



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT



JOSH STEIN  
GOVERNOR

KRISTIN WALKER  
STATE BUDGET DIRECTOR

January 28, 2026

TO: Speaker Destin Hall, Chair  
Senator Phil Berger, Chair  
Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

FROM: Kristin Walker *Kristin.Walker*

SUBJECT: Veterans Cemetery Grant Awards

Pursuant to NCGS §120-76.1(4), the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) submits the attached grant opportunity letters from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) for consultation with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs has awarded two grants to DMVA from the Veterans Cemetery Grant Program. Grant funds will be used to expand the (Goldsboro) Eastern Carolina State Veterans Cemetery and the (Black Mountain) Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery. The grant will support planning, design, and construction to enhance these cemeteries honoring North Carolina veterans. The grant awards \$2,138,450 for the Goldsboro project and \$1,954,150 for the Black Mountain project. The grant funds will become available to the Department by September 30, 2026.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Mark Bondo by email at [mark.bondo@osbm.nc.gov](mailto:mark.bondo@osbm.nc.gov).

Thank you.

CC: Mark Bondo, OSBM  
Anna Carney, OSBM  
Brain Farmer, OSBM  
Sabrina Chandler, DMVA  
David Vanderweide, FRD  
Travis Allen, FRD



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20420

December 3, 2025

Jocelyn Mitnaul Mallette  
Secretary  
North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs  
413 North Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC. 27603  
By Email: [Jocelyn.mitnaul.mallette@milvets.nc.gov](mailto:Jocelyn.mitnaul.mallette@milvets.nc.gov)

Re: NC-25-16 (Black Mountain), Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery, Expansion

Dear Secretary Mallette,

I am pleased to inform you that based on the FY 2026 Veterans Cemetery Grants Program (VCGP) Priority List and the President's FY 2026 Budget Request for the VCGP, I am extending a Grant Opportunity to the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for Expansion of the Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery. Based on VCGP's initial review of the project with the FAI code NC-25-16, the planned grant opportunity amount that the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs would receive for the project is up to \$1,954,150. VCGP may change this amount as we work with you on perfecting the grant application for award prior to the end of FY 2026 (Sept. 30, 2026).

This notification is not a grant award. The National Cemetery Administration will award a grant once the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs meets all requirements found in [38 CFR Part 39](#) and other VA departmental requirements.

By **December 17, 2025**, please send me a letter accepting or declining this FY 2026 grant opportunity. Your acceptance of this FY 2026 grant opportunity confirms that the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs will assemble all required personnel and resources, including but not limited to professional architecture and engineering services, agency project point of contact, and all others essential to the planning, design, and procurement of the project needed to receive the VA's grant award no later than September 30, 2026.

Please have the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs project's point of contact coordinate with VCGP to establish the date of the predesign conference no later than **14 calendar days** after your acceptance.

If you choose to accept this grant opportunity, it is crucial that you immediately begin coordination, secure all necessary resources, and ensure that your staff and contributing organizations are fully committed to meeting the established design and application milestones. If, at any time after the predesign conference, the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs fails to maintain the project's schedule of milestones required to secure a FY 2026 grant award, VCGP may rescind this grant opportunity.



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20420

The commitments that must be made by the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs as conditions of the VA's grant award will be discussed during the predesign conference. Approval of the grant application will be formalized through a Memorandum of Agreement for Federal grant funds.

My Point of Contact is Mark Brideweser, Project Manager- Architect at 202-461-4028 or by email at [mark.brideweser@va.gov](mailto:mark.brideweser@va.gov). Please send submissions to him and he is available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

James Earp, Director  
Veterans Cemetery Grants Program



## NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

JOSH STEIN  
GOVERNOR

JOCELYN MITNAUL MALLETT  
SECRETARY

December 15, 2025

James Earp  
Director, Veterans Cemetery Grants Program  
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
National Cemetery Administration  
810 Vermont Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20420

RE: NC-25-15 (Goldsboro), Eastern Carolina State Veterans Cemetery, Expansion

Dear Director Earp,

On behalf of the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, I am writing to formally accept the FY 2026 grant opportunity for the expansion project of our Eastern Carolina State Veterans Cemetery with FAI code NC-25-15.

We appreciate the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' support of this project, which will enhance our cemetery's capacity and ensure we continue honoring our veterans and their families in North Carolina. We are grateful for your partnership in this matter.

My point of contact is David Brown, our Director of State Veterans Cemeteries. Should you require any additional information, please contact Mr. Brown at (919) 608-7251 or via email at [david.brown@milvets.nc.gov](mailto:david.brown@milvets.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jocelyn Mitnaul Mallette".

Jocelyn Mitnaul Mallette  
Secretary  
NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs