



In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum 11-35, *Eliminating Excess Conference Spending and Promoting Efficiency in Government*, issued September 21, 2011, OMB Memorandum 12-12, *Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations*, dated May 11, 2012, and OMB Memorandum 17-08, *Amending OMB Memorandum M-12-12, Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations*, dated November 25, 2016; the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) prepared the attached FY 2016 report on covered conference events over \$100,000. During FY 2016, VA incurred expenses of approximately \$38 million for the 85 covered conference events.

Continuous workforce training and development is absolutely critical to delivering the timely, quality VA care and services our Veterans have earned and deserve. Our senior leaders across the Department are focused on transforming procedures for conference and training events that build accountability at every step. VA has improved our procedures by implementing senior-level review of proposed budgets and expenditures, reviewing internal processes and controls, and maintaining strict oversight of all reportable conference expenses.

The report is posted at: http://www.va.gov/about_va/va_notices.asp

Veterans Affairs FY2016 Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	Conference Description
VA Acquisition Academy (VAAA) Training	\$ 3,811,629	Washington, DC	4/1/2016	6/30/2016	2,345	The training events completed during this conference reporting period were provided to enhance the skills of the VA acquisition workforce in order to better serve Veterans.
VA Acquisition Academy (VAAA) Training	\$ 2,079,082	Washington, DC	10/1/2015	12/31/2015	1,223	The training events completed during this conference reporting period were provided to enhance the skills of the VA acquisition workforce in order to better serve Veterans.
VA Acquisition Academy (VAAA) Training	\$ 1,969,294	Washington, DC	7/1/2016	9/30/2016	1,158	The training events completed during this conference reporting period were provided to enhance the skills of the VA acquisition workforce in order to better serve Veterans.
Challenge 2016-1 (Baltimore)	\$ 1,856,334	Baltimore, MD	10/13/2015	11/20/2015	250	Provide essential training to VBA Veteran Service Representative and Rating Veteran Service Representatives to ensure VBA transformation success.
National Veterans Small Business Engagement 2015	\$ 1,793,001	Pittsburgh, PA	11/17/2015	11/19/2015	3,235	Provided small businesses access to procurement opportunities per PL 95-507; PL106-50
VA Acquisition Academy (VAAA) Training	\$ 1,595,510	Washington, DC	1/1/2016	3/31/2016	1,153	The training events completed during this conference reporting period were provided to enhance the skills of the VA acquisition workforce in order to better serve Veterans.
Challenge 2016-3 (Baltimore)	\$ 892,818	Baltimore, MD	2/22/2016	4/1/2016	154	Provide essential training to VBA Veteran Service Representatives and Rating Veterans Service
Challenge 2016-5 (Denver, CO)	\$ 888,467	Denver, CO	5/31/2016	7/8/2016	115	Provide fundamental information vital to the employee's ability to process disability claims with accuracy and precision.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (VABPOC 1602)	\$ 854,630	North Little Rock, AR	10/26/2015	12/18/2015	88	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired VA Police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (VABPOC 1603)	\$ 734,806	North Little Rock, AR	1/4/2016	2/26/2016	76	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired VA Police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
OPIA National Training Academy	\$ 732,323	Dallas, TX	8/1/2016	8/5/2016	427	Improved VA's ability to communicate to Veterans about their benefits through the training of a large contingent of VA employees charged with communications responsibilities.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (VABPOC 1604)	\$ 715,598	North Little Rock, AR	2/8/2016	4/1/2016	77	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired VA Police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (VABPOC 1601)	\$ 713,912	North Little Rock, AR	10/5/2015	11/27/2015	77	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired VA Police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
VBA/VHA: Improving the eC&P Exam Process	\$ 713,074	Norman, OK	4/11/2016	4/15/2016	463	Provide fundamental information vital to the employee's ability to process disability claims with accuracy and precision.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (VABPOC 1606)	\$ 706,644	North Little Rock, AR	3/28/2016	5/20/2016	76	This 8 week course is required for newly hired VA Police officers to receive certification to perform law enforcement duties at VAMCs nationally.
30th National Veterans Golden Age Games	\$ 705,089	Detroit, MI	7/10/2016	7/14/2016	827	Empower Veterans to Improve their Well-being (VA FY2014-2020)
Senior Leaders Annual Meeting	\$ 697,414	Leesburg, VA	9/12/2016	9/15/2016	604	This training delivery was to create repeatable leadership processes that will be delivered to the aforementioned VA Senior staff members and ultimately cascaded throughout the agency

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36th National Veterans Wheelchair Games	\$ 668,500	Salt Lake City, UT	6/27/2016	7/2/2016	770	The NVWG supports VHA Mission of honoring America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves Veterans health & well-being through adaptive sports & recreation.
MyVA Access Integrated Systems Deployment (40269 / BIS 1775)	\$ 644,981	Denver, CO	4/11/2016	4/14/2016	459	Bring together representatives from facilities nationwide to share best practices and learn new ways of implementing tools for access success.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (VABPOC 1610)	\$ 599,664	North Little Rock, AR	7/11/2016	9/2/2016	68	All VA Police officers must successfully complete the BPOC before receiving their badge and credentials or being certified/authorized to perform any law enforcement duties.
Challenge 2016-4 (Baltimore)	\$ 569,740	Baltimore, MD	4/11/2016	5/20/2016	105	Provide information vital to the employees ability to process disability claims
Challenge 2015-6d (Seattle WA)	\$ 555,274	Seattle, WA	10/7/2015	11/20/2015	83	provides employees with the skills they need to function effectively in their position
VA Basic Police Officer Course (VABPOC 1607)	\$ 548,812	North Little Rock, AR	4/18/2016	6/10/2016	63	The 8 week course is required for newly hired VA Police officers to receive certification to perform law enforcement duties at VAMCs nationally.
Challenge 2015-6b (Denver)	\$ 539,342	Denver, CO	10/13/2015	11/20/2015	85	Provide essential training to VBA Veteran Service Representative and Rating Veteran Service Representatives to ensure VBA transformation success.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (VABPOC 1611)	\$ 506,315	North Little Rock, AR	8/1/2016	9/23/2016	59	All VA Police officers must successfully complete the BPOC before receiving their badge and credentials or being certified/authorized to perform any law enforcement duties.
VA Basic Police Officer Course (VABPOC 1608)	\$ 471,176	North Little Rock, AR	5/23/2016	7/15/2016	56	The 8 week course is required for newly hired VA Police Officers to receive certification to perform law enforcement duties at VAMCs nationally.
Leaders Developing Leaders Conference	\$ 462,336	Leesburg, VA	9/28/2015	10/1/2015	333	This training delivery was to create repeatable leadership processes that will be delivered to the aforementioned VA senior staff members and ultimate cascaded throughout the agenc
Women's Health Mini-Residency Primary Care Providers and Nurses (34636/BIS 1106)	\$ 445,831	Orlando, FL	5/24/2016	5/26/2016	266	Provided PC providers and nurses with the knowledge, physical examination, and critical thinking skills needed to provide high quality care to women Veterans.
Women's Health Mini-Residency Primary/Emergency Care Providers (34630/BIS 1110)	\$ 379,557	Orlando, FL	7/12/2016	7/14/2016	252	Provided PC & EM providers and nurses with the knowledge, physical examination, and critical thinking skills needed to provide high quality care to women Veterans.
Challenge 2016-6	\$ 368,255	Denver, CO	7/18/2016	8/26/2016	55	Provide fundamental information vital to the employees ability to process disability claims.
Leaders Developing Leaders	\$ 354,069	Leesburg, VA	2/29/2016	3/1/2016	396	This training delivery was to create repeatable leadership processes that will be delivered to the aforementioned VA Senior members and ultimately cascaded throughout the dept.
VHA Facility Chief Logistics Officer Conference (35200 / BIS 577)	\$ 351,228	Atlanta, GA	4/5/2016	4/7/2016	223	This conference will improve the VHA Service capability by enhancing capabilities among staff and reinforcing the value of performance measurements through in-person cooperation.
Challenge 2016-2 (Baltimore)	\$ 320,578	Baltimore, MD	1/4/2016	2/12/2016	97	Provides essential training to VBA Veterans Service Representatives and Rating Veterans Service
DFAS CSR Conference	\$ 298,753	Indianapolis, IN	8/16/2016	8/19/2016	246	The conference provided guidance and education on a number of topics to assist payroll staff with their daily responsibilities.

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VHA Canteen Service National Conference (35832/ BIS 1297)	\$ 269,397	St. Louis, MO	9/26/2016	9/29/2016	230	Introduction of new business models, E-commerce, OI&T process changes and training for effective management/leadership of canteens. Topics incorporated ICARE, myVA and LDL.
VHA Environmental Management Services Training Event (32761/BIS 407)	\$ 267,478	Washington, DC	6/21/2016	6/23/2016	193	The primary purpose of the training is to develop and sustain skills in incorporating services pertaining to clients' complex operational needs.
VHA Resuscitation Education Initiative (REdI) National Update (32817/BIS 454)	\$ 264,951	Orlando, FL	7/26/2016	7/28/2016	193	REdI program expands the number of employees certified in ACLS/BLS/ATLS.
National Nurse Executive Meeting (29465/BIS 215)	\$ 264,007	Fort Worth, TX	5/24/2016	5/26/2016	158	This training will crosswalk nursing's contribution to strategic initiatives and ownership of the VHA business line for acute care services and create and share best practices.
NCA National Training Conference	\$ 263,968	Leesburg, VA	3/2/2016	3/4/2016	277	This conference delivered training, introduced initiatives, programs and policies and enhanced integration across the administration.
Veterans Service Center Managers/Quality Review Team/Coach Continuing Education Program (VSCM)	\$ 263,572	Marietta, GA	10/18/2015	10/23/2015	155	Identify, discuss, and improve quality service for our customers.
National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic	\$ 258,181	Snowmass Village, CO	4/2/2016	4/9/2016	848	The NDVWSC strives to improve the health and well-being of America's Veterans through participation in adaptive sports and recreation, and community re-integration.
Women's Mental Health Mini Residency (34942/BIS 1096)	\$ 242,569	Salt Lake City, UT	4/5/2016	4/7/2016	201	Improving access to Mental Health services for Veterans, service members, and military families.
2016 National Leadership Council Strategic Planning Summit (32782/BIS 1561)	\$ 218,460	Crystal City, VA	4/26/2016	4/28/2016	102	The event supports the Under Secretary for Health effort in developing an integrated approach to formalizing the implementation of VHA's strategic goals with facility leaders.
Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs: Blueprint for Program Excellence	\$ 218,176	Orlando, FL	5/3/2016	5/5/2016	198	Improving access to Mental Health services for Veterans, service members, and military families.
New Women Veteran Program Manager Bootcamp (35451/BIS 1171)	\$ 204,973	St. Louis, MO	8/16/2016	8/18/2016	118	The training will enhance the quality of services to Veterans by preparing and encouraging WVPMs to apply their improved capabilities to management & complex operations in VHA.
2015 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival	\$ 203,901	Durham, NC	10/12/2015	10/18/2015	145	Direct involvement is necessary to teach Veterans new artistic skills and present arts interaction opportunities in a therapeutically focused environment.
2016 VHA Safe Patient Handling and Mobility (SPHM) Facility Coordinators (FC) Conference (338)	\$ 203,271	Las Vegas, NV	5/3/2016	5/5/2016	145	Provided training on current topics to SPHM FCs including new FCs to meet current needs at each facility. Shared best practices to advance pat care quality and prevent injuries.
2016 Financial Training Session for VBA Support Services Division Personnel	\$ 200,966	Atlanta, GA	8/22/2016	8/26/2016	120	Provide essential training in core financial and administrative competencies to key personnel in VBA Support Services Division.
Strategic Leadership Course II- Strategic Thinking Cohort 24	\$ 194,551	Chapel Hill, NC	2/21/2016	2/26/2016	28	Provided methods and tools on critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and leading change. Supports strategic goal of improving business practices and VA transformation.

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OAA FY16 National VACAA, Education, & Academic Leadership Conference (34384 / BIS 1054)	\$ 191,066	Arlington, VA	8/2/2016	8/3/2016	166	Focused on developing facility readiness to expand medical education as directed by VACAA in order to fulfill the intent of the legislation.
Patient Flow Coordination Collaborative - FY16 (31243)	\$ 188,926	Phoenix, AZ	1/26/2016	1/28/2016	151	By sharing best practices between VAMCs, we are able to help improve patient flow throughout the hospital which has a direct affect on Veteran access.
VHA National Nurse Staffing Methodology Training (41618 / BIS 524) 40464 replacement	\$ 188,005	Orlando, FL	4/19/2016	4/21/2016	154	To comply with the GAO Report 15-290 High Risk Series that cites barriers with full implementation of VHA Directive 2010-034, Staffing Methodology for Nursing Personnel.
Group Practice Manager Academy (GPM) (42056/BIS 609)	\$ 186,184	St Louis, MO	8/8/2016	8/10/2016	141	Trained group practice managers in fulfilling the requirements of the VACCA law section 303.
VA Police Chiefs' Training Symposium FY16	\$ 184,103	North Little Rock, AR	5/22/2016	5/26/2016	207	The Event is designed to deliver enhanced training to VA Police Chiefs.
Group Practice Manager (GPM) Academy (32623/609)	\$ 177,957	Atlanta, GA	5/17/2016	5/19/2016	121	Training group practice managers per VACAA Law
Utilization Management-Moving from Measurement to Action FY16 F2F (32777 / BIS 560)	\$ 174,155	Orlando, FL	5/4/2016	5/5/2016	148	The focus of day two's agenda will be on the Physician UM Advisor (PUMA) and his/her key importance within the Utilization Management interdisciplinary team.
National Blind Rehabilitation Service Conference (35986/BIS 1210)	\$ 171,888	Milwaukee, WI	8/23/2016	8/25/2016	144	Enabled blind rehabilitation specialists to implement programs of care for Veterans so they develop the skills needed for independence and reintegration into community and family.
Best HCV Care Anywhere - Optimizing Access and Quality of Hepatitis C Care through Process Im	\$ 162,253	Orlando, FL	8/17/2016	8/19/2016	142	Improve the VHA service capability by enhancing skills among staff & reinforcing the value of team facilitations through in-person cooperation among colleagues.
Central Florida Direct Access Event	\$ 159,621	Tampa, FL	6/8/2016	6/9/2016	174	The event allowed PDMs to conduct market research in order to discover new vendors that can meet their and assist VA with meeting their socio-economic goals
Health Care Leadership Development Program Class (HCLDP) 2016b Week 1 (32415/BIS 401)	\$ 136,537	Cincinnati, OH	4/11/2016	4/15/2016	74	HCLDP produces top-notch VHA health care administrators and administrative support professionals to fill succession planning needs.
70th Annual VAVS National Advisory Committee Meeting & Conference (31860/BIS 439)	\$ 135,887	Albuquerque, NM	5/3/2016	5/6/2016	306	The VAVS NAC is the advising body to the Secretary through the Under Secretary for health on all matters related to VAVS operations, policy and programs in all VHA facilities.
SLC II-Strategic Thinking Cohort 25	\$ 135,572	Chapel Hill, NC	8/21/2016	8/26/2016	24	Provide methods and tools on critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and leading change. Supports strategic goal of improving business practices and VA transformation.
Health Care Leadership Development Training Program 2016a Week 3 (F2F) (34397/BIS 715)	\$ 135,385	Kansas City, MO	7/11/2016	7/15/2016	84	HCLDP produces top-notch VHA health care administrators and administrative support professionals to fill succession planning needs.
Denver Direct Access Event	\$ 132,014	Denver, CO	8/24/2016	8/25/2016	66	Provide Small Business Access to procurement opportunities per PL 95-107 and PL 106-50
Health Care Leadership Development Program 2016b (week two) (33966/BIS 672)	\$ 131,451	Loudon County (Ashburn), VA	6/13/2016	6/17/2016	81	HCLDP produces top-notch VHA health care administrators and administrative support professionals to fill succession planning needs.
VBA Training Managers Symposium (TMS) 2016	\$ 131,434	Orlando, FL	5/16/2016	5/20/2016	118	Provide training to VBA RO Training Managers

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Federal Advanced Amputation Skills Training (FAAST) (35987/BIS 1209)	\$ 131,412	Los Angeles, CA	7/26/2016	7/28/2016	157	Provided DoD and VHA attendees with advanced knowledge, skills, tools and techniques to implement in amputation specialty clinics so Veterans can reach their highest potential.
Health Care Leadership Development Program Class 2015a (Week 3) (31958/ BIS 398)	\$ 130,894	Kansas City, MO	11/2/2015	11/6/2015	87	The year-long Health Care Leadership Programs seeks to address the continued development of identified leaders in the organization.
Leaders Developing Leaders	\$ 124,247	Washington DC, DC	12/7/2015	12/9/2015	104	This training delivery was to create repeatable leadership processes that will be delivered to the aforementioned VA senior staff members and ultimately cascaded throughout agency.
Tune In, Explore, Assist, Communicate, Honor (TEACH) for Success Facilitator Training (33943/	\$ 123,433	Dallas, TX	5/17/2016	5/19/2016	72	The purpose of TEACH is to provide PACT staff with Veteran-centered health education and coaching skills that enable them to partner with Veterans in that effort.
Health Care Leadership Development Program Class 2016a (week two) BIS 669 eMAP 33544	\$ 122,783	Ashburn, VA	5/16/2016	5/20/2016	73	HCLDP produces top-notch VHA health care administrators and administrative support professionals to fill succession planning needs.
Patient Safety Improvement 101/Root Cause Analysis & Healthcare Failure and Effect Analysis (\$ 122,693	Norman, OK	8/30/2016	9/1/2016	104	Increased access to Veterans by reducing the time required by medical care personnel in responding to unsafe patient conditions
Health Care Leadership Development Training Program Class 2016b (week three) BIS 730 eMAP 339	\$ 121,232	Kansas City, MO	8/15/2016	8/19/2016	83	HCLDP produces top-notch VHA health care administrators and administrative support professionals to fill succession planning needs.
National Disabled Veterans TEE Tournament Rehabilitation Event	\$ 117,635	Iowa City, IA	9/12/2016	9/16/2016	721	This rehabilitative event educated and engaged Veterans and their family members in rehabilitation activities through active participation in a clinical format.
Intensive Community Mental Health Recovery (ICMHR) Services - EAST (35704/BIS 1229)	\$ 116,984	Orlando, FL	8/23/2016	8/25/2016	127	Improving access to Mental Health Services for Veterans, Service Members, and Military families.
Health Care Leadership Development Program Class 2016a (week one) FY16 (32232 - BIS 340)	\$ 116,165	Kansas City, MO	3/28/2016	4/1/2016	73	HCLDP produces top-notch VHA health care administrators and administrative support professionals to fill succession planning needs.
Leaders Developing Leaders Make-Up Session	\$ 113,081	Leesburg, VA	5/23/2016	5/25/2016	198	The Senior Leaders participants who were invited to the previous LDL session in September and December 2015, but were not able to attend. This is a make-up session.
FY16 Centers of Excellence in Primary Care Education – Phase II: Shaping the interprofessiona	\$ 111,524	Cleveland, OH	4/26/2016	4/28/2016	101	Preparer graduates of health professional programs to work in & lead patient-centered interprofessional teams.
PMDB Trainer Recalibration Conference (32654/BIS 387)	\$ 110,270	Albany, NY	4/19/2016	4/22/2016	77	The conf improved the VHA service capability by enhancing proficiency among staff & reinforcing the values of fitted information through in-person cooperation among colleagues
OAA FY16 VA Quality Scholars Summer Institute Conference (35460 / BIS 1153)	\$ 109,441	Houston, TX	8/2/2016	8/5/2016	83	This training is directly in line with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) & American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) guidelines.

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Warrior Training Advancement Course (WARTAC) 2015-3	\$ 108,825	Fort Carson, CO	9/8/2015	12/11/2015	50	Provide technical training, essentially Challenge Training to service members assigned to Warrior Transition Battalion.
CRE (Carbapenem Resistant Enterobacteriaceae) Initiative Implementation (31890/BIS 426)	\$ 108,033	Cincinnati, OH	2/10/2016	2/11/2016	103	Supports SECVA initiative to decrease healthcare assoc. infections & enhances implementation of CRE Prevention Initiative.
GeripACT Summit (34619 / BIS 1120)	\$ 105,860	Albany, NY	3/15/2016	3/17/2016	112	Clinicians will have the tools and knowledge to effectively work in or start up a GeripACT to help geriatric veterans.
FY16 VHA HR Leadership Summit - District 2 (35619/BIS 1232)	\$ 102,459	Atlanta, GA	8/2/2016	8/5/2016	78	This conference will provide HR Managers the tools and best practices needed to improve the HR community by maintaining a steady HR workforce and increase retention across VHA.
National Chaplain Leadership Convocation (41060 / BIS 1265)	\$ 102,357	Newport News, VA	8/29/2016	9/1/2016	122	Training emphasized aligning spiritual and pastoral care with VA priorities and VHA strategies ("VHA Vitals")