

**"Updated" Veterans Affairs FY 2013 Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000**  
**April 08, 2014**

Title	Total Cost	Location	Start Date	End Date	#VA Paid Travelers	Conference Description
Overseas Military Services Coordinator Program (1st Tour)	\$ 223,761	United Kingdom, Bahrain, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Korea, Japan	9/30/2012	1/26/2013	11	To provide VA benefits briefings and one-on-one counseling appointments for Veterans, Service members, and dependents who are currently stationed or residing overseas
Requirements Gathering & Testing (5 different events in 4th QTR)	\$ 111,422	Washington, DC	10/1/2012	12/21/2012	59	The purpose of the session is to elicit, document, and decompose the business requirements necessary to describe the VBMS system and deliver those requirements to the OI&T.
2012 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (NVCAF)	\$ 422,857	Boston, MA	10/8/2012	10/8/2012	67	The NVCAF recognizes Veterans for their therapeutic use of the arts in rehabilitation, health and well-being and to strengthen and reinforce their artistic skills. Many Veterans use the NVCAF competition success as benchmarks to explore other outlets for healthy forms of expression.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic	\$ 150,296	CHAPEL HILL, NC	10/14/2012	10/19/2012	21	The purpose of SLC II – Basic is to further develop a senior executive's critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby enabling them to better lead VA Transformation. Senior executives attend SLC II before the end of their first year in VA and after SLC I.
Advanced Patrol Officer Course Refresher training 2	\$ 102,511	Little Rock, AR	10/15/2012	10/19/2012	50	(Redesigned) is a 40-hour program that has been mandated by the Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS), Office of Security & Law Enforcement and VHA leadership for all VA police officers. The course contains blocks of instruction for legal updates, verbal de-escalation skills, and VA Police & Federal law enforcement policy. VA police officers are required to attend every five years.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1301	\$ 654,328	Little Rock, AR	10/29/2012	12/21/2012	61	The Office of Emergency Management, in partnership with the Office of Security and Law Enforcement, has been providing an Emergency Management training session in each Basic Patrol Officer Course (BPOC) that is conducted at VA's Law Enforcement Training Center in Little Rock, Arkansas.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1302	\$ 668,484	Little Rock, AR	1/7/2013	3/1/2013	61	The Office of Emergency Management, in partnership with the Office of Security and Law Enforcement, has been providing an Emergency Management training session in each Basic Patrol Officer Course (BPOC) that is conducted at VA's Law Enforcement Training Center in Little Rock, Arkansas.
Overseas Military Coordinators Program (2rd tour)	\$ 226,424	United Kingdom, Bahrain, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Korea, Japan	1/20/2013	6/1/2013	11	To provide VA benefits briefings and one-on-one VA benefits counseling sessions to Veterans, Service members and dependents who are currently stationed or residing overseas.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic	\$ 157,993	CHAPEL HILL, NC	1/27/2013	2/1/2013	25	The purpose of SLC II – Basic is to further develop a senior executive's critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby enabling them to better lead VA Transformation. Senior executives attend SLC II before the end of their first year in VA and after SLC I.
Challenge Session 2013-1	\$ 2,230,061	Baltimore, MD	1/29/2013	3/29/2013	456	To provide technical training to newly hired VSRs and RVSRs of Regional Offices across the country. The training will provide fundamental information vital to the employees ability to process disability claims with accuracy and precision. RVSRs are trained to rate at least (1) case per day with a 90% accuracy rating. VSRs are trained to develop 1.5 cases per day with a 94% accuracy rating.
Major Construction Project Manager Training	\$ 146,013	Chapel Hill, NC	2/11/2013	2/15/2013	26	Provide project managers with the knowledge and skills required as they undergo a transformational change. The Significant change in the roles and responsibilities of the major construction project managers is necessary to increase on time and on budget delivery, as well as improve overall project delivery of construction projects.
VA Basic Police Officer Course(BPOC) 1303	\$ 709,018	Little Rock, AR	3/4/2013	4/26/2013	61	The Office of Emergency Management, in partnership with the Office of Security and Law Enforcement, has been providing an Emergency Management training session in each Basic Patrol Officer Course (BPOC) that is conducted at VA's Law Enforcement Training Center in Little Rock, Arkansas.

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ISO 9001 Phase II Rollout (1608)	\$ 2,878,647	Multi-City	3/11/2013	9/26/2013	2606	Multi-VISN Phase II rollout of International Organization of Standardization (ISO) 9001 standards within the reusable medical devices departments. This will be a national rollout program with 4 separate sessions. The integrated Quality Management System will allow for facility, Network and VHACO specific queries, assessments and transparency of information relating to action item follow through.
Peer Support Specialist Certification Training (2935bCL2)	\$ 110,609	Chicago, IL	3/17/2013	3/22/2013	20	Public Laws 110-387 and 111-163 require VHA to provide peer specialist certification training to peer support specialists and technicians who are employed by VA, but not certified. Significant numbers of existing and newly hired peer support technicians and apprentices will need to attend peer specialist certification training in FY 13. The main objective of peer support certification training is for VHA peer specialists and peer support technicians to receive certification through online and face-to-face learning opportunities to develop skills and knowledge in peer support competency areas.
Challenge Training 2013-2	\$ 1,940,555	Baltimore, MD	3/26/2013	5/24/2013	183	To provide technical training to newly hired VSRs and RVSRs of Regional Offices across the country. The training will provide fundamental information vital to the employees ability to process disability claims with accuracy and precision. RVSRs are trained to rate at least (1) case per day with a 90% accuracy rating. VSRs are trained to develop 1.5 cases per day with a 94% accuracy rating.
2013 National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic (NDVWSC)	\$ 344,348	Snowmass, CO	3/30/2013	4/6/2013	110	Presented by VA and the Disabled American Veterans, this is an annual adaptive sports clinic for Veterans with severe disabilities that uses skiing and other sporting activities to enhance the total rehabilitation process. These modalities are an important rehabilitation component in the battle to prevent depression, suicide, and aid in the psych-social readjustment, community reintegration and physical well-being of these Veterans.
Major Construction Project Management Training	\$ 139,612	Chapel Hill, NC	4/15/2013	4/19/2013	26	Provide project managers with the knowledge and skills required as they undergo a transformational change. The Significant change in the roles and responsibilities of the major construction project managers is necessary to increase on time and on budget delivery, as well as improve overall project delivery of construction projects.
Graduate Health Administration Training Program (1789)	\$ 136,574	Washington, DC	4/21/2013	4/26/2013	70	The Graduate Health Administration Training Program (GHATP) prepares VHA healthcare administrators and administrative support professionals through a year-long set of on-the-job developmental experiences. It directly supports the VHA Succession and Workforce Management Strategic Plan and is managed through an executive-level board with oversight through the Succession and Workforce Development Management Subcommittee (SWDMS) of the National Leadership Council's Workforce Committee. This Graduate Health Administration Training Program face-to-face session is a week-long orientation for Graduate Health Administration Training Program participants to the VA organizational structure, functions, current issues and national relationships between the Departments and other community and federal agencies, including Congress.
VISN 9 Leadership Institute (2610)	\$ 108,813	Pigeon Forge, TN	4/29/2013	9/13/2013	47	The VISN 9 Leadership Institute provides a leadership development curriculum for employees in the GS 11-13 (and title 38 equivalent) range who are competitively selected as "high potential" employees. There are three (3) one-week sessions over approximately 6 months. Participants are required to actively participate in each session. In addition, each participant can expect to devote additional personal time to complete reading, assessment, and additional assignments between sessions. Participants will also lead a workplace initiative within their facility. Other assignments between sessions can include, but are not limited to, shadowing facility leaders. To increase awareness of issues facing the Mid-South Healthcare Network, participants will participate in small group mentoring sessions with Network executives who have completed the Coach/Mentor Certification Training and are certified at the resident or fellow level.

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VA Basic Police Officer Course(BPOC) 1304	\$ 677,901	Little Rock, AR	4/29/2013	6/21/2013	63	The Office of Emergency Management, in partnership with the Office of Security and Law Enforcement, has been providing an Emergency Management training session in each Basic Patrol Officer Course (BPOC) that is conducted at VA's Law Enforcement Training Center in Little Rock, Arkansas.
Overseas Military Coordinators Program (3rd tour)	\$ 239,835	United Kingdom, Bahrain, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Korea, Japan	5/26/2013	10/5/2013	11	To provide VA benefits briefings and one-on-one VA benefits counseling sessions to Veterans, Service members and dependents who are currently stationed or residing overseas.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1305	\$ 699,700	Little Rock, AR	5/27/2013	7/19/2013	73	The Office of Emergency Management, in partnership with the Office of Security and Law Enforcement, has been providing an Emergency Management training session in each Basic Patrol Officer Course (BPOC) that is conducted at VA's Law Enforcement Training Center in Little Rock, Arkansas.
2013 National Veterans Golden Age Games (NVGAG)	\$ 492,129	Buffalo, NY	5/30/2013	6/4/2013	124	The NVGAG provides a multi-event sports and therapeutic recreation program for Veterans 55 years of age and older. Wellness, health promotion and disease prevention are the primary objectives.
Challenge Training 2013-3	\$ 1,201,496	Baltimore, MD	6/3/2013	8/22/2013	236	To provide technical training to newly hired VSRs and RVSRs of Regional Offices across the country. The training will provide fundamental information vital to the employees ability to process disability claims with accuracy and precision. RVSRs are trained to rate at least (1) case per day with a 90% accuracy rating. VSRs are trained to develop 1.5 cases per day with a 94% accuracy rating.
Health Care Leadership Development Program -- Week 4a (1908)	\$ 124,930	Ashburn, VA	6/10/2013	6/13/2013	67	HCLDP a year-long program that takes approximately 60 select high-potential GS-13/15 employees (and equivalents) and provides them foundational leadership training and experiences to prepare them for executive roles in VHA's healthcare system. The program focuses on raising awareness and control of one's personal leadership style and strengthening one's ability to agilely lead teams and organizations. Peer and executive coaches and mentors provide sustained support and guidance throughout the program, reinforce the learning, and facilitate adaptation of the principles on the job. The program is comprised of four integrated, week-long face-to-face training sessions with assignments, coaching and workplace activities in between. Session 4 uses individual assessments (e.g., Conflict Styles Inventory), presentations, real-world case studies, role playing/simulations, and facilitated discussions to convey the challenges posed to leaders of large organizations. Topics include strategic negotiation, managing group conflict, dealing with the public and the media, and how the generational differences among employees impact an organization. Session 4 also serves as the program graduation point for participants.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic	\$ 164,980	Chapel Hill, NC	6/16/2013	6/21/2013	25	The purpose of SLC II – Basic is to further develop a senior executive's critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby enabling them to better lead VA Transformation. Senior executives attend SLC II before the end of their first year in VA and after SLC I.
2013 National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG)	\$ 850,612	Tampa, FL	7/13/2013	7/18/2013	164	The National Veterans Wheelchair Games, presented by VA and Paralyzed Veterans of America, provides a multi-event sports and therapeutic recreation program for Veterans requiring wheelchairs for mobility. Emphasis is on rehabilitation goals as well as health promotion and disease prevention.
Association of Government Accountants Professional Development Conference (AGA PDC)	\$ 106,784	Grapevine, TX	7/14/2013	7/17/2013	49	50 VA employees attended (49 travelled) to the AGA PDC event to improve their financial skills and competencies. The AGA PDC is the authoritative source for the knowledge and contacts employees need to succeed in today's constantly changing financial environment. The conference covered the latest research and information about the constantly changing rules and standards, new management techniques, technological advances, and practical tips for bringing greater efficiency to government financial operations.

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LVA 2012 Session III	\$ 157,131	Atlanta, GA	7/14/2013	7/20/2013	73	LVA aims to integrate and align enterprise-wide objectives, and develop networks across VA to drive change for a high-performing organization. The complete curriculum was designed for delivery across four distinct modules to ensure a comprehensive training and development experience for these highly qualified aspiring VA senior leaders.
Women's Health Primary Care Provider (PCP) Large-Scale Mini-Residency (2168)	\$ 287,290	Orlando, FL	7/16/2013	7/18/2013	154	The population of women veterans utilizing Veterans Health Administration (VHA) services is expected to continue to increase. VHA recognizes that providers are in need of a program to update their competencies in women's health care. In order to ensure that comprehensive primary care will be provided to women accessing VA services at all sites of care, it is estimated that a minimum of 2,000 providers be trained to ensure a minimum of 2 proficient providers per site.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1306	\$ 707,828	Little Rock, AR	7/29/2013	9/20/2013	76	The Office of Emergency Management, in partnership with the Office of Security and Law Enforcement, has been providing an Emergency Management training session in each Basic Patrol Officer Course (BPOC) that is conducted at VA's Law Enforcement Training Center in Little Rock, Arkansas.
Leadership For A Democratic Society (LDS) Program 392	\$ 123,566	Charlottesville, VA	8/4/2013	8/30/2013	6	This is an OPM course. It allowed VA executives to collaborate and build skills in personal leadership, organizational theory, and policy framework which equipment them with the skills to shape strategic planning and engage in critical thinking.
VA Time and Attendance System (VATAS) Payroll "Train-the-Trainer" Training 1	\$ 113,873	Austin, TX	8/5/2013	8/9/2013	75	Trained payroll staff (payroll supervisors, payroll technicians, payroll leads) from Tomah VA Medical Center, NCA (MSNs 1,2 & 3), OI&T, and VBA (areas 1 & 3) on the new VATAS. The trained payroll staff subsequently provided training at their facilities in advance of deployment to the field.
VR&E Leadership/Workload Management Training	\$ 140,078	Denver, CO	8/5/2013	8/9/2013	84	A week-long leadership training for V&RE Officers and Assistant VR&E Officers designed to enhance the skill sets and day-to-day management of a VR&E division
VSCM (No Quality Review Training in FY13)	\$ 215,197	Marietta, GA	8/5/2013	8/9/2013	153	To identify, discuss, and improve quality service for our customers. Provides communication opportunities and information sharing of new and revised claims processing techniques and procedures with stakeholders who attend the training
2013 National Veterans Small Business Conference	\$ 1,525,668	St. Louis, MO	8/6/2013	8/8/2013	3767	To advance VA's mission of supporting America's Veterans by providing access to resources which offer Veteran-Owned Small Businesses opportunities to expand capacity, build partnerships, and increase networking opportunities with Program Decision Makers which may assist in achievement of VA Small Business Goals.
VA Time and Attendance System (VATAS) Payroll "Train-the-Trainer" Training 2	\$ 133,576	Austin, TX	8/19/2013	8/23/2013	75	Trained payroll staff (payroll supervisors, payroll technicians, payroll leads) from VBA (areas 2 & 4), NCA (MSNs 4 & 5), and VISN 12 on the new VATAS. The trained payroll staff subsequently provided training at their facilities in advance of deployment to the field.
Clinical Executive Training – West (2322)	\$ 145,285	Long Beach, CA	8/19/2013	8/20/2013	100	Provide a dynamic environment to address and optimize critical patient transitions including Patient Aligned Care Teams and Specialty Care, input to output, and VA to non-VA.
Developing Dental Leaders in Changing and Challenging Times (1465)	\$ 187,259	Lombard, IL	8/21/2013	8/23/2013	164	The purpose of this conference is to engage participants in interactive sessions that solve real-life issues affecting dental services. Topics such as infection control crisis, poor quality scores, demand-capacity challenges and ineffective business plans will all be explored. At the end of this conference, facility and VISN dental leaders will be more knowledgeable about the available clinical management tools to improve the delivery of quality dental services to Veterans. Business process improvements that have a direct impact on the daily operations and cost effectiveness of dental services will be demonstrated and shared. Established management benchmarks will be reviewed at least on a biannual basis to ascertain the success of this program. This learning intervention is strategically linked to: access (outreach, patient centered care, quality and safety), performance and outcomes (data analytics), and health care efficiency. ADA accreditation hours will be requested for this conference.

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Peer Support—Expansion, Implementation and Practice (1770)	\$ 261,617	Minneapolis, MN	8/21/2013	8/23/2013	168	This conference is designed to assist Mental Health selecting officials and supervisors in complying with two relatively new Public Laws (PL 110-387 and PL 111-163) mandating the creation and implementation of a new job classification—Peer Support Specialist.
LVA 2012 Session IV	\$ 136,330	St. Louis, MO	8/22/2013	8/24/2013	69	LVA aims to integrate and align enterprise-wide objectives, and develop networks across VA to drive change for a high-performing organization. The complete curriculum was designed for delivery across four distinct modules to ensure a comprehensive training and development experience for these highly qualified aspiring VA senior leaders.
VA Time and Attendance System (VATAS) Payroll "Train-the-Trainer" Training 3	\$ 122,247	Austin, TX	8/26/2013	8/30/2013	68	Trained payroll staff (payroll supervisors, payroll technicians, payroll leads) from VHA VISN's 1, 2, 3, 5, 19 and VHA CBO on the new VATAS. The trained payroll staff subsequently provided training at their facilities in advance of deployment to the field.
Challenge Training 2013-4	\$ 244,363	Baltimore, MD	8/26/2013	9/27/2013	43	To provide technical training to newly hired VSRs and RVSRs of Regional Offices across the country. The training will provide fundamental information vital to the employees ability to process disability claims with accuracy and precision. RVSRs are trained to rate at least (1) case per day with a 90% accuracy rating. VSRs are trained to develop 1.5 cases per day with a 94% accuracy rating.
Mental Health Intensive Case Management (1224)	\$ 104,204	Washington, DC	8/27/2013	8/29/2013	64	This training is designed to address the increased variability among Mental Health Intensive Case Management (MHICM) teams/facilities VHA system wide. A hiatus in MHICM training in the last two years has resulted in leading to "mission drift" that runs counter to the Secretary's priority of reducing service variation. MHICM teams also need training on implementing the new MHICM model policy, the interface and evolving collaboration with other specialty mental health services for Veterans with SMI, increasing coordination of care with other VA and community, utilizing performance and outcome metrics, and using evidence-based treatment. While past practice has provided training focused only on new staff, current request focuses more broadly to provide hands-on guidance to all team members in the aforementioned areas as well as strengthening ties to support technical assistance year round. Two separate trainings are proposed to allow the possibility of half of the staff from the current 111 MHICM teams to attend each without leaving a facility unstaffed.
Women's Health Primary Care Providers Large-Scale Mini-Residency (1422)	\$ 329,923	Orlando, FL	8/27/2013	8/29/2013	205	Women's Health Mini-Residency: VA Primary Care Providers have traditionally seen male patients and, given the ever-increasing numbers of women Veterans, must be retrained to provide comprehensive primary care for women. Orthopedic Mini-Residency (or alternate specialty depending on need): It is postulated that training primary care providers to enhance their skills in diagnosing and managing common orthopedic issues will decrease unnecessary referrals and have a positive impact on impact fee basis costs as well as access to internal VA Orthopedics consults.
Clinical Executive Training – East (2746)	\$ 100,509	St. Petersburg, FL	8/29/2013	8/30/2013	85	Provide a dynamic environment to address and optimize critical patient transitions including Patient Aligned Care Teams and Specialty Care, input to output, and VA to non-VA.
Leadership For A Democratic Society (LDS) Program 393	\$ 181,702	Charlottesville, VA	9/8/2013	10/4/2013	18	This is an OPM course. It allowed VA executives to collaborate and build skills in personal leadership, organizational theory, and policy framework which equip them with the skills to shape strategic planning and engage in critical thinking.
2013 National Veterans TEE (Training, Exposure, Experience) Tournament (NVTEE)	\$ 132,529	Iowa City, Iowa	9/9/2013	9/12/2013	35	The NDVTEE provides therapeutic adaptive golf, bowling, kayaking, horseback riding opportunities to enhance the rehabilitation process for Veterans with severe physical and cognitive disabilities.

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Patient Safety Improvement 101/ Root Cause Analysis (RCA) and Healthcare Failure and Effect Analysis (HFMEA) (1132)	\$ 105,906	Orlando, FL	9/10/2013	9/12/2013	74	Improve clinical practice by helping participants perform systematic root cause analysis to find the real, fixable root causes of problems. It will include hands on application of concepts. It will also include knowledge-based elements to carry out analysis using Healthcare Failure and Effect Analysis (HFMEA) techniques in accordance with the revised standards issued by the Joint Commission. Participants will learn through instruction and practice the steps involved in carrying out a successful proactive risk assessment using HFMEA. In addition, we will discuss how to choose an appropriate topic for evaluation.
Peer Support Supervision - Expansion, Implementation and Practice (2845)	\$ 251,937	Dallas, TX	9/10/2013	9/12/2013	174	This training will address major areas of concern for supervisors including managing dual role relationships, role confusion, human resources support for hiring individuals with mental health conditions under an entirely new VA HR classification and boundary issues between Peer Specialists and other Veteran participants.
National VHA Environmental Programs Service (EPS) Training Conference (1796)	\$ 314,629	Indianapolis, IN	9/14/2013	9/18/2013	161	The National VHA EPS/AHE Conference provides a forum for the direct and comprehensive delivery of healthcare facilities operation-related information, along with the opportunity to solicit immediate feedback and active exchanges among front line professionals. Additionally, it provides VHA and VACO professionals with current approaches and methods to address established and emerging issues and requirements vital to the continued success and growth of the VA.
2013 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic (NVSSC)	\$ 319,420	San Diego, California	9/14/2013	9/20/2013	59	The NVSSC is a rehabilitative program for Veterans with severe disabilities that uses summer sports and other activities to enhance the total rehabilitation process to prevent depression, suicide, and aid in the psychosocial readjustment and physical well-being.
VA Time and Attendance System (VATAS) Payroll "Train-the-Trainer" Training 4	\$ 124,700	Baltimore, MD	9/16/2013	9/20/2013	69	Trained payroll staff (payroll supervisors, payroll technicians, payroll leads) from VHA VISN's 20, 21, 22, 23 & 4 on the new VATAS. The trained payroll staff subsequently provided training at their facilities in advance of deployment to the field.
VA Time and Attendance System (VATAS) Payroll "Train-the-Trainer" Training 5	\$ 111,856	Austin, TX	9/30/2013	10/4/2013	68	Trained payroll staff (payroll supervisors, payroll technicians, payroll leads) from VHA VISN's 6, 7 & 8 and VHA CMOP on the new VATAS. The trained payroll staff subsequently provided training at their facilities in advance of deployment to the field.
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 22,599,316</b>					