



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, and OMB Memorandum 12-12, *Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations*, dated May 11, 2012, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) prepared the attached FY 2015 report on covered conference events over \$100,000. During FY 2015, VA incurred expenses of approximately \$36 million for the 62 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 FY2015 Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

Title	Total Cost	Location	Start Date	End Date	#VA Paid Travelers	Conference Description
VA Acquisition Academy	\$ 3,072,743	Washington, DC	1/1/2015	3/31/2015	2,309	To address the growing acquisition workforce challenge facing VA and the Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP)
VA Acquisition Academy	\$ 2,885,323	Washington, DC	4/1/2015	6/30/2015	2,135	To address the growing acquisition workforce challenge facing VA and the Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP)
VA Acquisition Academy	\$ 2,636,719	Washington, DC	10/1/2014	12/31/2014	1,609	To address the growing acquisition workforce challenge facing VA and the Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP)
National Veterans Small Business Engagement	\$ 2,438,608	Atlanta, Georgia	12/9/2014	12/11/2014	3,278	Provided small businesses access to procurement opportunities per PL 95-507; PL106-50.
VBA Challenge Session 2015-1	\$ 1,589,058	Baltimore, MD	10/6/2014	11/14/2014	190	Challenge training is used to train all new VSR/RVSR and clerks that process VBA compensation claims.
Challenge 2015-5	\$ 1,566,425	Baltimore, MD	6/29/2015	8/7/2015	244	Provided technical training to newly hired VSRs and RVSRs so they are equipped to process veterans claims
Challenge 2015-2	\$ 1,237,394	Baltimore, MD	1/5/2015	2/13/2015	209	Training new VSR and RVSR employees when the start working has proven to help reduce claims faster.
Challenge 2015-3	\$ 1,146,827	Baltimore, MD	2/2/2015	3/20/2015	186	We provide training to improve employee proficiency, which helps eliminate the backlog of claims.

Veterans Affairs FY2015 Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

Title	Total Cost	Location	Start Date	End Date	#VA Paid Travelers	Conference Description
Challenge 2015-4	\$ 1,126,290	Baltimore, MD	4/6/2015	5/22/2015	211	Trained new employees on job requirements and responsibilities.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1509	\$ 828,856	North Little Rock, AR	7/27/2015	9/18/2015	88	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
35th National Veterans Wheelchair Games	\$ 808,553	Dallas, TX	6/21/2015	6/26/2015	789	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.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1504	\$ 711,124	North Little Rock, AR	2/9/2015	4/3/2015	76	Prepared newly hired police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
VA Basic Police Officers Course BPOC 1501	\$ 710,855	North Little Rock, AR	10/6/2014	11/28/2014	77	Prepares newly hired police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1506	\$ 707,711	North Little Rock, AR	4/20/2015	6/12/2015	76	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1508	\$ 705,203	North Little Rock, AR	6/29/2015	8/21/2015	76	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.

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Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1503	\$ 705,153	North Little Rock, AR	1/5/2015	2/27/2015	76	Prepared newly hired police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
29th National Veterans Golden Age Games	\$ 704,881	Omaha, Neb.	8/7/2015	8/12/2015	787	Improve Veteran Access to VA Benefits and Services (VA FY2014-2020)
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1507	\$ 702,861	North Little Rock, AR	5/25/2015	7/17/2015	76	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1505	\$ 698,104	North Little Rock, AR	3/16/2015	5/8/2015	76	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
Health Services Research Scientific Conference (#5373)	\$ 695,606	Philadelphia, PA	7/8/2015	7/10/2015	602	Discuss important research findings including ongoing and planned research to ensure continuous improvement and optimal delivery of healthcare for Veterans.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1502	\$ 693,740	North Little Rock, AR 72118	10/20/2014	12/12/2014	76	The VA BPOC training is critical to preparing newly hired police officers to serve at our medical centers nationwide.
VA Acquisition Academy	\$ 582,544	Washington, DC	7/1/2015	9/30/2015	405	To address the growing acquisition workforce challenge facing VA and the Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP)

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Challenge 2015-1B	\$ 470,265	St Paul, MN and Des Moines IA	10/6/2014	11/7/2014	66	Challenge training is used to train all new VSR/RVSR and clerks that process VBA compensation claims.
Women's Health Mini-Residency: Primary Care Providers & Nurses (#5629)	\$ 430,790	Orlando, FL	7/28/2015	7/30/2015	251	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 Care & Emergency Providers (#5630)	\$ 349,136	Orlando, FL	6/16/2015	6/18/2015	225	Provided PC and EM providers and nurses with the knowledge, physical examination, and critical thinking skills needed to provide high quality care to women Veterans.
FY 2015 VHA Biomedical Engineering Conference (#5414)	\$ 312,205	Atlanta, GA	2/24/2015	2/26/2015	229	The conference increased levels of safety in hospitals for Veterans and those who care for them.
Procurement Supervisors Conference	\$ 310,374	Tucson, AZ	11/18/2014	11/20/2014	265	In line with the VHA Corrective Action Plan, this training equipped supervisors with much needed supervisory training and tools for dealing with EEO, HR, and Customer Service issues
Leadership VA LVA - Session 1	\$ 298,956	Arlington, VA	2/22/2015	2/27/2015	85	The LVA program is the Department's premier leadership development training. The purpose of the program is to develop and enhance the leadership skills and competencies.
Clinic Management Conference - East Region (7591)	\$ 297,882	Philadelphia, PA	8/4/2015	8/6/2015	222	This conference provided guidance on the role of the Group Practice Manager. Provided an overarching approach to the design and responsibilities of the GPM.

Veterans Affairs FY2015 Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

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Clinic Management Conference - Western Region (#7588)	\$ 287,469	Phoenix, AZ	2/3/2015	2/5/2015	188	This conference provided guidance on the role of the Group Practice Manager. Provided an overarching approach to the design and responsibilities of the GPM.
VA/DoD Suicide Prevention Conference (#5636)	\$ 285,895	Dallas, TX	1/27/2015	1/29/2015	432	Share the most up to date research findings, clinical innovations and interventions and public health population based messaging and educational strategies.
Developer IT Training Summit	\$ 269,219	Dallas, TX	5/12/2015	5/14/2015	219	DVA OI&T PD mission is ensure that a strong application development workforce is training on state-of-art technologies & best practices to help information technology software deve
VA Polytrauma System of Care: New Perspectives In Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Rehabilitation (#30108)	\$ 267,244	Hyattsville, MD	5/5/2015	5/6/2015	253	This training addressed practice gaps in planning, execution & provision of services from acute rehabilitation, follow up, and management of chronic conditions of TBI & Polytrauma.
Clinic Management Conference - Central Region (#30778)	\$ 259,822	Dallas, TX	6/2/2015	6/4/2015	181	This conference provided guidance on the role of the Group Practice Manager. Provided an overarching approach to the design and responsibilities of the GPM.
Executive Leadership Training	\$ 259,325	Atlanta, GA	6/7/2015	6/12/2015	128	Discussed where VBA needs to focus our efforts to achieve our service delivery transformation goals
Clinic Management Conference - Southern Region (#7589)	\$ 254,244	Orlando, FL	4/21/2015	4/23/2015	191	This conference provided guidance on the role of the Group Practice Manager. Provided an overarching approach to the design and responsibilities of the GPM.

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Veteran Service Center Managers/Quality Review Training	\$ 251,130	Atlanta, GA	12/8/2014	12/12/2014	158	Provided VSCM Managers and QRT Coaches training to further implement with the Regional Offices.
National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic	\$ 250,183	Snowmass, CO	3/28/2015	4/4/2015	830	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.
Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) 2015 National Training Conference (25023)	\$ 236,920	St. Louis, MO	9/13/2015	9/16/2015	230	Introduction of new business models, E-commerce initiatives and process changes essential to effective management/leadership of canteens. Topics incorporate ICARE principles, MyVA.
Chiefs' Training Symposium	\$ 234,260	Little Rock, AR	5/18/2015	5/20/2015	255	This VA Police Chiefs' Training Symposium provides the (LETC) the opportunity to discuss, train and update VA Police Chiefs on the direction and policies of VA, OSP/OS&LEI and LETC
Peer Support Supervisors' Skills for Success (#7264)	\$ 230,234	Phoenix, AZ	2/24/2015	2/26/2015	171	Improving access to Mental Health Services for Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families.
2014 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival	\$ 228,494	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	10/27/2014	11/2/2014	149	Direct involvement is necessary to teach Veterans new artistic skills and present arts interaction opportunities in a therapeutically focused environment.
Advanced Leadership Program (#4985)	\$ 219,888	Bedford, MA	9/17/2014	3/17/2015	214	This was a Leadership Development program. It consisted of a series of 4 workshops spread over the year aimed at developing the Leadership capabilities of mid-level managers.

Veterans Affairs FY2015 Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

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2015 National Leadership Council Strategic Planning Summit (#5728)	\$ 215,488	Washington, DC	4/28/2015	4/30/2015	107	The VHA NLC Summit provided VHA leaders an opportunity to identify and develop approaches to paradigm shifts and the need for an evolution on VHA's health care delivery model.
Strategic Leadership Course II (SLC II) Strategic Thinking Cohort 23	\$ 204,870	UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	7/26/2015	7/31/2015	33	Provided methods and tools on critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and leading change. Supports strategic goal of improving business practices and VA transformation.
VHA - Practices in VA Peer Support: Basic, Improved and Innovative Next Steps for a New Career in VHA (#5648)	\$ 184,285	Orlando, FL	4/21/2015	4/23/2015	180	Peer Specialists trained on their roles and responsibilities and the unique contributions they make to support VA's mission of being a Veteran-centric health care system.
Academic PACT: Innovations, Integration and Transformation (#5752)	\$ 181,716	Dallas, TX	5/5/2015	5/7/2015	105	This effort supported VA staff and Academic Affiliates to prepare graduates of health professional programs to work in and lead patient-centered inter-professional teams.
Implementation of Updated Prevention of Legionella Directive (#3936)	\$ 177,462	Cincinnati, OH	3/11/2015	3/13/2015	144	Support SECVA initiative to decrease healthcare assoc. infections & importance of compliance with the new Legionella Directive as VHA priority in providing safe care for Veterans.
Peer Support Supervisors' Skills for Success #7263	\$ 172,353	Orlando, FL	12/3/2014	12/5/2014	147	Improving access to Mental Health Services for Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families.
(Senior Executive Strategic Leadership II - Strategic Thinking Cohort 22)	\$ 168,819	Chapel Hill, NC	2/22/2015	2/27/2015	28	Provided methods and tools on critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and leading change. Supports strategic goals of improving business practices and VA transformation.

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Education Compliance Training Conference	\$ 156,288	St. Louis, MO	9/22/2015	9/24/2015	136	This conference concentrated on providing consistent guidance and training to a nationwide staff of out-based employees. Consistent guidance to our stakeholders is critical.
National Blind Rehabilitation Service Conference (27529)	\$ 142,894	Louisville, KY	8/18/2015	8/20/2015	123	This training addressed practice gaps in planning, execution and provision of services in providing services for blind visually impaired Veterans.
69th Annual VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) National Advisory Committee (NAC) Meeting and Conference (#5421)	\$ 133,740	Albuquerque, NM	4/21/2015	4/24/2015	310	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.
Evidence Based Treatment for Dysphagia (#5741)	\$ 129,965	Maitland, FL	5/12/2015	5/14/2015	110	Training provided hands-on training including behavioral and instrumental interventions for the treatment of adult dysphagia.
Challenge 2015-1C	\$ 124,226	Des Moines, IA	10/6/2014	11/14/2014	24	Challenge training is used to train all new VSR/RVSR and clerks that process VBA compensation claims.
The Million Veteran Program Annual Meeting (31131)	\$ 123,875	Boston, MA	9/10/2015	9/11/2015	118	Provided opportunity for peer to peer exchange of lesson's learned to increase participant enrollment and techniques to reduce process and protocol deviations.
Health Care Leadership Development Program Class 2015a, Week 1 (#5365)	\$ 116,619	Oklahoma City, Ok	4/13/2015	4/17/2015	78	This conference helped the development of leadership skills required for select high potential GS13-15/T38 equivalents prepare for the executive level of leadership.

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Goals of Care Conversations Training-2	\$ 110,617	Salt Lake City, UT	2/18/2015	2/19/2015	46	This promotes patient-centered care by ensuring VA providers are trained in conducting high-quality conversations with seriously ill Veterans about their values, goals,&preferences
Health Care Leadership Development Program Class 2015a (week two) (#7416)	\$ 107,996	Oklahoma City, OK	8/24/2015	8/28/2015	75	This conference helped the development of leadership skills required for select high potential GS13-15/T38 equivalents prepare for the executive level of leadership.
The VA Quality Scholars Summer Institute (5753) (12637)	\$ 106,589	Nashville, TN	8/3/2015	8/7/2015	80	Participants learned from one another and from national leaders in quality improvement and patient safety in order to address the knowledge gap among the trainees.
Health Care Leadership Development Program Class 2015b Week 1 (#5366)	\$ 105,421	Oklahoma City, Ok	5/11/2015	5/15/2015	78	This conference helped the development of leadership skills required for select high potential GS13-15/T38 equivalents prepare for the executive level of leadership.
National Veterans TE Tournament	\$ 102,909	Iowa City, Iowa	9/7/2015	9/11/2015	28	This rehabilitative event educated and engaged Veterans and their families in rehabilitation activities through active participation in a clinical format



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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.

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Veterans Affairs FY 2014 Updated Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

Event Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	Conference Description
Specialized Adjudication Review Course (SPARC)	\$ 9,732,730	Washington, DC	5/5/2014	8/22/2014	1959	To develop high levels of skills and competencies of underperforming employees.
VA Acquisition Academy - 3rd Quarter	\$ 4,475,512	Washington, DC	4/1/2014	6/30/2014	2307	To provide training in acquisition, program management, facilities management, and supply chain management, addressing the growing acquisition workforce challenge facing VA and mandates established by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP).
VA Acquisition Academy - 2nd Quarter	\$ 3,860,246	Washington, DC	1/1/2014	3/31/2014	2021	To provide training in acquisition, program management, facilities management, and supply chain management, addressing the growing acquisition workforce challenge facing VA and mandates established by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP).
VA Acquisition Academy - 4th Quarter	\$ 2,868,354	Washington, DC	7/1/2014	9/30/2014	1103	To provide training in acquisition, program management, facilities management, and supply chain management, addressing the growing acquisition workforce challenge facing VA and mandates established by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP).
Challenge Training 2014-8	\$ 2,376,001	Baltimore, MD	7/1/2014	8/15/2014	220	To provide technical training to newly hired VSRs and RVSRs of Regional Offices across the country
VA Acquisition Academy 1st Quarter	\$ 2,194,476	Washington, DC	10/1/2013	12/31/2013	884	To provide training in acquisition, program management, facilities management, and supply chain management, addressing the growing acquisition workforce challenge facing VA and mandates established by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP).
Challenge Training 2014-6	\$ 1,850,806	Baltimore, MD	5/19/2014	6/27/2014	220	To provide technical training to newly hired Veterans Service Representatives and Rating Veterans Service Representatives of Regional Offices across the country.
Challenge Training 2014-4	\$ 1,599,982	Baltimore, MD	4/7/2014	5/23/2014	205	To provide technical training to newly hired Veterans Service Representatives and Rating Veterans Service Representatives of Regional Offices across the country.
Challenge Training 2014-7	\$ 1,525,556	Baltimore, MD	6/16/2014	8/1/2014	220	To provide technical training to newly hired Veterans Service Representatives and Rating Veterans Service Representatives of Regional Offices across the country.
Advanced Coaches 201 Training	\$ 1,519,005	St. Paul, MN	6/8/2014	8/30/2014	825	The training is intended to enhance knowledge of management, performance management skills, as well as knowledge in change management, human resources, labor relations, and leadership for Coaches and Assistant Coaches.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1401	\$ 832,796	Little Rock, AR	10/14/2013	12/6/2013	89	The training is critical for preparing newly hired VA Police Officers to serve at medical centers nationwide.

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Event Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	Conference Description
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1407	\$ 715,554	Little Rock, AR	7/28/2014	9/19/2014	60	The training is critical for preparing newly hired VA Police Officers to serve at medical centers nationwide.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1406	\$ 715,168	Little Rock, AR	6/2/2014	7/25/2014	76	The training is critical for preparing newly hired VA Police Officers to serve at medical centers nationwide.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1404	\$ 704,630	Little Rock, AR	3/31/2014	5/23/2014	75	The training is critical for preparing newly hired VA Police Officers to serve at medical centers nationwide.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1405	\$ 701,952	Little Rock, AR	5/5/2014	6/27/2014	76	The training is critical for preparing newly hired VA Police Officers to serve at medical centers nationwide.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1403	\$ 701,718	Little Rock, AR	2/3/2014	3/28/2014	74	The training is critical for preparing newly hired VA Police Officers to serve at medical centers nationwide.
Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) 1402	\$ 691,712	Little Rock, AR	1/6/2014	2/28/2014	75	The training is critical for preparing newly hired VA Police Officers to serve at medical centers nationwide.
Challenge Training 2014-1	\$ 667,364	Baltimore, MD	10/28/2013	12/13/2013	72	To provide technical training to newly hired Veteran Service Representatives and Rating Veterans Service Representatives of Regional Offices across the country.
28th National Veterans Golden Age Games	\$ 491,725	Fayetteville, AR	6/28/2014	7/2/2014	174	Annual rehabilitative event which offers competitive sports and recreation events to Veterans age 55 and older.
Challenge Training 2014-3	\$ 458,236	Baltimore, MD	3/5/2014	4/15/2014	120	To provide technical training to newly hired Veterans Service Representatives and Rating Veterans Service Representatives of Regional Offices across the country.
Women's Health Field Leaders (WHFL) Training (6974)	\$ 365,710	Orlando, FL	9/16/2014	9/18/2014	298	To provide Women Veterans Program Managers and Women's Health Medical Directors with the most current knowledge and practical skills needed to coordinate and provide care.
Water Safety in Healthcare Workshop/Conference (3931)	\$ 332,624	Cincinnati, OH	6/23/2014	6/25/2014	238	Kickoff meeting for focused effort in VHA to prioritize water safety in healthcare setting with current standards and practices for water safety and prevention of water-related diseases and conditions.
Health Care Leadership Development Program 2014 (3758)	\$ 324,733	Cincinnati, OH	4/7/2014	9/12/2014	210	Hands-on training experience designed to prepare healthcare executives and develop leaders for facility-level executive leadership positions.
Women's Health Mini-Residency PC Providers/Nurses (3892)	\$ 323,555	Orlando, FL	6/17/2014	6/19/2014	189	To provide primary care providers and nurses with the knowledge, physical examination and critical thinking skills needed to provide high quality care to women Veterans.
Partnerships for Healing Environments (5206)	\$ 318,915	Orlando, FL	7/15/2014	7/18/2014	192	The purpose of the conference is to advance technical knowledge, administrative development.

Veterans Affairs FY 2014 Updated Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

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Implementing and Sustaining Tele-health Services Throughout VHA and Linking to DOD (3802)	\$ 318,307	Denver, CO	7/22/2014	7/24/2014	219	To bring together key stakeholders to share the vision, align efforts, impact the hands-on competencies and introduce new national Telehealth programs throughout VHA.
Challenge Training 2014-2	\$ 308,506	Baltimore, MD	1/5/2014	2/13/2014	71	To provide technical training to newly hired VSRs and RVSRs of Regional Offices across the country.
Women's Health Mini-Residency PC and Emergency Provider (3893)	\$ 305,779	Orlando, FL	8/12/2014	8/14/2014	194	To provide primary care and emergency providers and nurses with the knowledge, physical examination and critical thinking skills needed to provide high quality care to women Veterans.
Payroll Customer Service Representative Training	\$ 290,897	Indianapolis, IN	8/18/2014	8/22/2014	225	To provide Customer Service Representative's the tools, tips and references they need to create a pay record, transfer pay responsibility to another Federal Department or Agency, and to properly close out a pay record.
5-day Financial Training Session for VBA Support Services Division (SSD) Personnel	\$ 281,256	Atlanta, GA	8/11/2014	8/15/2014	160	To provide essential training in core financial and administrative competencies to key personnel in VBA Service Support Divisions.
Partnerships for Healing Environments (1809)	\$ 280,481	Dallas, TX	6/3/2014	6/6/2014	241	The purpose of the conference is to advance technical knowledge, administrative development.
Safe Patient Handling Peer Leader Training (4664)	\$ 278,471	Houston, TX	8/19/2014	8/22/2014	149	To provide knowledge and techniques used in practice for medical center staff in safe handling and movement of patients.
Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) National Training Seminar (5109)	\$ 268,290	St. Louis, MO	9/15/2014	9/17/2014	250	The training seminar affords Veterans Canteen Service the opportunity to execute strategic planning, process improvement and technology training opportunities in a hands-on interactive setting
Transformational Leadership Supporting an Updated Leadership Development Program (3942)	\$ 265,040	Bedford, MA	2/26/2014	9/24/2014	120	To develop and implement a strategic leadership intervention that focuses on fostering the integration of ownership and leadership throughout the healthcare system.
Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT)-Leading from the Front and RN Boot Camp (2323)	\$ 253,963	Online	8/6/2013	1/31/2014	44	To engage leaders at all levels in leadership methods, tools and strategies that enable successful Patient Aligned Care Team implementation, effective partnerships with other healthcare staff, and personalized, proactive patient-driven care.
Blind Rehabilitation Service National Conference (3792)	\$ 248,139	Sparks, NV	8/19/2014	8/21/2014	200	To provide knowledge, skills and abilities needed for the Blind Rehabilitation Specialists to keep pace with emerging technology, practices, and supporting programs.
Partnerships for Healing Environments (5207)	\$ 246,318	Phoenix, AZ	6/24/2014	6/27/2014	187	The purpose of the conference is to advance technical knowledge, administrative development.
National VHA Environmental Programs Service Training Conference (3926)	\$ 234,244	Tampa, FL	9/20/2014	9/21/2014	132	To effect an improved primary care setting which is characterized by effectiveness, safety, access, efficiency, high patient satisfaction and contributions to healthy communities.

Veterans Affairs FY 2014 Updated Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

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Peer Specialist Training: Transforming to Mental Health Staff (3777)	\$ 227,363	Orlando, FL	6/4/2014	6/6/2014	201	To train Peer Specialists on their roles and responsibilities and the unique contributions they make to support VA's mission of being a Veteran-centric healthcare system.
National VA Patient Safety Managers & Officers Conference (3960)	\$ 218,173	Cherry Hill, NJ	9/9/2014	9/11/2014	174	To improve patient safety and clinical practice by addressing current patient safety issues and teaching participants how to improve their own VISN and facility patient safety program.
VBA Executive Leadership Training	\$ 217,096	Atlanta, GA	5/5/2014	5/8/2014	120	To provide essential training to VBA Executive Leadership to ensure VA's transformation success, focusing on critical leadership skills, such as accountability, employee motivation, labor relations, handling media engagements, etc.
Veterans Service Center Managers (VSCM) 2014	\$ 210,020	Marietta, GA	6/23/2014	6/27/2014	153	To identify, discuss and improve quality service for VA's customers.
Utilization Management Conference (1361)	\$ 207,443	Dallas, TX	4/2/2014	4/3/2014	209	Provide a unified approach and will capitalize on best practices, effective communication and team work that are required among Utilization Management Reviewers, Certified InterQual instructor and Physician Utilization Management Advisors.
Quality & Safety Institute: Transforming Veteran Health Care (1906)	\$ 202,893	Denver, CO	9/23/2014	9/25/2014	155	To train Chief Residents in Quality and Patient Safety & VA Quality Scholars.
2014 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic	\$ 195,350	San Diego, CA	9/7/2014	9/12/2014	72	Therapeutic event for disabled Veterans to enhance their rehabilitation process and quality of life.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II (SLC II), Strategic thinking, Cohort 20	\$ 193,196	Chapel Hill, NC	6/15/2014	6/20/2014	23	To train VA senior executives on strategic thinking and leading change.
Major Construction Project Management Training	\$ 191,883	Chapel Hill, NC	8/25/2014	8/29/2014	23	To provide major construction project managers with the knowledge and skills required as they undergo a transformational change.
Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II (SLC II) Strategic thinking, cohort 21	\$ 191,446	Chapel Hill, NC	8/17/2014	8/22/2014	25	To provide senior executives with methods for critical thinking and tools to accomplish the strategic goal of improving VA business operations and leading strategic change.
Requirements Gathering and Testing Qtr1	\$ 185,360	Washington, DC	10/1/2013	12/21/2013	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.
Former Prisoners of War (FPOW) (4888)	\$ 173,696	Dallas, TX	5/13/2014	5/15/2014	111	To train the Veterans Health Administration and Veterans Benefits Administration Provider teams to compassionately, effectively and efficiently rate process and provide FPOWs with needed treatment and compassion.
Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae/Multi-Drug Resistant (2656)	\$ 170,539	San Antonio, TX	1/22/2014	1/23/2014	158	To serve as the national kick-off for the Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) Prevention Initiative.

Veterans Affairs FY 2014 Updated Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

Event Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	Conference Description
VHA Prosthetics, Contracting and Logistics Conference (4080)	\$ 161,467	Orlando, FL	7/22/2014	7/25/2014	110	To identify and provide practical strategies to partner in the development and implementation of VHA's procurement and supply chain management policies.
T21 Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Suicide Prevention Conference (1283)	\$ 159,165	Washington, DC	11/21/2013	11/22/2013	132	To provide training on integrated strategies to prevent suicide, share common findings and assist VA and DOD Suicide Prevention, as outlined in the DoD/ VA Integrated Mental Health Strategy and co-sponsored by the two departments.
Transforming Care of Veterans with Chronic Hepatitis C (3723)	\$ 156,405	San Antonio, TX	9/17/2014	9/18/2014	140	To train VISN teams on new HCV drugs and system re-design to improve HCV care and treatment capacity across VISNs and individual facilities.
Former Prisoner of War Case Management Conference (3954)	\$ 155,229	Dallas, TX	9/9/2014	9/11/2014	103	To train the Veterans Health Administration and Veterans Benefits Administration Provider teams to compassionately, effectively and efficiently rate process and provide FPOWs with needed treatment and compassion.
Requirements Gathering and Testing Qtr2	\$ 154,560	Washington, DC	1/2/2014	3/21/2014	62	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.
National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic	\$ 148,036	Snowmass, CO	3/30/2014	4/6/2014	65	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.
Enhancing Partnerships for Research & Care of Women Veterans (2113)	\$ 143,449	Arlington, VA	7/31/2014	8/1/2014	152	To review progress, build and sustain critical partnerships and collaborations needed to promote women's health in a gathering of VA researchers, policy, operations and clinical leaders.
VISN 16 Leadership Development Institute (1435)	\$ 143,156	Jackson, MS	2/24/2014	9/12/2014	136	To prepare a diverse group of VISN 16 employees for leadership roles within the VA.
PACT Clinic Design Workshop-Lean Team Based Approach	\$ 140,738	Winter Garden, FL	7/10/2014	9/11/2014	1451	To enable successful and efficient PACT implementation; effective partnerships with other healthcare staff; and personalized, proactive and patient-centered/ driven healthcare.
FY14 National Leadership Council Meetings (4162)	\$ 133,843	Arlington, VA	2/19/2014	9/17/2014	256	To allow the NLC's governance body to meet on a regular basis so they may effectively deliberate and serve in an advisory capacity to the Under Secretary for Health on all matters that are cross-cutting and require deliberation.
Increasing Access to Smoking Cessation Treatment for Veterans (3721)	\$ 126,499	Atlanta, GA	3/11/2014	3/12/2014	106	To provide "hands on" behavioral skills training to VA clinicians in evidence-based smoking cessation interventions targeted to Veterans with mental health disorders.

Veterans Affairs FY 2014 Updated Sponsored Conferences in excess of \$100,000

Event Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	Conference Description
Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment FY14 Officer Technical Training Conference	\$ 117,889	Buffalo, NY	8/10/2014	8/15/2014	90	To provide Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Officer's with practical strategies to successfully transition service-connected Veterans or wounded or injured Service members to employment.
Nurse Professional Standards Board Training (1293)	\$ 117,334	Portland, OR	5/13/2014	5/15/2014	61	To promote the consistency and accuracy of NPSB hiring and promotion processes through intense training and, thereby, reduce nurse turnover rates and attract the highest qualified candidates to nursing positions.
VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) National Advisory Committee 68th Annual Meeting (3626)	\$ 114,953	Cary, NC	4/23/2014	4/25/2014	76	Annual meeting of the advising body to the Secretary through the Under Secretary of Health on all matters related to VAVS operations, policy and programs in all VHA facilities.
Former Prisoners of War (FPOW) Case Management Training (2028)	\$ 112,096	Norman, OK	12/3/2013	12/5/2013	75	To train the Veterans Health Administration and Veterans Benefits Administration Provider teams to compassionately, effectively and efficiently rate process and provide FPOWs with needed treatment and compassion.
Prevention and Management of Disruptive Behavior Trainer Recalibration (3607)	\$ 109,363	Albany, NY	6/23/2014	6/26/2014	68	To train staff in practical physical and verbal skills, as well as to re-certify PMDB trainers in the verbal and physical intervention techniques they will use to train front-line users in VA.
Local Recovery Coordinators Training (4063)	\$ 109,122	Orlando, FL	9/16/2014	9/18/2014	91	To train Local Recovery Coordinators on changes in policies, updating clinical skills needed for the provision of personalized, proactive, Veteran-driven and recovery-oriented care, and strategies for maximizing the evolving and increasing collaboration of VA services, depts., and community providers.