

**DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
2017-2018 MEMBERSHIP
PROGRAM**



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Commander

We all know that membership is the life blood of the VFW. While we do have a Membership Team I believe that each one of us is on that team. Each one of us is responsible for the future of this great organization. Each one of us should have our names brought up in conversation as the one who brought that person into this organization.

Please keep in mind that Membership is now year round with subscription dues. Don't hold applications until July 1 the last half of your year. It is not fair to the new member who is waiting to be inducted or looking for the VFW magazine to come in the mail.

National Life Membership Amnesty

All Life Members who are reported deceased between July 1, 2017 and August 31, 2017, will be removed from the Post rolls and the Post's prior year membership count will be adjusted accordingly.

***ATTENTION: DUE TO NATIONAL'S LIFE MEMBERSHIP AMNESTY PROGRAM,**
All Department Awards for Membership will be based on National's First Membership
Report in September 2017

POST GOALS

Post 100% Award

Department will award to the first 100 Posts that **attain 100% Membership** by May 1, 2018 the following:

100% Citation & 100% Banner

100% pins for the Post Commander and Quartermaster if available in National Supply

Post Divisional Awards

A Department plaque will be awarded to one post in each Membership Division that shows the **Largest Numerical Gain** over their *September 2017 National Membership Report Total as of May 1, 2018

AND

- Post Inspection has been Submitted, Received & Approved at Department
- Has submitted both **Community Activity Reports**
- Have submitted the first three (3) quarters of the **Trustee Reports**
- **Post Service Officer trained** at a District or Department OTI by a VFW Accredited Department Service Officer
(The award will be given to the Post, not an individual)

Big Ten 100% Membership Award

A special designated Department Plaque will be given to The Big Ten Post with a Post membership **over 350** members

AND

Reported **100% Membership** Based on the *September, 2017 National Membership Report by May 1, 2018

All-State Teams of Post Commander's & Quartermasters

Being cognizant of the important role of the Post Quartermaster in membership, Both the Post Commanders as well as their Quartermasters will receive:

All-State Cap for the Commander & Quartermaster

And

The Current Per Diem for one day to help defray expenses of attending the Department Convention.

Post Commanders and Quartermasters will be required to personally pick up and sign their own voucher at the Department Convention.

Post Minimum Requirements:

1. Must report 100% Membership **over** the *September 2017 National Membership Report, **plus two (2)** New or Reinstated Members as of May 1, 2018 (As recorded at Department Headquarters and compared to the September 2017 National Membership Report).
Example of Membership Total: if a post were 100 members on June 30, 2017, to receive the All-State Award in 2018 they must have a membership of 102 members.
2. Community Activity Reports for May 1, 2017 to October 31, 2017 and November 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018 must be received at Department Headquarters prior to May 1, 2018.
3. Inspected prior to April 30, 2018 and the 2017-18 Inspection Report received, approved and on file at the Department Headquarters prior to May 1, 2018
4. Post Service Officers must be trained at a District or Department OTI by a VFW Accredited Service Officer by May 1, 2018.
5. The first 3 quarters of Trustees Reports in Department by May 1, 2018.
6. Each Post must meet the minimum points required for All-State Awards (see below).

Points:

1. **500** Points for each Member over 100%
2. **500** Points for each New Annual Member
3. **750** Points for each New Life Member
4. **1000** Points for each New or Increase Legacy Life Member.
5. **500 Points for 3 Poppies ordered for each member of the Post from Department of New York.**
6. **1000 Points for 5 Poppies ordered for each member of the Post from the Department of New York.**
7. **2000 Points for 10 Poppies ordered for each member of the Post from the Department of New York.**
8. **3000 Points for contributing to State Commander Special Project.***
9. **500 Points for each Trustee Reports submitted to Department HQ by May 1, 2018**
10. **500 Bonus Points** for each Trustee Reports submitted to Department HQ, within 45 days of report due date.
11. **500 Points for first Community Service Report submitted to Department HQ by November 15, 2017.**
12. **500 Bonus Points** for second Community Service Report submitted Department HQ by May 1, 2018.
13. **500 Points for Post Service Officer attending Department or District OTI.**
14. **500 Points for Quartermaster attending Department or District OTI.**

8,000 Total Points minimum required for All-State Award (Awards limited as noted below)

***See Commanders Special Project Outline**

NOTE: A Post which meets all the requirements for the All-State Award by May 1, 2018 will receive the All-State Award at the State Convention; however, a Post that has all of their reports completed and turned in by May 1, 2018 still has until June 30, 2018 to meet the All-State Award membership

requirements. The Post All-State Awards earned by the June 30, 2018 date will be presented at a District Meeting prior to October 1, 2018 if requested or at the 2018 Fall State Conference.

Total point accumulations will be used to determine which Post Commanders will receive the All-State Award once the minimum requirements have been met. The total number of All-State Awards shall be limited to 50 and will be allocated to each Membership Division. If not enough post qualify in a Division, the State Commander may reallocate the unused awards to other Divisions. If many more posts qualify, additional Cap Awards will be considered.

Post Membership Divisions

<u>Division</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>All-State Awards</u>
1	10	25 to 75
2	15	76 to 175
3	15	176 to 300
4	5	301 to 450
5	5	451 and Over

New Post Commander's Award

The Post Commander of any New Post chartered during the 2017 – 2018 Membership Year that obtains a membership of 50 or more members by May 1, 2018 will receive a *Life Membership* in the VFW and a *Life Member Cap*. If the Post Commander is a Life Member then they will receive a \$100 gift certificate from the National Emblem and Supply Catalog. This number of 50 includes the 25 new members needed for the charter.

Post Membership Drawing

For each 10 **New Members** a post recruits over 100%, as of the September 2017 National Membership Report, the Post will receive one entry into a \$300.00 drawing.

Perpetual Life Membership Charter Award

National will present a perpetual Life Membership Charter to a new post when they obtain 25 Life Members earned during the current membership year 2017-18 The post will receive *\$100 Gift Certificate* from the VFW Emblem and Supply Catalog.

COUNTY GOALS

All-State County Council Commanders

A County Council which meets all requirements for the All-State Award by May 1, 2018 will receive the All-State County Council Award at the State Convention; however, a County Council that has all of their reports completed and turned in by May 1, 2018 still has until June 30, 2018 to meet the All-State Award membership requirements. The County Council All-State Award earned by the June 30, 2018 date will be presented at a District Meeting prior to October 1, 2018 if requested or at the 2018 Fall State Conference.

County Council Commanders who have achieved the following requirements by May 1, 2018 will receive an

All- State Commander's Cap And The Current Per Diem for one day

to help defray expenses of attending the Department Convention.

- Reported to the Department Headquarters membership Equal to or Greater than the first September 2017 National Membership Report Totals.
- Have **100% of their Posts Inspected**, Submitted & Approved by the Department Inspector
 - Have submitted both **Community Activity Reports**
 - Have submitted the first three (3) quarters of the **Trustee Reports**
 - County Service Officer trained** at a District or Department OTI by a VFW Accredited Department Service Officer

County Council Captains of the All-State Team

Understanding the hard work that is involved in reaching All-State, and the disparate sizes of the various Councils, there will be a Captain and Co-Captain of the All-State Team.

Captain: The All-State Commander who achieves the **HIGHEST PERCENTAGE by May 1, 2018**

Co-Captain: The All-State Commander who achieves the

HIGHEST NUMERICAL GAIN by May 1, 2018

- Both will be based on the first September 2016 National Membership Report Totals.
- The All-State caps presented to them will denote this status.
- Should a single commander attain both high percentage and high numerical gain there will be only one Captain and no Co-Captain.

County Council Commanders

REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE TRAVEL ALLOWANCE AND PER DIEM FOR THE CONFERENCES:

Fall Conference: 1) **75% Membership** by October 15, 2016 – per National Memstats
2) **75% Post Inspections** Received, Completed & Approved by the Department

Inspector By October 15, 2016 -Per Department Memstats
3) **County Council Service Officer** must be trained at a District or Department OTI by an Accredited VFW Service Officer.

Spring Conference: 1) **90% Membership** by March 1, 2018 – per National Memstats
2) **90% Post Inspections** Received, Completed & Approved by the

Department Inspector By March 1, 2018 per Department Memstats
3) **90% First-half Post Community Activity Reports** by March 1, 2018 per Department Memstats
4) First two quarterly **Trustee Reports** to Department by March 1, 2018
5) **County Council Service Officer trained** at a District or Department OTI by An Accredited VFW Service Officer before December 31, 2017.

DISTRICT GOALS

A District which meets all requirements for the All-State Award by May 1, 2018 will receive the All-State District Award at the State Convention; however, a District still has until June 30, 2018 to meet the All-State Award membership requirements. The District All-State Award earned by the June 30, 2018 date will be presented at a District meeting prior to October 1, 2018 if requested or at the 2018 Fall State Conference.

All-State Team of District Commanders

Each District Commander who's District attains 100% based on the first September 2017 National Membership Report Totals as of May 1, 2018

And

Has a **SVA Chairman** who has provided the three (3) Required Reports to the Department & National.

And

Who have completed all of the follow Requirements by May 1, 2018:

- **100% Posts Inspected**, Submitted, Received & Approved at Department
- Have submitted the first three (3) quarters of the **Trustee Reports**
- **District Service Officer trained** at a District or Department OTI by a VFW Accredited Department Service Officer

Will be awarded a Distinctive All-State District Commander VFW cap. Additionally, he/she will receive **The Current Per Diem for one day** to help defray expenses of attending the Department Convention.

District Captain of the All-State Team

Understanding the hard work that is involved in reaching All-State and the disparate sizes of the various Districts there will be a Captain and a Co-Captain of the All-State Team.

Captain: The All-State Commander who achieves the **HIGHEST PERCENTAGE** Membership Gain by May 1, 2018.

Co-Captain: The All-State Commander who achieves the **HIGHEST NUMERICAL** Membership Gain by May 1, 2018.

- Both will be based on the first September 2016 National Membership Report Totals.
- The All-State caps presented to them will denote this status.
- Should a single Commander attain both high percentage and high numerical gain, there will be only one Captain.

District Membership Chairman Award

Recognizing the valuable contribution made by the District Membership Chairman, the Department will award a \$100 gift certificate from the VFW Emblem and Supply Catalog to each District Membership Chairman whose District Commander receives the All-State District Commanders Award.

District Early Bird Award

Any District that Reports **100% Membership** as of the dates shown below,
Per National Membership Report Total,

And

Reports 90% of Post Inspected, Received & Approved by the Department Inspector,

And

The District Service Officers was trained at a District or Department OTI by a VFW Accredited Service Officer before December 31, 2016 will receive the State Commander's Special Incentive or Award. These awards are presented at the State Convention and are awarded to the District, not to an individual.

December 31, 2017

\$500.00

March 15, 2018

\$250.00

April 30, 2018

\$125.00

District Student Veteran Association Liaison (aka SVA)

Each district is required to have a Student Veteran Association Liaison to qualify for the Department All-State Award. The Liaison is required to provide a written Quarterly activity report to the State Chairman. The report form and guide can be found at

http://www.vfw.org/uploadedFiles/VFWorg/MY_VFW/StudentVeteranLiaisonGuide.pdf and

[http://www.vfw.org/uploadedFiles/VFWorg/MY_VFW/SVALiaisonReport\(1\).pdf](http://www.vfw.org/uploadedFiles/VFWorg/MY_VFW/SVALiaisonReport(1).pdf)

NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

TO RECEIVE TRAVEL ALLOWANCE AND PER DIEM FOR THE CONFERENCES

Fall Conference 85% Membership in the District by October 1, 2017- based on the first National Membership Report Totals.
OR
70% Membership –based on the first National Membership Report Totals, and one (1) Documented Membership Event in the District by October 1, 2017.

If they receive mileage and per diem to attend the conference, they will attend the Membership Committee meeting.

Spring Conference 100% Membership in the District by March 1, 2018-based on the first National Membership Report Totals.

OR

95% Membership per the National Membership Report, and three (3) Documented Membership Events in the District by March 1, 2018.

If they receive mileage and per diem to attend the conference, they Will attend the Membership Committee meeting.

Recruiter Award

Individuals who recruit 2 New Members will receive the State Commander's Pin

Individuals who recruit 5 New Members will receive the State Commander's Tie Bar

Individuals who recruit 20 New Members will receive the State Commander's Challenge Coin.

The Top 10 Individual Recruiters will receive a Special Commander's Recruiter Award

STATE COMMANDER'S SPECIAL PROJECT:

HOMELESS VETERANS

Background: THIS YEAR STATE Commander Michael Burke has chosen Homeless Veterans as his Special Project. He will be working with President Denise McHugh who chose the same Special Project. Combined with our Chairpersons, Joel Vanik and ?????, we will work together to accomplish our mission to help our veterans in need. "NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS"

Homeless Veterans make up 17% of the adult homeless population. In 2010 the Department of Veterans Affairs estimated that there were 76,000 veterans sleeping in the streets and increasing over the years, In 2011 there were 1,700 homeless female veterans and also on the rise. Veterans spend an average of six years homeless. Research shows that the greatest risk factors for homelessness are lack of support and social isolation after discharge.

Homeless veterans include having served in World War II, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, Grenada, Panama, Lebanon, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

Planned Activities

- Educate communities on Homeless Veterans
- Legislate Support for our Homeless Veterans

Monetary Donation Support

- All monetary donations will be divided evenly throughout the 8 Districts to donate to a Homeless Veterans Facility

Take Action

- Veterans who are homeless or risk of becoming homeless can call or visit their local VA Medical Center or Community Resource and Referral Center
- Veterans and their families can call 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838)
- Web site va.gov/homeless to learn more