



OFFICE OF
MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

THE FEDERAL BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2011

Standing by Military Families

Having steered the economy back from the brink of a depression, the Administration is committed to moving the Nation from recession to recovery by sparking job creation to get millions of Americans back to work and building a new foundation for the long-term prosperity for all American families. To do this, the 2011 Budget makes critical investments in the key areas that will help to reverse the decline in economic security that American families have experienced over the past decade with investments in education, clean energy, infrastructure, and innovation.

But even as we meet the challenge of the recession and work to build an economy that works for all American families, we must also change the way Washington does business – ending programs that don't work, streamlining those that do, cracking down on special interest access, and bringing a new responsibility to how tax dollars are spent. The President's Budget takes the steps to help jumpstart job creation, works to strengthen the economic security of American families, and makes the tough choices to put our Nation back on the path to fiscal responsibility.

Defending our country are the men and women of our military, and the families that love and support them deserve a grateful Nation's support. To stand by military families, the Budget will:

Increase Military Pay and Housing Allowances. The Budget continues the Administration's commitment to caring for our Nation's men and women in uniform and promoting the well-being of the families who support them. To meet this objective, the Budget includes funding for a 1.4 percent basic pay raise that will keep military pay increases in line with those in the private sector. In addition to this pay raise, the Budget also includes an average housing increase of 4.2 percent, as well as a variety of monthly special skill-based payments, enlistment and reenlistment bonuses, and other benefits.

Boost Funding for Family Support Programs. The strength of our troops relies on the strength and stability of the families that support them, and the Budget supports these military families as our servicemembers answer our country's call to service. Overall,

family support programs grow over 3 percent above the 2010 enacted level to \$8.8 billion. Examples include:

- \$1.3 billion (an increase of \$87 million over the 2010 enacted level) to expand availability for affordable, high-quality child care services at over 800 child development centers both in the United States and overseas.
- \$1.9 billion (an increase of \$37 million over the 2010 enacted level) for expanded counseling and assistance services, from financial counseling to transition and relocation assistance, to help families meet the challenges brought on by repeated deployments and family separations .
- \$84 million (an increase of \$12 million over the 2010 enacted level) for enhanced career and educational opportunities for military spouses through tuition assistance and Federal internship programs.

Replace or Renovate 103 schools by 2015. To give our children the world-class education they deserve, they need world-class facilities. To this end, the Department of Defense is investing substantial resources to replace and renovate 103 DOD Education Activity schools by 2015, starting with \$439 million to build 10 new schools funded in the FY 2011 budget.

Care for Wounded, Ill, and Injured Servicemembers. The 2011 Budget sustains ongoing efforts to provide high quality medical care to the over 9.5 million servicemembers and military family and retiree beneficiaries. This includes support for wounded warrior transition units and centers of excellence in vision, hearing, traumatic brain injury, and other areas to continuously improve the care provided to wounded, ill, and injured servicemembers, including:

- \$30.9 billion overall for medical care, an increase of 5.8 percent over the 2010 enacted level.
- \$669 million to provide care for traumatic brain injury and psychological health.
- \$250 million for continued support of mental health and traumatic brain injury research, such as the development of tools to detect and treat post-traumatic stress, and enhancements to suicide prevention measures.

Increase Employment and Job Training for Veterans and Military Spouses. The 2011 Budget provides \$262 million for the Department of Labor's Veterans Employment and Training Service, which is a \$6 million (2 percent) increase over the 2010 enacted level. Of the increase, \$5 million is for an initiative to assist homeless women veterans and homeless families. The remaining \$1 million will be used to make employment workshops more accessible to spouses of separating servicemembers.

Expand Access to Veterans Medical Care. The men and women who have worn the uniform of our armed forces deserve the best medical care. That is why the 2011 Budget requests \$50.6 billion in advance appropriations for the VA medical care program so that care for the Nation's veterans is not hindered by budget delays. This funding will enable the Department to have timely and predictable funding from year to year, ultimately

making it easier for veterans to rely on accessible VA care. In addition, for the first time, highly-disabled veterans who are medically retired from service will be eligible for concurrent receipt of disability benefits from VA in addition to DOD retirement benefits. All medically retired servicemembers will be eligible for concurrent receipt of VA and DOD benefits by 2015. Finally, the President's Budget continues enrolling more than 500,000 moderate-income veterans into the VA health care system by 2013 while maintaining high-quality and timely care for the lower-income and disabled veterans who currently rely on VA.

Support Timely and High-Quality Delivery of Health Care and Benefits through 21st Century Technology. VA and the Department of Defense are jointly implementing VLER, which will enable VA to maintain a complete health record for each Veteran and to deliver care and benefits to veterans with efficiency and accuracy. The President's Budget also invests over \$200 million in automated processing to directly improve the accuracy and timeliness of veterans benefits, particularly disability compensation and the new Post-9/11 GI Bill benefit.