COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES
One Bowdoin Square
15 New Chardon Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
TEL: (617) 210- 5480 | FAX: (617) 210-5883
mass.gov/VETS

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ERIC GORALNICK, MD, MS
SECRETARY, EOVS

ANDREA GAYLE-BENNETT
DEPUTY SECRETARY, EOVS

October 30, 2026

Timothy Carroll
House Clerk
State House, Room 145
Boston, MA 02133

Michael D. Hurley
Senate Clerk
State House, Room 335
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Clerk Carroll and Clerk Hurley,

Pursuant to Section 2 of Chapter 115 of the Massachusetts General Laws, please find the Executive Office of Veterans Services (EOVS) Annual Report attached.

Sincerely,



Eric Goralnick

CC:
Senator Michael Rodrigues, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Representative Aaron Michlewitz, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Senator John Velis, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs
Representative Joe McGonagle, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs

Legislative Mandate

The following report is issued pursuant to Section 2 of Chapter 115, summarized as follows:

… Annually, not later than November 1, the secretary shall report on the activities of the office and data collected related to veterans, including, but not limited to: (i) the number of recipients of state veteran benefits and applicants for benefits, delineated by municipality and demographic; (ii) a breakdown on the outcome of benefit appeal decisions pursuant to this section; (iii) a summary of the office's outreach to veterans on the availability of and process for applying for benefits; (iv) demographic and regional information available on the veteran population in the commonwealth; (v) directives in effect; and (vi) any legislative recommendations necessary to better serve veterans and their families in the commonwealth. The office shall publicly post the report on the office's website and submit the report to the joint committee on veterans and federal affairs, the clerks of the senate and house of representatives and the senate and house committees on ways and means.

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EOVS Veterans Benefit Recipient Demographics

The Executive Office of Veterans Services (EOVS) administers Chapter 115 of the Massachusetts General Laws, a means-tested program that provides eligible veterans and their dependents with financial, medical, and dental assistance, including support for food, shelter, clothing, fuel, and medical care. In fiscal year 2026, EOVS provided Chapter 115 benefits to 4,480 veterans across 298 municipalities, compared with 4,599 veterans in fiscal year 2025.

The HERO Act introduced several key expansions to Chapter 115, including broadened eligibility criteria, streamlined access for dependents, and the inclusion of behavioral health services as reimbursable benefits.

EOVS is currently working to implement a system for tracking regional demographic data for both applicants and benefit recipients.

Below is a listing of the number of Chapter 115 recipients based on their municipality:

City	Case Count	City	Case Count	City	Case Count
Abington	17	Hamilton	3	Pittsfield	75
Acton	10	Hampden	2	Plainville	6
Acushnet	15	Hanover	14	Plymouth	43
Adams	18	Hanson	2	Plympton	7
Agawam	33	Hardwick	2	Princeton	3
Alford	1	Harvard	4	Provincetown	4
Amesbury	32	Harwich	14	Quincy	104
Amherst	13	Hatfield	8	Randolph	20
Andover	3	Haverhill	42	Raynham	21
Arlington	17	Heath	1	Reading	10
Ashburnham	5	Hingham	5	Rehoboth	6
Ashland	5	Hinsdale	4	Revere	30
Athol	13	Holbrook	1	Rochester	3
Attleboro	47	Holden	6	Rockland	36
Auburn	13	Holland	1	Rockport	2

City	Case Count	City	Case Count	City	Case Count
Avon	2	Holliston	5	Rowley	3
Ayer	6	Holyoke	19	Royalston	1
Barnstable	31	Hopedale	5	Russell	1
Barre	6	Hopkinton	3	Rutland	1
Becket	6	Hudson	4	Salem	47
Bedford	32	Hull	14	Salisbury	25
Belchertown	13	Huntington	2	Sandisfield	3
Bellingham	5	Ipswich	18	Sandwich	18
Belmont	3	Kingston	20	Saugus	13
Beverly	38	Lakeville	12	Savoy	1
Billerica	27	Lancaster	3	Scituate	10
Blackstone	13	Lanesborough	2	Seekonk	1
Bolton	2	Lawrence	43	Sharon	3
Boston	164	Lee	6	Sheffield	9
Bourne	16	Leicester	4	Shirley	15
Boxborough	1	Lenox	2	Shrewsbury	11
Boxford	2	Leominster	41	Shutesbury	1
Boylston	1	Lexington	3	Somerset	22
Braintree	18	Leyden	2	Somerville	24
Brewster	13	Lincoln	3	South Hadley	18
Bridgewater	7	Littleton	6	Southampton	3
Brimfield	2	Longmeadow	4	Southborough	1
Brockton	54	Lowell	58	Southbridge	11
Brookline	7	Ludlow	27	Southwick	10

City	Case Count	City	Case Count	City	Case Count
Buckland	3	Lunenburg	7	Spencer	16
Burlington	4	Lynn	49	Springfield	90
Cambridge	47	Lynnfield	5	Sterling	7
Canton	13	Malden	8	Stockbridge	1
Carlisle	1	Mansfield	9	Stoneham	11
Carver	22	Marblehead	5	Stoughton	20
Charlton	4	Marion	2	Stow	1
Chatham	10	Marlborough	18	Sturbridge	6
Chelmsford	11	Marshfield	26	Sudbury	2
Chelsea	25	Mashpee	9	Sunderland	3
Chelsea V.H.	1	Mattapoisett	6	Sutton	5
Cheshire	5	Maynard	7	Swampscott	2
Chester	3	Medfield	2	Swansea	19
Chesterfield	1	Medford	12	Taunton	43
Chicopee	84	Medway	12	Templeton	9
Clarksburg	4	Melrose	18	Tewksbury	31
Clinton	9	Mendon	1	Townsend	4
Cohasset	3	Merrimac	12	Truro	2
Concord	3	Methuen	28	Tyngsborough	16
Dalton	10	Middleborough	34	Upton	3
Danvers	15	Middleton	3	Uxbridge	9
Dartmouth	48	Milford	24	Wakefield	11
Dedham	3	Millbury	9	Wales	2
Deerfield	1	Millis	2	Walpole	6

City	Case Count	City	Case Count	City	Case Count
Dennis	23	Millville	1	Waltham	14
Dighton	9	Milton	4	Ware	24
Douglas	3	Monson	5	Wareham	40
Dracut	24	Montague	7	Warren	10
Dudley	8	Nahant	4	Watertown	9
Duxbury	6	Nantucket	1	Webster	20
East Bridgewater	14	Natick	10	Wellesley	3
East Brookfield	1	Needham	2	Wellfleet	4
East Longmeadow	6	New Ashford	2	Wendell	2
Easthampton	23	New Bedford	173	West Boylston	5
Easton	24	Newbury	6	West Bridgewater	1
Edgartown	4	Newburyport	12	West Brookfield	3
Erving	2	Newton	3	West Newbury	1
Essex	2	Norfolk	1	West Springfield	47
Everett	7	North Adams	44	West Stockbridge	3
Fairhaven	54	North Andover	12	Westborough	7
Fall River	126	North Attleborough	26	Westfield	62
Falmouth	44	North Brookfield	1	Westford	6
Fitchburg	55	North Reading	9	Westhampton	4
Florida	3	Northampton	47	Westminster	4
Foxborough	17	Northborough	5	Westport	28
Framingham	36	Northbridge	14	Westwood	2
Franklin	12	Norton	18	Weymouth	34
Freetown	4	Norwell	3	Whitman	16

City	Case Count	City	Case Count	City	Case Count
Gardner	45	Norwood	20	Wilbraham	10
Georgetown	4	Oak Bluffs	3	Williamsburg	3
Gloucester	38	Oakham	1	Williamstown	8
Goshen	5	Orange	6	Wilmington	19
Grafton	9	Orleans	4	Winchendon	14
Granby	2	Otis	7	Winthrop	3
Granville	2	Oxford	12	Woburn	14
Great Barrington	5	Palmer	26	Worcester	137
Greenfield	30	Paxton	1	Worthington	1
Groton	2	Peabody	6	Wrentham	3
Groveland	2	Pelham	3	Yarmouth	22
Hadley	11	Pembroke	10		
Halifax	14	Pepperell	7		

Appeal Decision Outcomes

Any veteran aggrieved by a decision of a municipality or by EOVS regarding veterans' benefits may file an appeal with the EOVS Office of the General Counsel (OGC) within 90 days of receiving notice of the decision. The EOVS OGC is responsible for reviewing decisions made in the application and administration of benefits under M.G.L. Chapter 115, Section 2. Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, the Administrative Hearings Section is a division within the EOVS OGC that conducts administrative hearings to provide a neutral forum for the fair and independent resolution of contested matters. Hearings are conducted pursuant to the informal rules of administrative procedure at 801 C.M.R. 1.02.

The Administrative Hearings Section strives to work collaboratively with all parties to resolve disputes that are presented and, when possible, to reach mutually agreeable resolutions by leveraging the resources within the EOVS OGC. If a mutually agreeable resolution is not possible, the Administrative Hearings Section strives to ensure the just and faithful execution of laws, regulations, and policies to determine the outcome of cases presented.

From July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, the Administrative Hearings Section adjudicated a total of 48 cases.

Below is a breakdown of appeal outcomes:

Case Type	Respondent	Hearing Outcome
Chapter 115	Amherst	Dismissed: Failure to Appear
Chapter 115	Attleboro	Settlement
Chapter 115	Barnstable	Upheld
Chapter 115	Boston	Overturned
Chapter 115	Boston	Overturned
Chapter 115	Boston	Settlement
Chapter 115	Boston	Settlement
Chapter 115	Boston	Settlement
Chapter 115	Braintree	Settlement
Chapter 115	Bridgewater	Overturned
Chapter 115	Brockton	Upheld
Chapter 115	Brockton	Overturned
Chapter 115	Brockton	Dismissed: Failure to Appear
Chapter 115	Cambridge	Overturned
Chapter 115	Cambridge	Settlement
Chapter 115	Dalton	Upheld
Chapter 115	Dracut	Appeal Withdrawn
Chapter 115	Fairhaven	Settlement
Chapter 115	Fall River	Overturned
Chapter 115	Falmouth	Upheld
Chapter 115	Framingham	Upheld
Chapter 115	Framingham	Upheld

Case Type	Respondent	Hearing Outcome
Chapter 115	Framingham	Upheld/Remanded
Chapter 115	Hull	Settlement
Chapter 115	Lowell	Upheld
Chapter 115	Lowell	Upheld
Chapter 115	Lowell	Overturned
Chapter 115	Lowell	Overturned
Chapter 115	Marion	Upheld
Chapter 115	Melrose	Upheld
Chapter 115	Melrose	Upheld
Chapter 115	Middleborough	Upheld
Chapter 115	Quincy	Settlement
Chapter 115	Randolph	Overturned
Chapter 115	Salem	Overturned
Chapter 115	South Yarmouth	Settlement
Chapter 115	Springfield	Upheld
Chapter 115	Springfield	Upheld
Chapter 115	Wakefield	Upheld
Chapter 115	Winchendon	Overturned
Chapter 115	Worcester	Upheld
Chapter 115	Worcester	Upheld
Annuity	EOVS	Upheld
Annuity	EOVS	Upheld
Annuity	EOVS	Upheld
Annuity	EOVS	Upheld
Annuity	EOVS	Overturned
Annuity	Norwell	Settlement

Outreach

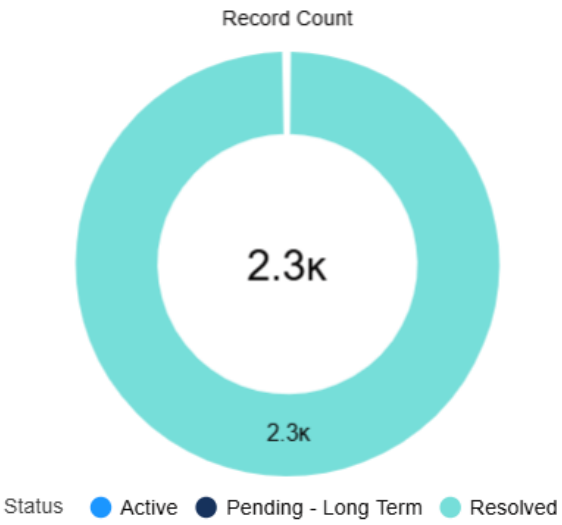
The EOVS Office of Engagement & Outreach, established in October 2023, serves as the agency's front door for veterans and their families. The Office coordinates information, resources, and partnerships across federal, state, local, and nonprofit providers so that every veteran in the Commonwealth can access the benefits and support they have earned. It comprises four teams: Constituent Services, the Women Veterans Network (WVN), the Statewide Advocacy for Empowerment (SAVE) Team, and the Supporting and Empowering Reintegration for Veterans Equality (SERVE) Team.

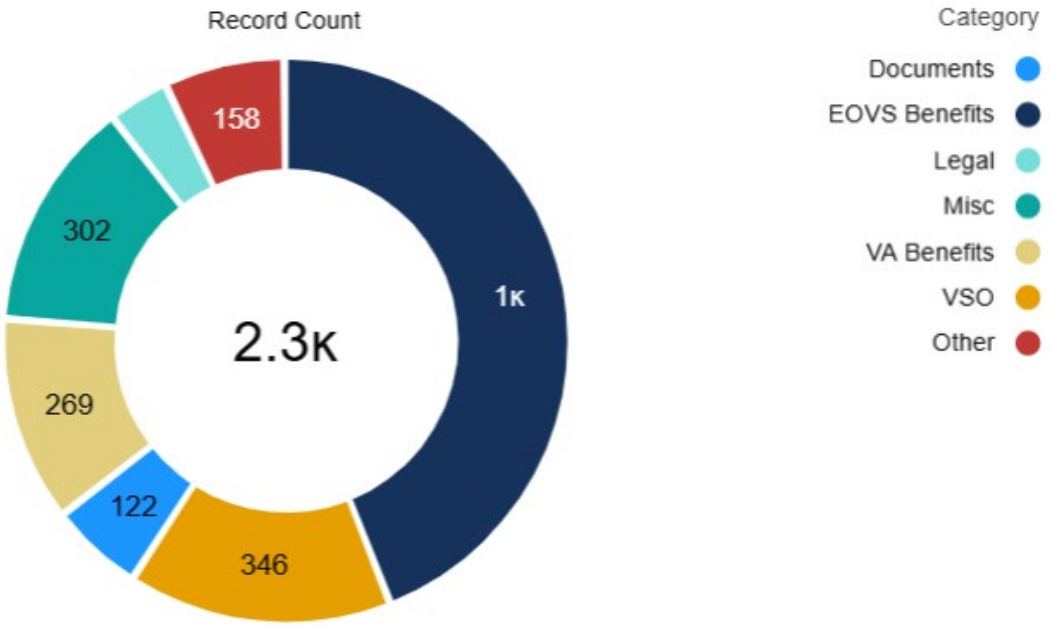
Recognizing that women veterans often face distinct challenges, WVN works to ensure their voices are heard, their service is recognized, and their well-being is supported through education, advocacy, and community. WVN keeps members connected through a regular newsletter and its Facebook and LinkedIn pages, and its events emphasize networking, peer support, and personal and professional growth. Since October 2025, WVN more than doubled the number of events it hosted or co-hosted, from 9 to 19, and tabled at 38 others, including the 18th Annual Women Veterans Network Conference, the Women Veterans Recognition Luncheon, and the 21st Annual Deborah Sampson Award Ceremony. WVN membership has grown to 3,337.

SAVE is a statewide mobile outreach team staffed by veterans who provide case management to fellow veterans, with a focus on those who are marginalized or most vulnerable. Team members work regionally to help veterans resolve challenges and connect with care, services, and benefits, regardless of their branch of service or discharge status. Since October 2025, the SAVE team has supported 530 veterans and participated in 54 veteran community events.

SERVE helps veterans involved in the justice system move toward recovery rather than incarceration. Its veteran advocates connect participants with mental health care, substance use treatment, and peer support; advocate on their behalf with the courts; and provide ongoing case management. SERVE also works with first-time offenders eligible for pre-arraignment diversion under the BRAVE Act. Veterans receive continuous support from SERVE's veteran staff for the duration of their treatment, regardless of their VA eligibility. Since October 2025, SERVE has helped 36 veterans graduate from Veterans Treatment Court programs, up from 26 the previous year, and admitted 34 new participants.

One of the most impactful pieces of the Engagement Office is the Constituent Services Team. This team is a resource for veterans and their family members within the Commonwealth to resolve issues and seek guidance, resources, or services. Through leveraging internal subject matter experts and external partners, the Constituent Services Team provides the expertise and knowledge to empower our veterans and their families to make informed decisions and obtain benefits and services to which they are entitled. Since October 2025, the Constituent Services Team has assisted 2,285 unique constituent inquiries. Of those, 2,275 cases were successfully resolved or closed, resulting in a 99.56% success rate.

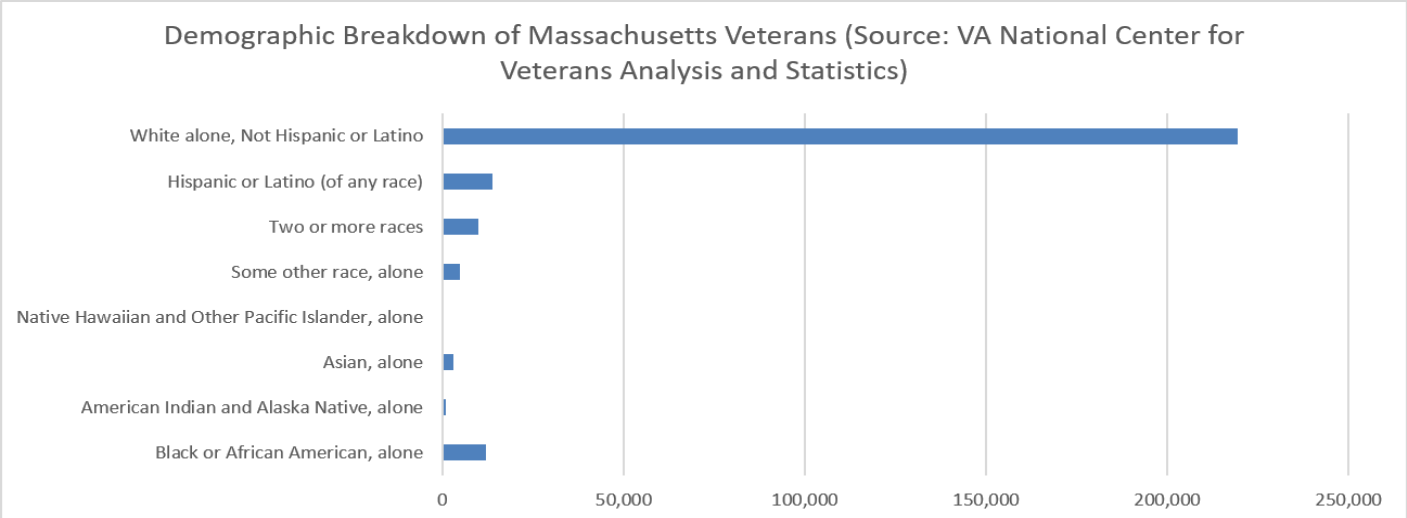




The above charts reflect the record and case resolve count of the EOVS Constituent Services Teams

Meeting veterans where they are is central to the Outreach Team's mission. Staff attend veteran-focused events across the Commonwealth to share information, answer questions, and connect veterans and families with resources. Since October 2025, the Office has participated in 173 events, nearly double last year's total. EOVS will continue expanding this reach so that every veteran receives the support they have earned.

Veteran Population Demographics



	Black or African American, alone	American Indian and Alaska Native, alone	Asian, alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, alone	Some other race, alone	Two or more races	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	White alone, Not Hispanic or Latino
Massachusetts	12,008	882	3,118	26	4,967	10,043	13,781	219,341

The U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) provides annual survey-based estimates of the veteran population, while the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) produces estimates and projections through its Veteran Population Projection Model (VetPop). For purposes of the ACS, veterans are individuals age 18 or older who previously served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and are no longer serving. Because the two sources rely on different methodologies, their estimates differ, but together they offer a fuller picture of the size and composition of Massachusetts' veteran population.

According to the 2024 ACS 1-year estimates, approximately 228,000 veterans reside in Massachusetts.[1] The VA's FY2025 Massachusetts State Summary estimates 255,345.[2]

Massachusetts' veterans are predominantly male and increasingly older. According to the VA, approximately 52.5% of the Commonwealth's veterans were age 65 or older in FY2025, compared with 45.8% nationally. Women accounted for approximately 8.9% of Massachusetts veterans, up from 8.3% in 2023. Although women represent a growing share of the veteran population, their estimated number has declined slightly, reflecting the broader contraction of the veteran community.

Massachusetts veterans served across every modern military era. According to the ACS, the Vietnam era remains the largest single group at roughly 78,000 veterans, followed by approximately 52,000 who served in the post-9/11 era, 40,000 from the 1990–2001 Gulf War era, 12,000 from the Korean War, and fewer than 2,000 World War II veterans.[1] The VA estimates that approximately 85.9% of Massachusetts veterans are White, non-Hispanic, and 14.1% are members

[1] U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S2101, 2024.
[2] U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, FY2025 Massachusetts State Summary.

of racial or ethnic minority groups, shares that are projected to grow as the overall population continues to decline.

These trends have direct implications for how EOVS serves veterans. An aging population increases demand for long-term care, which the new Holyoke Veterans Home will help meet by nearly doubling the facility's capacity. The growing share of women veterans reinforces the importance of programs such as the Women Veterans Network. And the more than 50,000 post-9/11 veterans in the Commonwealth, many in their working years, underscore the importance of employment and transition support, including the work of the newly established Veterans Employment Opportunities Commission. EOVS will continue to adapt its benefits, outreach, and services to meet the changing needs of the Commonwealth's veteran community.

EOVS Directives

The Secretary of EOVS may issue directives on the administration of the Chapter 115 veterans benefit program pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 115 Section 2. The purpose of these directives is to provide guidance on recurring issues or questions for the consistent application of veterans' benefits. As of November 1, 2026, the following directives remain in effect:

Directive 04-05 Home Equity and Second Mortgages (August 9, 2004):
The Home Equity and Second Mortgages directive amends 108 CMR 6.01(4) by adding paragraphs (f) Second Mortgages and (g) Home Equity Loans and provides direction on whether those loans are to be considered as assets for the purpose of administering Chapter 115 benefits. Home Equity Lines and Second Mortgages are not an asset if the loan is used to repair, maintain, or make handicap accessible the current home. Loans for other purposes are reviewed on a case-by-case basis for Chapter 115 eligibility.

Directive 06-01 Prescription Advantage (March 7, 2006):
The Prescription Advantage directive instructs municipal Veteran Service Officers (VSO) on the requirement to enroll eligible veterans and dependents in the Prescription Advantage program to reduce Chapter 115 costs as an alternate source of benefits. Further, this directive informs VSOs that municipalities will not be reimbursed for prescription costs incurred by eligible veterans and dependents who are not enrolled in the Prescription Advantage program.

Directive 06-03 Medical Assistance, Nursing Home Care, & Assisted Living (June 14, 2006):
The Medical Assistance, Nursing Home Care, & Assisted Living directive provides guidance and clarification on how VSOs should process claims for veterans needing health care services, including assisted living and nursing home care. This directive informs VSOs that they must file an application under MGL Chapter 118E for medical services available under Chapter 118E on behalf of any appropriate person seeking veterans benefits to pay for medical services. This directive also confirms that residence in an assisted living facility is reimbursable under Chapter 115 as a shelter expense and the costs associated with assisted living shelter shall not exceed the amount in the most recent Budget Amounts directive.

Directive 06-06 Medicare Part D (November 3, 2006):
The Medicare Part "D" directive instructs VSOs on enrolling eligible recipients into the Medicare Part D Prescription plan and explains the requirement that any Chapter 115 recipient with an income of less than one-hundred and fifty percent (150%) of the Federal Poverty Level is required to apply for the low-income subsidy.

Directive 09-01 Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) (January 9, 2009):
The Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) directive explains that shelter and fuel payments made directly to a vendor, and not to the recipient, do not count as income for SNAP recipients. This directive instructs VSOs on the process for making direct payments to said vendors when applicable, so SNAP beneficiaries are not adversely impacted by their Chapter 115 income.

Directive (Number N/A) VSAL 2012 Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvement Act of 2010 (May 8, 2012):
The Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvement Act of 2010 directive informs VSOs and municipalities that "break pay" or "interval pay" is no longer available under any VA education benefit. This directive goes on to authorize and direct VSOs to take, submit, and approve qualified student applications for Chapter 115 benefits for the periods when the reduction in VA benefits available under the GI Bill post-9/11 would adversely impact student veterans and veteran dependents.

Directive 12-01 Reimbursement Change for Budget #3 and #4 (July 27, 2012):
The Reimbursement Change for Budget #3 and #4 directive instructs VSOs on processing requests for authorization, for institutional and transitional housing residents. This directive also requires the community where the institution/transitional housing is physically located to process new requests for authorization. Communities with authorized Budget #3 and #4 residents will be reimbursed at one hundred percent (100%) by EOVS.

Directive 12-02 VASH Voucher First / Last and Security Deposit (July 27, 2012):
The VASH Voucher First/Last and Security Deposit directive informs VSOs that communities are required to provide the "First/Last and Security Deposit" to Chapter 115 recipients who have procured a VASH voucher and provides EOVS will reimburse communities at one hundred percent (100%) for first/last and security deposit payments.

Directive 19-01 Increase in Reasonable Maintenance Expense for Paying Mortgage and Mortgage-free Dwelling (May 21, 2019):
The Increase in Reasonable Maintenance Expense for Paying Mortgage and Mortgage-free Dwelling directive increased the amount of the so-called reasonable maintenance benefit from $50 to $100 per month. This benefit is payable to Chapter 115 recipients who own their own home.

Directive 21-04 Maximum Asset Allowance (June 4, 2021):
The Maximum Asset Allowance Directive increases the maximum assets a recipient of Chapter 115 is allowed to have on hand and maintain eligibility for Chapter 115 benefits. This increase was made to account for increases in cost of living and raised the maximum assets from $5,000 to $8,400 per individual and from $9,800 to $16,600 per recipient and dependent.

Legislative Recommendations

Two years after the passage of the HERO Act, the most comprehensive veterans legislation in Massachusetts history, EOVS is strengthening the systems that deliver on its promise. This year, the agency focused on modernizing the regulations that govern Chapter 115, building the boards and commissions that give veterans and experts a direct voice in policy, and expanding the care provided at the Commonwealth's Veterans Homes. EOVS will continue working with the Legislature, veterans service organizations, and veterans themselves to identify where further action may be needed.

This year, EOVS undertook a comprehensive revision of 108 C.M.R. 2–9, the regulations governing the administration of the Commonwealth's Chapter 115 program. Last revised in 2003, these regulations predate more than two decades of changes in statute and case law, including the eligibility expansions enacted under the HERO Act. The revisions modernize regulatory language, increase transparency for veterans and municipalities, and ensure consistent, compliant administration of benefits statewide.

Key revisions include:

- New and clarified definitions
- Updated eligibility standards for Chapter 115 benefits
- Streamlined application processes for veterans
- Updated budget standards for determining benefit amounts
- Additional options for recipients facing special circumstances
- Updated procedures for investigations, appeals, terminations, and refunds
- Clarified policies for annuity benefits and burials at EOVS cemeteries

EOVS held a public hearing on September 14, 2026, and has carefully reviewed every comment received. EOVS expects to file the final revised regulations in November 2026. On October 28, 2026, EOVS launched the Veterans Employment Opportunities Commission and swore in its inaugural members. The Commission is charged with investigating whether veterans face employment discrimination based on their veteran status. Over the coming year, it will develop findings and recommend best practices to the Secretary of Veterans Services for addressing barriers to veteran employment across the Commonwealth.

Members include:

Members of the Commission include:

- **Jooyi Ryan**, Employment Coordinator with the VA Boston Veteran Readiness and Employment Program and U.S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve veteran, appointed by Governor Maura T. Healey
- **Tom LaRose**, Commission Chair, Director of the Veteran Education, Employment and Training (VEET) Office at EOVS and U.S. Army veteran, appointed by Veterans Services Secretary Eric Goralnick
- **David (Dave) Abdoo**, Chief of Staff and Chief Administrative Officer at MassDevelopment and Massachusetts Army National Guard veteran, appointed by Secretary of Economic Development Eric Paley

- **Joseph B. Fuller**, Professor of Management Practice at Harvard Business School and co-lead of its Managing the Future of Work initiative, appointed by Speaker of the House Ronald J. Mariano
- **State Senator John J. Cronin**, Senator for the Worcester and Middlesex District, West Point graduate, and former U.S. Army Infantry Officer with multiple combat deployments to Afghanistan, appointed by Senate President Karen Spilka

Over the past year, EOVS has worked to make the Commonwealth's promise to its veterans real in every community. The agency delivered Chapter 115 benefits to 4,480 veterans and their families, responded to more than 2,200 constituent inquiries, and met veterans where they are at 173 events across Massachusetts. Its outreach teams supported more than 500 veterans through peer-to-peer case management and helped 36 veterans graduate from Veterans Treatment Court programs. At the same time, EOVS is modernizing the regulations that govern Chapter 115 for the first time in more than two decades and launched a new commission dedicated to breaking down barriers to veteran employment.

Nowhere is that commitment more visible than in the care provided at the Veterans Homes at Chelsea and Holyoke. On October 29, 2026, EOVS celebrated the opening of the new Holyoke Veterans Home, a milestone years in the making that nearly doubles the number of veterans the Home can serve. Together, the Homes ensure that veterans who need long-term and skilled nursing care can receive it with dignity, close to their families and communities.

EOVS remains attentive to the evolving needs of the Commonwealth's veterans, from an aging population requiring long-term care to younger veterans seeking employment and a growing community of women veterans. EOVS will continue to work alongside the Legislature, municipalities, veterans service organizations, and veterans themselves to advance shared priorities and expand the reach of its services. Massachusetts has long led the nation in honoring those who served, and EOVS is committed to ensuring it continues to do so.