ARIZONA VFW

State Roster & Program Book

2025-2026



Greg Harrell Commander

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

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Commander's Introduction:

Congratulations on your election to Commander. Whether you are a first-time Commander, have previously held, or continue another year in command, I welcome you all and thank you for your continued service and support to the Post, District and Department. Together we shall succeed through proactive leadership, set the example for others to follow, work collaboratively, and communicate often while upholding the oath we took to continue serving veterans and families.

My Motto this year is "Veterans First, Families Always, Our Promise". "Veterans First" is our pledge to focus our energy and daily work putting the veteran first ensuring every deserved benefit is received. "Families Always" is our enduring commitment and priority to strengthen and build healthy families who support our veterans. The phrase "Our Promise" is unbreakable and means we will do whatever is necessary to ensure the well-being of our veterans and families.

I hope you find this year exciting, fun, focused and ready to do great things. I will leave you with this. There is no "I" in Team, but there is strength in "we" and I can't do everything for everyone, but everyone can do something for someone. Think about those powerful words, join me and let's make a difference everyday as "No one does more for veterans" Than the VFW.

Commander Expectations 2025-2026

Commanders, you have the responsibility to ensure that your post and Districts fulfills the mission of the VFW: To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans. (https://www.vfw.org/about-us).

Together we can do great things. You took the oath to serve, and I expect you to do your job in the following areas:

- 1. Earn All-State Honors.
- **2**. Promote teamwork between the Post and its Auxiliary. Your word is your bond so say what you mean and mean what you say.
- **3.** Promote teamwork between the VFW and other community groups and organizations. Be a leader, be positive.
- **4**. Promote and support the service officer program.
- **5**. Be up to date. Visit the Department website regularly and check your email often. Read and distribute the General Orders from the Department. Have an up-to-date

Podium Edition of the VFW Congressional Charter Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual.

- **6.** Ensure that your post officers and chairpersons know their jobs and are doing their jobs. In the case of the former, I expect you to train them so that they know and can do their jobs.
- **7.** Promote and support youth programs in your post/district. This is a must, and I will need everyone's help as the youth is our future.
- **8.** Promote and support the National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan.
- **9.** Ensure your posts and auxiliaries properly report their community service activities through the Dashboards.
- **10.** Be visible in your community. This visibly includes but is not limited POW-MIA awareness, Memorial Day services, Flag Day recognition, and Veterans' Day remembrances and activities.
- **11.** Ensure your Posts distribute Buddy Poppies in your community at least twice per year.
- **12.** Be professional when conducting meetings and don't take things said personally or make assumptions. Take the high road and treat others as you expect to be treated. Professionalism includes dressing, accordingly, being organized, and conducting a well-run, educational meeting.
- **13.** Maintain your current Post membership and recruit new members. The VFW cannot achieve its mission or realize its vision without maintaining and expanding its membership.
- **14.** Stay informed on legislative needs and issues affecting veterans. Make sure all members know who their State Representatives and Senators are and be prepared to contact these legislators when the need to do so arises. We must always advocate and be proactive towards solving veteran issues in every corner of our City, County, State and National levels as every member has a voice and your voice matters.
- **15.** Posts and District Commanders must represent your District/Department at all Council of Administration meetings.

National Commander-In-Chief emphasizes several VFW founding principles:

On the National level our Commander-In-Chief expects us all to work together (both VFW and Auxiliary), have a plan, be passionate and fight. The Department Commanders class motto this year is "For Veterans"

By Veterans and we are all "Whitmore's Warriors". On the National Level we will passionately advocate for all veterans on Capitol Hill, on the personal level we will ensure Service Officer availability and benefits earned are received and on the emotional level we shall always keep informed of actions regarding our Prisoners of War (POW) and those listed as Missing In Action (MIA).

Communication:

For our organization to succeed we all must work together collaboratively both comrades and auxiliary alike towards our common goals and objectives.

Communication must be clear, concise, transparent and continuously transmitted laterally and vertically at every level of our organization. I will make sure to communicate with all of you often. This will be accomplished in person or as approved using digital means through:

- Monthly Staff Calls: First Tuesday every month to the maximum extent possible
 for continuity at Department Headquarters. Please be flexible, as experience has
 shown conflicts with schedules and events do happen and when necessary,
 changes to the date and time will be clearly communicated. These meetings are
 mandatory for all VFW Line Officers. VFW Auxiliary Line Officers are
 encouraged to attend. When approved meetings may be held using Zoom or
 Microsoft Teams (MS Teams).
- Bi-Weekly Zoom or MS Teams will be held every other Wednesday at 7pm with all District Commanders (Auxiliary Presidents every other Zoom meeting is welcome. Invites will be sent). The purpose is to ensure important or critical information is effectively communicated to proactively solve problems, address issues and keep everyone informed of important topics and action items.
- Monthly (Third Wednesday) at 7pm I will meet will all Post Commanders via
 Zoom or MS Teams. Posts are the backbone of our organization and each of
 you directly represents me and are pivotal in meeting both VFW National and
 State goals and objectives I have set forth. Your concerns are my concerns, and
 these open discussions are encouraged and everyone has a voice.
- Monthly Bulletins are not being leveraged to the maximum extent possible, and I
 encourage leaders at all levels to take advantage of promoting your events
 through this resource. We will discuss it further.
- Media relations: District and Post Commanders should take every advantage of leveraging local media in the events you hold. Get to know your local news

contacts and invite them to your post. I would like to see all of us leverage the media to our advantage and this year I need your help improving this trend. The Department will frequently hold press meetings at Department Headquarters.

Chain Of Command:

I have an open-door policy but expect leaders at all levels to be engaged and solve problems at the lowest level possible. You are a leader, and I expect and trust you to not let issues go unresolved when they are observed or reported. When dealing with issues, first gather all the facts, be impartial and handle matters fairly and in a timely manner. You are my direct representative and are entrusted to always act in the best interest of the VFW. Consulting with and knowing the National Bylaws to include those of your Post, District, and Department will in most cases lead you with a direction towards resolution of most issues.

Be professional, keep your word, lead by example and you will find others will follow you and trust in your leadership. When making decisions you should always consider the following: 1. Is it Legal, Ethical and Moral, 2. What will it cost financially and personally. 3. What is the reality vs the perception. Remember you were elected because of the confidence your members have in you. If situations arise that can't be resolved at your level, elevate the matter to your District Commander for assistance. If the matter can't be resolved at the district level, make sure you have good documentation of all facts and actions previously taken to resolve the issue when elevating it to the Department.

Agendas:

Detailed agendas showing daily activities will be issued by the Department Adjutant as far in advance as possible for all department sponsored activities, but not later than 30 calendar days prior to the event. I understand traveling and being able to prepare by knowing event scheduling and expectations. The agendas will include day by day expected dress codes for the members of the Department Council of Administration (CofA). Post Officers and VFW members are highly encouraged to do the same. Dress codes will be addressed later.

Conferences and Conventions:

The Department of Arizona has two conferences (fall and winter) and one state convention per each VFW year. This year, The Auxiliary President and I have decided not to have head tables for the conferences and convention. The decision was made to be on the floor with all of you and show unity.

Department VFW and VFW Auxiliary line officers will instead host tables with District Commanders and Presidents. The Fall conference will host Districts 1-5, followed by Districts 6-10 during the Winter Conference. District Commanders and Presidents will be notified well in advance of table assignments.

Fall Conference:

Day 1 Friday: Arrival and set up Department Officers and Convention Committee Members.

Day 2 Saturday: Joint session all members with educational skits, guest speakers and joint training during the day culminating with and evening banquet.

Day 3: Sunday: Separate business sessions called the CofA. When the CofA is completed, the conference is over.

Winter Conference: The Winter Conference is usually held in January and is where the highly coveted State Youth Education Programs Voice of Democracy (VOD) and Patriot Pen (PP) scholarship awards and recognition banquet are held.

Winter Conference:

Day 1 Friday: Arrival and set up Department Officers and Convention Committee Members.

Day 2 Saturday: Joint session all members with educational skits, guest speakers and joint training during the day. Saturday night is the VOD/PP Awards ceremony and banquet.

Day 3: Sunday: Separate business sessions called the CofA. When the CofA is completed, the conference is over.

State Convention: The State Convention is typically held in June annually prior to the National Convention. The Convention is where Department Officers are nominated/elected, we conduct our memorial ceremony to remember the memory and history of our fallen Comrades and Auxiliary members, we provide VFW awards to recognize outstanding achievement, host guest speakers, provide training opportunities and host activities that promote the esprit-de-corps and overall health and welfare of all members.

Day 1 Thursday: Registration, Joint session with awards and afternoon memorial service.

Day 2 Friday: Business session for VFW and Auxiliary. Past Commanders Dinner/fundraiser.

Day 3 Saturday: Morning Flag raising, VFW/Auxiliary Business Sessions, Elections, Installation of officers, Banquet, Guest speaker, and entertainment.

Day 4: Sunday: Separate business sessions and incoming CofA. When the CofA is completed, the convention is over.

Dress Codes: To promote professionalism and standardization, the following dress codes will be used and are strongly recommended for all 2025-2026 events when deemed necessary. Dress codes (see below) will be listed for each day as appropriate on all event agendas and generally are:

VFW Dress Code Definitions:

VFW Business Consists of closed toe dress footwear, trousers, long sleeve shirt, jacket, belt, tie. (i.e., Suit & Tie.), dress or skirt with open or closed footwear, VFW name tag and VFW Cap.

Business Casual Consists of dress footwear, trousers, (NO JEANS) long or short sleeve collared shirt, belt, skirt, a jacket with no tie is optional VFW Service Cap, and name tag.

Casual Consists of closed toe footwear, trousers, and shirt, hat and belt optional (i.e., Tennis shoes, blue jeans, golf shorts and T-shirt with sleeves.) a dress/skirt with sandals.

Recreational Consists of footwear open or closed, shorts or trousers, shirt, hat and belt optional (i.e., Golf shorts, tennis shoes or sandals, T-shirt) wearing a dress/skirt.

Formal Dress Consists of closed toe dress footwear, trousers, long sleeve shirt, jacket, belt, tie. (i.e., Suit & Tie or Tux.), formal gown with open or closed toe footwear VFW Name tags are optional, No VFW Service Caps. Miniature service medals and awards are recommended for wear.

DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN & COMMITTEES:

I expect chairman to be proactive in discharging the duties and responsibilities of the programs you are selected to lead. You have my full support, and I will do everything I can to assist you to be successful in meeting and exceeding all objectives and goals. I highly encourage and request each of you to reach out early and communicate with your auxiliary chairman and work together to make a difference for all veterans and families in everything we do.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN: Plans membership program for the year, coordinates and schedules statewide membership drives with assistance from district chairman, aids the

department commander in selecting awards or incentives for membership recruiting, orders membership material and SWAG, takes inventory of and consults budgetary spending with the quartermaster, keeps members aware of membership goals and objectives. Keeps the commander aware of post and district activities and membership totals. Member ship drives should always include the Auxiliary.

AUDIT COMMITTEE: The audit committee is responsible IAW the State Bylaws to audit the books and records of the quartermaster each quarter.

BUDDY POPPY: Provides advice to the Districts/Post in conducting Buddy Poppy Drives and resolves/coordinates poppy issues with the quartermaster. Keeps the members aware of updates with National Poppy contests. Post level chairman are in charge of assuring enough poppies are on hand for the drive and scheduling both VFW and Auxiliary workers for the day of the drives. They will coordinate any poppy issues with the state chairman.

BUDGET AND FINANCE: Prepares and plans the next year's budget subject to approval by the Council of Administration at the start of the new Department Command year.

CHAIRMAN LIAISON: Coordinates and receives monthly updates and activity reports of all chairmen. Keeps the Chief of Staff and Department Commander apprised of inactivity of any chairman. Provides guidance and assistance to all chairman when necessary.

CITIZENSHIP/EDUCATION/TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Provides information and assistance to district/post chairman and school administrators to recognize worthy teachers in grades K-12 who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism. Ensures timely receipt of district nominations, conducts evaluations of nominees and ensures department winners are forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Assist in the planning of Community Activity Projects. Reports all community activities not otherwise reported.

DIGITAL CHAIRMAN: Assist posts with training and setting up all things social media/fundraising/advertising through the use of current digital methods and products to help promote the VFW message to the community.

EMPLOYMENT OFFICER: Provides informational updates to keep district/post commanders aware of veterans job fair, employment opportunities and events.

HOMELESS AND FOOD INSECURTIES: Assists district and post commanders with updates and locations for veterans in need of shelter and food assistance.

LEGISLATIVE OFFICER NATIONAL: Responsible for keeping membership aware of critical legislative initiatives that affect veterans and benefits. Works with state VFW legislative chairman. To promote and monitor the Legislative/PAC/Action Corp Program with the Districts and Posts.

LEGISLATIVE OFFICER STATE: Responsible for keeping membership aware of critical legislative initiatives that affect veterans and benefits. Works with national VFW legislative chairman.

LIFE AND LEGACY MEMBERSHIP: Provide information and promote benefits to all members regarding these special membership programs.

NATIONAL HOME: Encourages annual membership and fundraising support of Arizona Home by donations for upkeep and repairs. Briefs all members of the current resident status, proposed improvements and any issues needing assistance.

POW/MIA AND LOYALTY DAY CHAIRMAN: Responsible to update all members on the status of revery and repatriation of service members. Plans appropriate POW/MIA program and recognition ceremony (Fall Conference). Advises and assists districts/posts with information on POW/MIA programs.

PUBLIC SERVANT AWARDS: Provides information and assistance to posts regarding award and proper submissions of all nominees.

PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS: Encourages and Maintains contacts with television stations, radio stations, and newspapers. Provides articles to the media on activities of the VFW Post. Assist the Department Commander schedule press conferences and meetings.

SCOUTING/YOUTH PROGRAMS (ALL): Plans and assists in projects that are beneficial to youth of the state and community and is responsible for reporting projects after complete. Promote and monitor the National Scouting Programs within the Districts and Posts

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Responsible for opening and closing Arizona conferences and conventions, maintains proper decorum during official business, responsible for audio equipment and assists the digital chairman during conference room setups.

SUICIDE AWARENESS/PREVENTION: Plans and coordinates prevention training, keeps all members aware of issues and circumstances. Provides current status of new programs and opportunities for the health and welfare of the department.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY & PATRIOT'S PEN: Provides advice and assistance to district/post chairman regarding the 2025-2026 themes and deadlines. Coordinates and

ensures all judging is completed in a timely manner. Extends help and assistance to school administrators regarding these core scholarship programs.

WEBMASTER: Runs website, assist posts with website development and helps with other online issues.

VFW RIDERS: To promote and monitor the Motorcycle Association Programs within the Districts and Posts of the Department of Arizona Veterans of Foreign Wars.

DISTRICT MEETING DISCIPLINARY ACTION PROCEDURE

All Posts must have a COMMANDER (Sr, Jr) REPRESENTATIVE to attend each District meeting. Only the Department Commander may excuse a Post from attending. When a Post fails to send the Commander, Sr/Jr Vice representative to a District meeting, the following process will be followed:

DURING ANY VFW ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR

Step – 1 Post Commander fails to attend or have the Sr/Jr Vice attend a meeting scheduled by the District Commander.

District Commander attends Post meeting prior to the next scheduled District meeting to discuss attendance at District meetings and Department Disciplinary Procedure with the Commander and membership.

Department Commander issues a letter reminding Post Commander of duties and responsibilities and actions authorized by Article II section 218 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedures.

Step – 2 Post Commander fails to attend or have the Sr/Jr Vice representative attend two (2) meetings called by the District Commander.

District Commander reviews Post and Auxiliary performance on meeting Post requirements on Audit Reports, Post meeting attendance and VFW program performance and submits a letter to the Department Commander recommending the Department Commander place the Post on Suspension in accordance with the Bylaws;

Or District Commander submits a letter recommending the Department Commander remove the Post Commander from office and restricts the Commander from holding office in the Post for the remainder of the VFW Administrative year.

-Or District Commander submits a letter recommending no action and a detailed explanation of why they are recommending no action be taken at this time.

Step – 3 Post Commander or Post Representative fails to attend (3) meetings called by the District Commander will result in immediate removal of the Post Commander by the Department Commander and the Department Commander may place the Post on Suspension in accordance with the bylaws.

*Note: Charges and Specifications may not be limited to Post Commander Duties and Responsibilities of Article II section 218. Suspension Committee shall be the District Commander, two (2) members of the district, as assigned by the District Commander and the Department Judge Advocate.

ALL STATE CRITERIA FOR POST COMMANDER 2025-2026

Judging will be done May 16, 2026

Commanders Introduction: Team, the criteria set forth below is so I can properly recognize Post Commanders and their teams for their dedicated hard work and efforts. Posts are the core of the VFW and without your efforts, this organization would not exist. I thank each of you for your volunteerism and truly making differences in the community and the veterans that we serve. Thank you for leading by example, going above and beyond and helping me fulfil and meet my motto; "Veterans First, Families Always, Our Promise.

Post Commander's Resume (digital or hard copy) MUST be received at HQ no later than May 15, 2026. The resume will also include any item listed below that is required.

- 1. Post must be 100% plus 1 in membership, by May 15, 2026. 101% by June 30th (All American requirement).
- 2. Post must purchase 500 buddy poppies (1 box) per Post as reflected by National Dashboard. (All American requirement).
- **3.** Post must have a representative (Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, or Jr. Vice Commander) at each Department C of A.
- **4.** Post must have a representative (Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, or Jr. Vice Commander) at each District meeting.
- **5.** All Accountable Officers must be bonded by <u>September 1, 2025</u>.
- **6**. Post Trustees Reports of Audit (4) for the period from 30 June 2025, 31 October 2025, 31 December 2025 and 31 March 2026 will be on file at VFW Arizona HQ NLT 1 May 2026. (**Part of being in Good Standing**).

- **7.** Post must conduct at least three (3) Membership Recruiting drives. Drive dates and any additional information must be documented and reported on the Commander's Resume.
- 8. Post Commander must have recruited three (3) new or reinstated members.
- **9.** Post must have been satisfactorily inspected and the inspection report on file with Department. The inspection must have met the satisfaction of the Department Inspector and Department Commander. (**Part of being in Good Standing**).
- 10. VOICE OF DEMOCRACY: Must submit an entry to District for judging. <u>MUST BE SUBMITTED BY POST TO THE PROGRAMS DASHBOARD BY March 31, 2026.</u> (All American requirement).
- 11. PATRIOTS PEN: Must submit an entry to District for judging. <u>MUST BE</u> <u>SUBMITTED BY POST TO PROGRAMS DASHBOARD BY March 31, 2026.</u> (All American requirement).
- 12. Commander-In-Chief and Auxiliary President's Joint Special Project for the National Home called "Let's Do More, Stock the Store". Each Post and its Auxiliary (Posts with no Auxiliary will coordinate with the District Auxiliary) must conduct one joint event to inform the public of the special project with flyer including a QR code will be provided to each Post and District.
- **13.** Post must have a current Post Election report submitted and be in good standing. **(All American requirement).**
- **14.** Post must submit a community service report quarterly to the Department. One community service activity must be the VFW day of service during May registered at todaysvfw.org/day-of-service/ no later than June 1. Learn more about Day of Service at todaysvfw.org/. **(All American requirement).** This event may count for community service All American quarterly report.
- **15.** Must donate to Veterans & Military Support Services, minimum \$125. **(All American requirement).**
- **16.** Must donate \$75 to the State Youth Programs Fund.

ALL THE ABOVE CRITERIA MUST BE COMPLETED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR "ALL STATE HONORS".

IN ADDITION, A MINIMUM OF **200** POINTS MUST BE ACCUMULATED UTILIZING THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA to be considered for All State honors: (The highest point recipient will be selected "Arizona All State Captain").

- 1. VETS IN THE CLASSROOM: (10) points per school visit, maximum (30) points.
- 2. FLAG RAISINGS, OR FLAG RETIREMENTS: (10) points, maximum (30) points.
- **3. LOYALTY DAY PROGRAM:** (10) points for Post ceremony as reported in the community service report.
- **4. VFW NATIONAL HOME/AZ COTTAGE DONATION:** (25) points, Donations \$50 must be received by Department Quartermaster prior to May 15, 2026.
- **5. COMMANDERS BOOK: COMPLETED AND RETURNED (digital or Hard Copy)** (25) points by May 15, 2026
- **6. NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER'S AWARD:** (25 Points) Post must submit one entry of any category (Elementary, Middle or High School) to District for judging. <u>MUST BE SUBMITTED BY POST TO PROGRAMS DASHBOARD BY March 31, 2026.</u>
- **7. PUBLIC SERVANT:** (25) points for one of any category of public servant submitted to District for judging, i.e. Police Officer, Firefighter, EMT, 911 dispatcher. This should be reported on the community service report.
- **8. POW/MIA CEREMONY:** (10) points for post ceremony as reported on community service report. (20) points awarded to the Post that displays a Missing Man Table off post property (maximum 30 points).
- **9. SCOUTING & YOUTH PROGRAMS:** (5) points, (25) maximum points for activities reported on the community service report.
- **10. CHAPLAIN REPORTS** (2) points for each on-time submission **(24)** maximum.
- 11. HOSPITAL REPORTS: (2) points for each on-time submission (24) maximum.
- **12. Veteran and Military Support (VMS) Reports:** (2) points each on-time submission **(24)** maximum.
- **13**. **Uniting to Combat Hunger**: 25 points for \$500 or 500 pounds, 50 points for \$1,000 or 1000 pounds, or 75 points for \$1500 or 1500 pounds of money or food donated to a local food bank. Maximum 75 points.
- 14. ADDITIONAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVES: (5) points per drive max 25 points.
- **15. MEMBERSHIP** points will be awarded for the following:

Posts with 25 to 450 members:

- (10) Points awarded if 100% Plus 1 by January 31, 2026
- (20) **ADDITIONAL** points awarded if 101% by May 1, 2026

Posts with more than 451 members:

- (20) Points awarded if 100% Plus 1 by February 28, 2026
- (30) **ADDITIONAL** points awarded if 101% by May 1, 2026

EACH "ALL STATE" POST COMMANDER WILL RECEIVE A CAP, LAPEL PIN, AND POST CERTIFICATE.

POST COMMANDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUBMITTING A POST QUARTERMASTER RESUME TO DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS PRIOR TO MAY 15, 2026, FOR THE QUARTERMASTER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR "ALL STATE HONORS". QM WILL BE "ALL STATE" ONLY IF COMMANDER ACHIEVES "ALL STATE".

EACH "ALL STATE" QUARTERMASTER WILL RECEIVE A CAP, LAPEL PIN, AND POST CERTIFICATE. All programs forms can be downloaded from the AZ State website. www.vfwaz.com (click "Resources then Reports/Forms")

THE "ALL STATE CAPTAIN" WILL RECEIVE A CAP AND CERTIFICATE.

ALL STATE CRITERA FOR DISTRICT COMMANDER 2025-2026

Judging will be done on May 16, 2026

- 1. District Commanders' book resume (Digital or Hard Copy) must be received by Department Headquarters by May 15, 2026. The resume will also include any item listed below that is required.
- 2. Cumulative membership of all Posts in the District must be 100% plus 1 by 15 May 2026.
- 3. Must attend or send a representative to each Council of Administration meeting. (Commander, Sr Vice Commander, or Jr Vice Commander)
- 4. All Accountable Officers must have bonded by 1 September 2025.
- 5. District Trustee Audits from 30 June 2025, 31 October 2025, 31 December 2025, and 31 March 2026 will be on file at VFW Arizona HQ NLT 1 May 2026.

- 6. Must participate in at least three (3) recruitment drives. Drive dates and any additional information must be documented and reported on the Commander's Resume.
- 7. Commander must have signed up three (3) new members, as documented in the National Recruiter files. (See Additional points)
- 8. District must have been satisfactorily inspected with the inspection report on file at Department Headquarters. A Satisfactory report will be determined by the State Inspector with the advice and consent of the Department Commander.
- 9. **VOICE OF DEMOCRACY:** Must submit a District entry to the Department for judging NLT December 15. Additionally, this must be entered into programs dashboard as appropriate.
- 10. **PATRIOTS PEN: Must** submit a District entry to the Department for judging NLT December 15. This also must be entered as appropriate to the programs dashboard.

ALL THE ABOVE CRITERIA MUST BE COMPLETED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR All State Honors (District).

IN ADDITION, A MINIMUM OF **200** POINTS MUST BE ACCUMULATED UTILIZING THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA to be considered for All State Honors (District):

Programs: All State District Commander

1. **MEMBERSHIP** points will be awarded for the following:

District with membership up to 2,500 members

- (10) points for 100% Plus 1 by 31 January 2026
- (20) Additional points for 101% by 1 May 2026

District with more than 2,500 members

- (20) points for 100% Plus 1 by 28 February 2026
- (30) Additional points for 101% by 1 May 2026
- 2. **Buddy Poppy Drives:** (10) points for each (30) points max. Attending and assisting during a non-home Post drive.
- 3. National Commander-In-Chief/President Special Project "Lets do More, Stock the Store": (25) points for assisting any Post/Auxiliary to conduct one fundraiser event. Event must be completed prior to May 15th.
- 4. **LOYALTY DAY:** (10) points for assisting any Post conduct a Loyalty Day observation as submitted on the Commander's resume.

- 5. **POW/MIA:** (20) points for conducting a ceremony offsite as reported on the Commander's resume. Missing man table also qualifies for the points.
- 6. **TRUSTEE REPORTS:** (10) points for each Trustee report filed on-time with the Department.
- 7. In addition to three new members, (25) points awarded to the District Commander who signs up 10 new members, as documented in the National Recruiter files.
- 8. **VETS IN THE CLASSROOM:** (10) points per school visit, maximum of (30) points as reported on the Commander's resume.
- 9. **FLAG RAISING OR FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY:** (10) points at each event, maximum of (30) points as reported on the Commander's resume.
- 10. **VETERANS AND MILITARY SUPPORT:** Conduct a fundraiser with proceeds donated. (25) points for donations in increments of \$25 prior to 1 May 2026 through National Programs Dashboard (50) points if donated prior to 1 May 2026 in the amount of \$100.00 or more through National Programs Dashboard.
- 11. **YOUTH PROGRAM:** (25) points for organizing assistance and support for a youth event.

EACH "ALL STATE" DISTRICT COMMANDER WILL RECEIVE A CAP, LAPEL PIN, AND DISTRICT CERTIFICATE.

DISTRICT COMMANDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUBMITTING A DISTRICT QUARTERMASTER RESUME TO DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS PRIOR TO 16 May, 2026 FOR THE QUARTERMASTER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR "ALL STATE STATUS" QM WILL BE "ALL STATE" ONLY IF COMMANDER ACHIEVES "ALL STATE".

EACH"ALL STATE" DISTRICT QUARTERMASTER WILL RECEIVE A CAP, LAPEL PIN, AND DISTRICT CERTIFICATE.

Arizona Department 2025-2026 Membership Program

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization. Without active, passionate members, we will cease to exist. Membership gives our leaders strength through numbers and the voice necessary to legislate for all veterans and fight to keep the benefits they earned and deserve. 100% membership is our job and baseline we must always maintain.

Every member is a recruiter and it's our job to articulate why membership is important to everyone. To realize our goal, we must promote membership on two fronts: Recruitment, and Reinstatement. The incentives below are designed to promote membership in these two areas.

Benchmark 1:

- Any Post commander whose post reaches 100% in their membership by 1/1 will be entered into a drawing for 2 nights hotel stay and 2 banquet tickets to the Winter Conference in Phoenix, AZ.
- Any District Commander whose District reaches 100% by 1/1 will be entered into a drawing for 2 nights hotel stay and 2 banquet tickets to the Winter Conference in Phoenix. AZ.

Benchmark 2:

- Any Post commander whose post reaches 101% in their membership by 5/1 will be entered into a drawing for 2 nights hotel stay and 2 banquet tickets to the State Convention at Leows Ventana Canyon Resort in Tucson, AZ.
- Any District Commander whose District reaches 101% by 5/1 will be entered into a drawing for a 2 nights hotel stay and 2 banquet tickets to the State Convention at Leows Ventana Canyon Resort in Tucson, AZ.

LIFE MEMBER OPTIONS

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One-Time payment of $45
Age as Dec 31st
11 Monthly Installments
18-30 YEARS OLD $425.00 $38.64 (with initial payment of $45.00)
31-40 YEARS OLD $410.00 $37.27 (with initial payment of $45.00)
41-50 YEARS OLD $375.00 $34.09 (with initial payment of $45.00)
51-60 YEARS OLD $335.00 $30.45 (with initial payment of $45.00)
61-70 YEARS OLD $290.00 $26.36 (with initial payment of $45.00)
71-80 YEARS OLD $225.00 $20.45 (with initial payment of $45.00)
81 YEARS + $170.00$15.45 (with initial payment of $45.00)
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