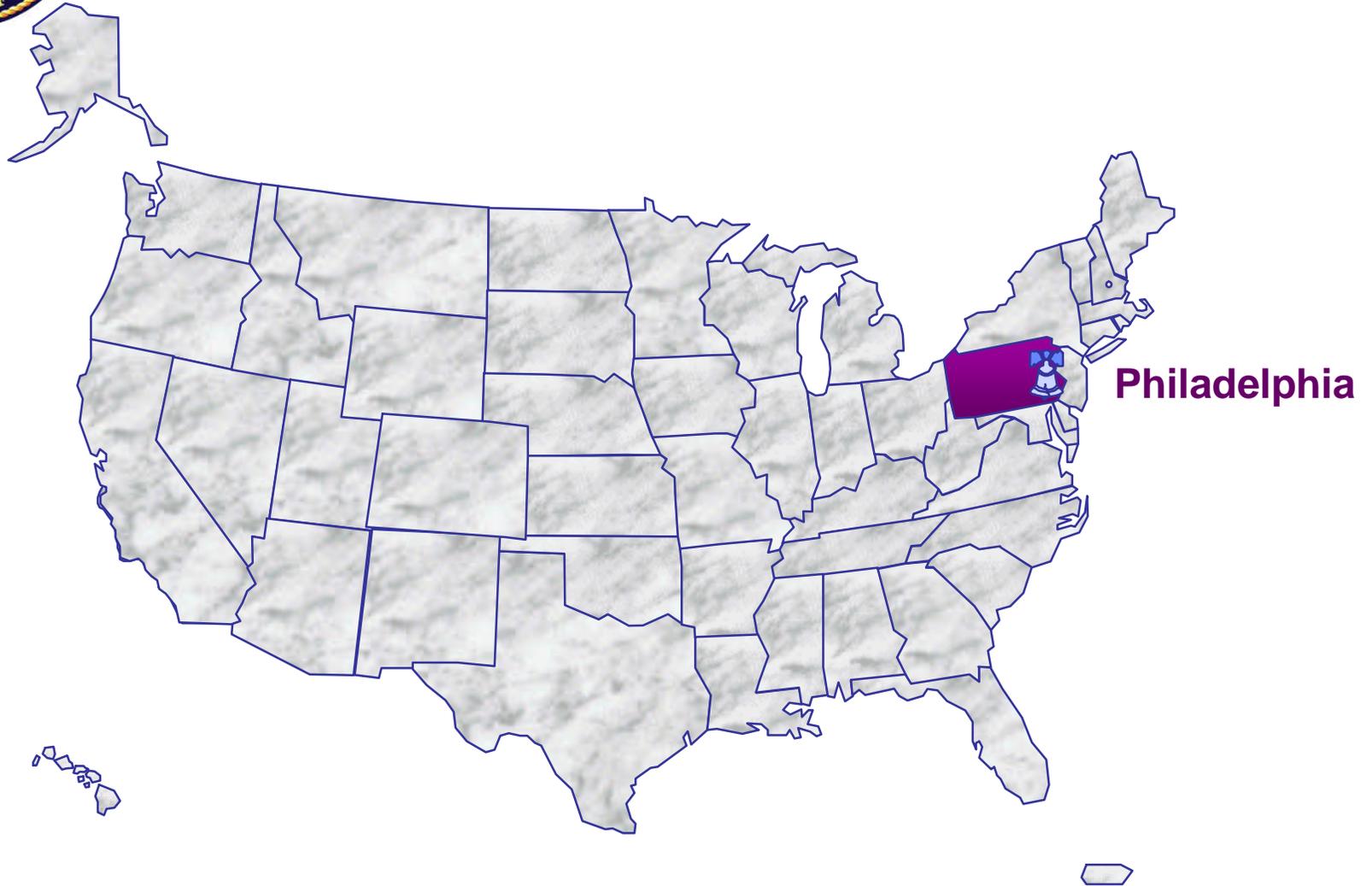
<u>Year</u>	<u># Loans*</u>	<u>\$ Amount*</u>
FY 2001	250,000	\$31 Billion
FY 2002	317,000	\$40 Billion
FY 2003	490,000	\$63 Billion
FY 2004	336,000	\$44 Billion
FY 2005	165,000	\$24 Billion
FY 2006	143,000	\$25 Billion

Total **1,701,000** **\$227 Billion**

*Data represents Guaranties Issued during the FY in question



Insurance





Insurance

- All VA insurance programs are either administered or supervised at the VA Regional Office and Insurance Center in Philadelphia
- The insurance programs have a different funding arrangement than other VBA business lines
- Prudential Life Insurance Co. administers some of the programs, under the supervision of the VA Insurance Service
- Commercial insurance is often unavailable or prohibitively expensive to disabled veterans



Insurance

FY 2006

- 138 Thousand – Death Claims Paid
- \$2.3 Billion - Death Benefits Paid
- \$422 Million – Dividends Paid