

# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WAR DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA



## MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

2025-2026

PREPARED BY:

ROGER FERGUSON, STATE COMMANDER

DANNY GANN, MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

## **MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**

Membership recruitment is one of the toughest jobs there is in the VFW. Membership starts at the Post level, and it is a Post Program. We need to ensure that we involve our members in recruiting and retention. We have too many members who do not renew their membership.

Encourage members when they sign up or renew their membership to become Life Members. Members can pay the entire Life Members' dues at once or use the 12-month payment plan. There is also the option to utilize the 2-year membership as well. We are only as strong as our membership.

### **1. Membership Objectives**

- Achieve 101% in membership to achieve All American
- Achieve 100%+1 in membership to achieve All State
- For everyone to recruit at least one new member and then mentor that member.
- Increase membership drives and/or events.
- Develop new Posts and/or revitalize existing Posts.
- Increase Life Membership and Legacy Life Membership

### **2. Membership Resources**

In order to assist our Posts, Districts, and Departments in meeting the goals set out by the Commander-in-Chief in this membership program, the National Headquarters has a wealth of resources at your disposal. Many of those are available free of charge to our members.

- Membership materials ranging from applications, recruiting brochures, posters, and benefits brochures can be ordered directly from the Membership Department using the Membership Order Form, located under Membership Quick Links once you log into [vfw.org](http://vfw.org).
- Resources for Post Development, Membership Campaigns, and Mentorship such as training guides, videos, and webinars are available in the Training & Support section on [vfw.org](http://vfw.org).
- Promotional tools such as radio spots, sample advertisements, public service announcements, and media kits are all available through the Media Room on [vfw.org](http://vfw.org).

### **3. Membership Team:**

- Membership Director Danny Gann
- Districts 1 & 2 Dan Petersen
- Districts 3 & 4 Amber Self
- Districts 5, 9 & 10 Judy King, Rebecca Murphy
- District 6 Edie Toll Seiler, Shannon Carr
- Districts 7 & 8 Ed Shoultz, Paul Glover
- District 11 Russell Pryor, Richard Ellis



## **“OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS”**

### **RECRUITER INCENTIVES**

All members in good standing are eligible for Department Recruiter Awards. Recruited members must be Department of Indiana members. Award deadline is June 1, 2026. Recruiters will receive their awards and be recognized at the State Convention.

- 2-New or reinstated members will receive a custom VFW BLUE T-Shirt.
- 2-New or reinstated members will be eligible for a drawing for \$100 at State functions.
- 2-New or reinstated members After a Post achieves 100%+1 in membership, the Commander, Quartermaster and all members of that post who recruited at least 2 new or reinstated member will receive a 100%+1 Membership Pin.
- 5-New or reinstated members will receive a Commander's Coin.
- 15-New or reinstated members will receive \$100.
- 25-New or reinstated members will receive \$150
- 50-New or reinstated members will receive \$250.
- 75-New or reinstated members will receive \$350
- 100-New or reinstated members will receive \$500.

These awards are cumulative and will be presented at the very next Department meeting after the level is met. In summary, if you recruit 100 new or reinstated members for the Department of Indiana you will receive all the awards listed above, a cash total of \$1350.

### **All-State Post Criteria**

- ✓ Must have 100%+1 or greater in Membership by **close of business June 30<sup>th</sup> 2026**.
  - ✓ Must have all four (4) Quarterly Audits submitted.
  - ✓ Post Quartermaster **MUST** be Bonded.
  - ✓ Must have submitted Quarterly Community Service Reports via [www.vfwin.org](http://www.vfwin.org).
  - ✓ Must have participated in the Voice of Democracy Program (Entry).
  - ✓ Must have participated in the Patriot Pen Program (Entry).
  - ✓ Post must have participated in the State Commanders Special Project by donating \$100.
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### **All State Post Commander Award**

**Post Commander achieving All-State will receive the following:**

- All State Post Commander's Cap or \$75 Prize.
- All State Post Commander's Lapel pin.
- All State Certificate.

Post achieving All-State before April 30, 2026 will be presented their items at the 2026 State Convention.

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## **All State Post Quartermaster's Award**

**Post Quartermaster achieving All-State will receive the following:**

- All State Quartermaster Cap or \$75 Prize.
- All State Quartermaster Lapel Pin.
- All State Certificate.

Post Quartermasters who achieve All-State before April 30, 2026 will be presented their items at the 2026 State Convention.

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## **All State District Criteria**

- Must have 100%+1 or greater in Membership by **close of business June 30<sup>th</sup> 2026**.
  - Must have all four (4) Quarterly Audits submitted.
  - District Quartermaster **MUST** be bonded.
  - All Posts in District **MUST** be Inspected by March 31, 2026.
  - Must have a Voice of Democracy District entry submitted to Department.
  - Must have a Patriots Pen entry submitted to Department.
  - District must have participated in the State Commanders Special Project by donating \$100.
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## **District Commander's Award**

**District Commander achieving All-State will receive the following:**

- All State District Commander's Cap or \$75 Prize.
- All State District Commander's Lapel Pin.
- All State Certificate.

District Commanders who achieve All-State before April 30, 2026 will be presented their items at the 2026 State Convention.

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## **District Quartermaster's Award**

**District Quartermaster achieving All-State will receive the following:**

- All State District Quartermaster's Cap or \$75 Prize.
- All State District Quartermaster's Lapel Pin.
- All State Certificate.

District Quartermasters who achieve All-State before April 30, 2026 will be presented their items at the 2026 State Convention.

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# MEMBER INCENTIVES

## Early Dues Payment Incentives

### All Data Must be Confirmed in VFW National Memstats

**Life Member**-Any member who joins as a Life member, converts to a Life member or a reinstate member who converts to Life member will be placed in a drawing. If paying on an installment plan, the plan must be completely paid to be eligible. The drawing will be held at the State Convention.

- 1<sup>st</sup> name drawn - \$150
- 2<sup>nd</sup> name drawn- \$100

**Legacy Life**-Any member who becomes a Legacy Life member or advances a level (Bronze to Silver or Silver to Gold) will be placed in a drawing. If paying on installment plan, the plan must be completely paid to be eligible. If a Legacy Life member advance multiple levels, they will have an entry for each level they advance. The drawing will be held at the State Convention.

- 1<sup>st</sup> name drawn - \$250
- 2<sup>nd</sup> name drawn- \$200

## POST INCENTIVES

### Highest Percentage in Membership

The Post having the highest percentage in membership on October, 1, 2025, will receive \$100.00, two banquet tickets for the Spring Banquet and will be recognized at the Spring Conference.

The Post having the highest percentage in membership on December 1, 2025, will receive \$100.00, two banquet tickets for the Spring Banquet and will be recognized at the Spring Conference.

The Post having the highest percentage in membership on February 1, 2026, will receive \$100.00, two banquet tickets for the Spring Banquet and will be recognized at the Spring Conference.

The Post having the highest percentage in membership on April 1, 2026, will receive \$100.00, two banquet tickets for the State Convention and will be recognized at the State Convention.

### **100%+1 In Membership**

Post achieving 100%+1 in membership prior to December 28, 2025 will be put in a drawing for \$300.00 and will be recognized at the Spring Conference.

All Posts achieving 100%+1 in membership prior to December 28, 2025 will receive two banquet tickets for the Spring Banquet and will be recognized at the Spring Conference.

The leading Post by Division whose Post has at least 10 new or reinstated members and has 100%+1 membership by June 1, 2026, will receive \$200.00 and will be formally recognized at the State Convention.

### **Post Quartermaster Awards**

The Team Captain of the All-State Post Quartermasters will receive the Orval B Holycross Award. Recipient will be chosen by the State Commander.

## **DISTRICT INCENTIVES**

**District Incentive**-Any District that has every post recruit at least one new or reinstated member by December 1, 2025, will receive \$1,000 to their district funds. If achieved after January 1, 2026, and before May 1, 2026, the District will receive \$500 to their district funds.

### **Highest Percentage in Membership**

Any District with at least 90% by December 15, 2025, will receive \$200.00, four banquet tickets for the Spring Banquet and will be recognized at the Spring Conference.

Any District who achieved 100%+1 in membership by June 1, 2026 and had School of Instruction by October 1, 2025 will receive a \$200.00 award.

### **District Commanders Awards**

For a District Commander to be a Round Robin Commander, all posts must be 100%+1 in membership. If they achieve this by May 31 2026 they will be recognized at the State Convention with a special Commanders Certificate. If a District Commander becomes Round Robin after May 31 2026, they will receive their Certificate at a later date.

## **All-State Post Application**

Post Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Commander Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose one: \$75 / Cap – Size \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Quartermaster Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose one: \$75 / Cap – Size \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Unless otherwise specified initial next to all criteria you have met.

1. Membership at 100%+1 or higher. \_\_\_\_\_
2. All Quarterly Audits submitted and reflected on All-State Dashboard \_\_\_\_\_
3. Post Quartermaster bonded and noted on inspection form \_\_\_\_\_
4. Quarterly Community Service Reports submitted and reflected on All-State Dashboard \_\_\_\_\_
5. Participated in Voice of Democracy and reflected on National Dashboard \_\_\_\_\_
6. Participated in Patriot Pen Program and reflected on National Dashboard \_\_\_\_\_
7. Special Project Donation: Date submitted to State \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Upon my true honor as a comrade, I certify the above.

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



## All-State District Application

District Number: \_\_\_\_\_

District Commander Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose one: \$75 / Cap – Size \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

District Quartermaster Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose one: \$75 / Cap – Size \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Unless otherwise specified initial next to all criteria you have met.

1. Membership at 100%+1 or higher. \_\_\_\_\_
2. All Quarterly Audits submitted and reflected on All-State Dashboard \_\_\_\_\_
3. District Quartermaster bonded and noted on inspection form \_\_\_\_\_
4. All Posts must be inspected, submitted and reflected on All-State Dashboard \_\_\_\_\_
5. Participated in Voice of Democracy and reflected on National Dashboard \_\_\_\_\_
6. Participated in Patriot Pen Program and reflected on National Dashboard \_\_\_\_\_
7. Special Project Donation: Date submitted to State \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Upon my true honor as a comrade, I certify the above.

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_