

2018-2019 All-State Post Commander Program

All post commanders in the Department of Minnesota will have the opportunity to be named to the All-State Post Commander team. This esteemed achievement will be recognized by the award of the All-State Post Commander’s White hat, an All-State Post Commander lapel pin and \$100.00 to defray expenses for attending the State Convention. Commanders earning this distinction will be honored at the joint awards session during the 2019 State Convention. Additionally, one All-State Post Commander will be selected as the Captain of the All-State team and awarded a distinctive All-State Post Commander Captain hat.

A maximum of 20 Post Commanders may be selected for the All-State Post Commander team. A points system is used to determine who earns the award with points being earned as follows:

1. **Membership** – The post must achieve 100% Membership based on MEMSTATS “Prior Year” total to be eligible for All-State Post Commander honors. The faster your post achieves 100% the more points earned as follows:

	Achieve 100% in the Month of							
Prior Year Post Size	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Category I (25-75)	12	10	8	6	4	3	2	1
Category II (76-175)	13	10	8	6	5	3	2	1
Category III (176-400)	14	11	9	7	6	4	3	2
Category IV (401-700)	15	12	10	8	7	5	4	3
Category V (701-1000)	16	13	11	9	8	6	5	4
Category VI (Over 1000)	17	15	13	11	9	8	7	6

Commanders will earn one (1) point for each full percentage point over 100%, or for every 2 members over 100%, whichever is greater. Deadline is April 30, 2019. Post Commanders will be notified by a congratulatory letter once the Post has achieved 100% membership.

2. **New and/or Reinstated Members** – Commanders will earn five (5) points for personally recruiting five new and/or reinstated members. Commanders will earn fifteen (points) for personally recruiting 10 or more new and reinstated members. Deadline is April 30, 2019.
3. **Officers Training Institute (OTI)** – Commanders will earn five (5) points for attending OTI conducted in conjunction with the State Convention or for attending a Department Sponsored OTI conducted in conjunction with a District Meeting. Commanders will earn five (5) points if their Post Quartermaster attends an OTI session and one (1) point for each post member who attends.

4. **Community Activities Reporting** – Commanders will earn one (1) point for each creditable Community Activities Report submitted on time by the Post or Auxiliary from April 2018 through March 2019. Commanders will earn three (3) points for submitting all twelve (12) monthly reports. Additionally, Commanders will earn three (3) points by submitting a creditable report for Americanism, three (3) points by submitting a creditable report for Safety, and three (3) points for submitting a creditable report for Youth Activities.
5. **Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen** – Commanders will earn (3) points for submitting a valid entry to their respective District's Voice of Democracy contest. Commanders will earn three (3) points for submitting a valid entry to their respective District's Patriot's Pen contest.
6. **Teacher of the Year** – Commander's will earn one (1) point for submitting a valid teacher of the year nomination to their respective District's Teacher of the Year contest. One point will be earned in each category, Grades K-5, 6-8, and 9-12, for which a valid entry is submitted.
7. **Buddy Poppies** – Commanders will earn eight (8) points by purchasing poppies in 2018-19 in a quantity equal to or greater than the post average number purchased the immediate previous three years. Commanders will earn two (2) points for purchasing poppies in a quantity of 250 or greater than the immediate previous year. Commanders will earn one (1) point for submitting an entry to their respective District Buddy Display Contest (held prior to the Mid-Winter Conference). Commanders will earn ten (10) points for purchasing ten (10) or more poppies per post member (as determined by MEMSTATS Prior Year Total on July 1, 2018)
8. **Legislative Affairs** – Commanders will earn one (1) point each for sending an introductory letter to your United States Representative, your United States Senators (2), your Minnesota State Representative and Minnesota State Senator. A copy of each letter must be sent to Department Headquarters to earn the points.
9. **Post Service Officer**- Commanders will earn three (3) points for appointing a Post Service Officer and reporting it on your Post Election Report.
10. **Hospital Program** – One (1) point will be awarded for submitting five (5) Hospital Reports on the Community Service reporting forms.
11. **Meeting Attendance** – Commanders will earn three (3) points for attending the State Fall Conference. Commanders will earn three (3) points for attending the State Mid-Winter Conference. Commanders will earn one (1) point for each District meeting attended. Attendance at these events will be confirmed by the registration sheets available at each event – if you attend ensure you sign in!

Upon notification of selection to the All-State Post Commander's team you will be required to submit proof of eligibility (DD Form 214 or equivalent documentation) and other forms required by Department. Failure to respond will result in having this prestigious award revoked. Please do not allow that to happen to you!

2018-2019 All-State Quartermaster Program

All post quartermasters in the Department of Minnesota will have the opportunity to be named to the All-State Post Quartermaster team. This esteemed achievement will be recognized by the award of the All-State Post Quartermaster’s White hat or an All-State Post Quartermaster lapel pin (selected by the awardee) and \$25.00 to defray expenses for attending the State Convention. Quartermasters earning this distinction will be honored at the joint awards session during the 2019 State Convention.

A maximum of 20 Post Quartermasters may be selected for the All-State Post Quartermaster team. A points system is used to determine who earns the award with points being earned as follows:

1. **Membership** – The post must achieve 100% Membership based on MEMSTATS “Prior Year” total to be eligible for All-State Post Quartermaster honors. The faster your post achieves 100% the more points earned as follows:

Prior Year Post Size	Achieve 100% in the Month of							
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Category I (25-75)	12	10	8	6	4	3	2	1
Category II (76-175)	13	10	8	6	5	3	2	1
Category III (176-400)	14	11	9	7	6	4	3	2
Category IV (401-700)	15	12	10	8	7	5	4	3
Category V (701-1000)	16	13	11	9	8	6	5	4
Category VI (Over 1000)	17	15	13	11	9	8	7	6

Quartermasters will earn one (1) point for each full percentage point over 100%, or for every 2 members over 100%, whichever is greater. Deadline is April 30, 2019. Post Commanders will be notified by a congratulatory letter once the Post has achieved 100% membership.

2. **New and Reinstated Members** – After the Post has achieved 100% membership, the Quartermaster will earn one (1) point for each new and/or reinstated member. Deadline is April 30, 2019.
3. **Audits** – Quartermasters will earn ten (10) points for submitting to Department Headquarters the Post Trustees Report of Audit within thirty (30) calendar days following the quarters ending September 2018, December 2018, and March 2019. Quartermasters will earn five (5) points for submitting to Department Headquarters the Post Trustees Report of Audit within forty-five (45) calendar days following the quarters ending September 2018, December 2018 and March 2019.

Exceptions will be made for those Posts with unique bookkeeping procedures if verified in writing by all current Post Trustees and the Post Commander.

4. **Meeting Attendance** – Quartermasters will earn three (3) points for attending the State Fall Conference. Quartermasters will earn three (3) points for attending the State Mid-Winter Conference. Quartermasters will earn one (1) point for each District meeting attended. Attendance at these events will be confirmed by the registration sheets available at each event – if you attend, ensure you sign in!
5. **Hospital/Campership Fund** – Quartermasters will earn three (3) points if Hospital/Campership Fund payment is made before October 1, 2018. Quartermasters will earn one (1) point if Hospital/Campership Fund payment is made before December 30, 2018.
6. **Quartermaster/Officer Bond** – Quartermasters will earn three (3) points if your Quartermaster/Officer Bond payment is received at Department Headquarters before October 15, 2018.
7. **Post Commander All-State Award** – Quartermasters will earn four (4) points if their Post Commander earns All-State Post Commander honors.

Upon notification of selection to the All-State Post Quartermaster’s team you will be required to submit proof of eligibility (DD Form 214 or equivalent documentation) and other forms required by Department. Failure to respond will result in having this prestigious award revoked. Please do not allow that to happen to you!

VFW National Membership Program



B. J. LAWRENCE
Commander-in-Chief

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Membership Mission

To recruit, retain, and mentor a stable membership base, including all generations of veterans. To cultivate a membership that is well versed in institutional knowledge and actively involved at all levels of the organization and in the local community. To establish Posts with a strong tradition of service, leadership, and community outreach.

Introduction

For the past several years, the VFW has been relatively successful in recruiting members aged 39 and younger. The only way to make this success permanent is to retain those members, recover past members, and recruit new members. We must improve the way we communicate with our members at all levels of the organization. Does your Post, District, State or Department have a newsletter, email, or an outreach team that visits fellow members? In many cases, we have lost touch with our members. We need to know who they are and what their needs are. Let us get back to basics—our first priority is taking care of our members and the veteran community as a whole.

Membership Goals

- 1.** Build a strong organization for the future.
- 2.** Work together to achieve the VFW’s goals. The VFW National Headquarters staff is here to assist in coordinating programs, developing new membership initiatives and building awareness among our membership and the entire veteran community.

Membership Objectives

- Recruit new and recover unpaid members
- Retain and mentor existing membership
- Develop new Posts and revitalize existing Posts
- Increase Life Membership

- Increase Legacy Life Membership

Retention Defined

Although retention is ***not*** a prerequisite for the All-American program, it is extremely important to understand how retention is derived and the important role retention plays in accomplishing growth. The number of paid annual members in your Post on July 1 is the ensuing year’s “prior year total.” One more new or reinstated member is required to make up for each prior year annual member the Post fails to retain.

Your Post retention is derived from six types of payment components based on your prior year total of annual members:

- A prior year annual member pays his or her annual membership dues.
- A prior year annual member pays the life membership installment fee.
- A prior year annual member pays for life membership dues.
- A prior year annual member transfers to another Post and pays his or her annual membership dues.
- A prior year annual member transfers to another Post and pays the life membership installment fee.
- A prior year annual member transfers to another Post and pays life membership dues.

Life Membership Amnesty

All life members who are reported deceased between July 1, 2018 and August 31, 2018, will be removed from the Post rolls and the Post’s prior year membership count will be adjusted accordingly.

Recruiting Awards

- **5, 10, 15** Corresponding numbered member pin
- **25** Commander-in-Chief membership coin & citation
- **50** VFW leather travel bag
- **75** Commemorative medallion set
- **100** Century cap and citation

- **175** National aide-de-camp cap and citation

“LUCKY STARS” Member Drawing

Five (5) winners will be drawn and accompany the Commander-in-Chief on an all-expense paid trip May 06-12, 2019 along with their spouse or guest.

For any new/reinstated member recruited between July 1, 2018 and April 1, 2019:

- You will receive one (1) chance for every five (5) new/reinstated members recruited
- You will receive ten (10) additional chances for every increment of 25 new/reinstated members recruited
- **Attention Post and District Commander:**
 - ✓ You will receive ten (10) chances in recognition of 85%+ post and district retention

Drawing will take place **April 2, 2019**

- **All awards are non-transferable**

Department “First to Finish” Incentive

The Department Commander and Quartermaster along with a guest for each of the Department that is the first to attain 100% in membership will be awarded.

- **Round trip airfare, accommodations and transportation with transfers. To include three nights in Honolulu and four nights in Maui, Hawaii. Note: if Hawaii wins, CDR and QM with guest will win a trip of equal value.**

Early Bird Award—VFW Legislative Conference

The top three Post commanders and quartermasters and the top two District commanders in each division on Jan. 1, 2019 will be awarded:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW Legislative Conference, Washington D.C.**

Department Quartermaster Early Bird Incentive

For every Department that achieves 92% in membership by Jan 1, 2019; the Department Quartermaster will receive:

- **A VFW Henry 30-30 Caliber Rifle or a credit voucher of equal value, for use with Veterans Travel Services.**

Post Commander and Quartermaster – New & Reinstated Member Award

The top 10 Post commanders and quartermasters in each division who report more than 50 new and reinstated annual members by Jan. 1, 2019 will each be awarded:

- **A travel charger with the official VFW Commander-in-Chief logo.**

Kansas City Spree

The top two Post commanders and the top two District commanders in each divisions who achieve 100% membership by April 1, 2019 along with their spouse or guest, will be awarded:

- **Round-trip airfare to Kansas City, Mo., from the airport nearest the awardee's home.**
- **A fun-filled weekend (May 16-19, 2019) that may include but is not limited to touring, shopping, and a complete tour of the VFW National Headquarters.**

100% Post, District & Department

A distinctive streamer will be awarded to every Post, District and State/Department that achieves 100% or greater in membership before July 1, 2019.

100% Commander Drawing

Each Post and District commander that exceeds 100% in membership by June 1, 2019 will be placed in a drawing. 20 post commanders and 12 district commanders will be drawn to receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**

Post Commander and Quartermaster Division Challenge

For every ten (10) new/reinstated members recruited between July 1, 2018 and April 1, 2019; Posts will earn one chance for both Post Commander and Quartermaster to be entered into a drawing. One Post per Division will be drawn to receive:

- **A \$1,000 stipend each for Commander and Quartermaster to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**

Legacy Life Membership Acquisition

Each Post that achieves the designated benchmarks of 25, 50 and 75 Legacy Life Members will be awarded:

- **A Legacy Society Post Proclamation.**

Each Post that achieves the distinctive benchmark of 100 Legacy Life Members by July 1, 2019, Commander or post representative will be awarded:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
- **Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.**
- **Legacy Society Post Proclamation.**

Elite Recruiter

Any VFW member who signs up 250 or more new and/or reinstated annual members by July 1, 2019, will be awarded:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
- **Distinctive cap, citation, and name badge.**

Recruiter of the Year

The VFW member who signs up the greatest number of new and/or reinstated annual members greater than 250 by July 1, 2019, will be awarded:

- **A \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.**
- **Reserved seating at the VFW National Convention joint opening session.**
- **Distinctive cap, citation, and name badge.**
- **Commander-in-Chief's Crystal Eagle.**

New Post Development Department Award

For each new Post chartered, the Department Quartermaster will receive:

- **A \$250 credit from the VFW Store to be used towards necessary materials for the new Post.**

All-American Leadership Criteria

The All-American leadership program exists to recognize exceptional leadership, authentic accomplishment in membership growth and VFW core programs.