



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES STATE OF VIRGINIA 2025-2026 ALL-STATE PROGRAM

(JULY 1, 2025– JUNE 30, 2026)

This membership awards program has been designed with incentives to increase life membership, promote VFW programs, and increase both meeting attendance and the submission of reports. Post and District membership 101% requirements will be based on the membership report dated Monday, June 30, 2025, as adjusted by National HQs. Except where noted, the quota will not be reduced because of members who die or transfer to another Post. A new Post will be assigned a membership quota of 30 members. This requirement of 101% is for both All-State and All-American.

Virginia's membership goal percentages and goal dates 2025-2026

- Tuesday, September 30, 2025, state membership of 75%
- Tuesday, December 30, 2025, state membership of 88%
- Friday, March 27, 2026, state membership of 93%
- Thursday, April 30, 2026, state membership of 101%

LIFE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE AWARD AND PLAQUES

A Life Membership Increase Award plaque and \$200.00 will be awarded at the State Convention to the Post with the greatest increase in life members (must be at least 3 new life members not including those on payment plans) in each category. The judging will be based on life membership as of Thursday, April 30, 2026.

- Category A – Posts with membership of 10 thru 75
- Category B – Posts with membership of 76 thru 150
- Category C – Posts with membership of 151 thru 250
- Category D – Posts with membership of 251 thru 500
- Category E – Posts with membership of 501 or more

LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWINGS

There will be four (4) Life Membership Drawings. One (1) Post will be selected for each drawing. Posts must meet their membership quota by the day prior to a drawing to be eligible. Posts with 10 thru 75 members will have one (1) chance, Posts with 76 thru 150 members will have two (2) chances, Posts with 151 thru 250 will have (3) chances, Posts with 251 through 500 members will have four (4) chances, and Post with 501 or more members will have five (5) chances.

- The first drawing will be held on Tuesday, September 30, 2025, and the Post must have 75% of their 2026 membership quota to participate.
- The second drawing will be held on Tuesday, December 30, 2025, and the Post must have 88% of their 2026 membership quota to participate.



- The third drawing will be held on Friday, March 27, 2026, and the Post must have 93% of their 2026 membership quota to participate.
- The fourth drawing will be held on Friday, May 8, 2026, and the Post must have 100% of their 2025 membership quota to participate.

2025-2026 POST ALL-STATE REQUIREMENTS

*****There is no limit on the number of Posts that can earn All-State honors*****

All-State Post Requirements:

1. The Post must meet their 101% membership quota by May 1, 2026, to receive their awards at the 2026 State Convention. (**NO EXCEPTIONS**).
2. The Post must recruit at least one (1) **NEW or reinstated** life or life installment member. Otherwise, the Post may have one annual member upgrade to life membership.
3. All members of the Post with access to assets must be bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National Bylaws.
4. The Post must have been inspected, and the inspection report must be received by State HQs no later than 4pm on December 12, 2025, with all documented discrepancies corrected by Thursday, April 30, 2026.
5. The Post Commander and Quartermaster must sign into their state email account and send one (1) email to either cdr@vfwva.org or dhoffman@vwfva.org no later than Sept 19, 2025. It is the responsibility of each of those officers to ensure this is met. It will be visible in the District Reports section of the online reporting page on the State HQs website, www.vfwva.org.
6. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend each meeting of their District. More than one of these officers can attend, and all are encouraged to attend.
7. The Post Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster or Adjutant must attend the School of Instruction (SOI). More than one of these officers can attend, and all are encouraged. These will be held five times on different dates and at different locations around the state. Dates and locations of these will be posted in the General Orders, which are located under the news section of the State HQs website.
8. The Post must have at least one member complete the online Recruiting School of Instruction (RSOI). Posts are encouraged to have more than one member complete this training and those who are recruiters on your Post's membership and recruiting team or listed in your Post's membership plan are great candidates for this training. Information on where to find this online training will be posted in the General Orders.
9. All audit reports must be submitted to, and accepted by, the State HQs as required by Section 218 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure. Posts may not have more than one late audit out of the four required.



10. The Post must purchase 500 Buddy Poppies per 100 members or a fraction thereof. Contact the State HQs to make this purchase.

11. The Post must donate to the Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF). This is the official foundation for the State HQs, and you can contact the State HQs to make this donation. Donations are based on the size of each Post and are as follows:

- * 99 members or less - \$100.00 – *For every \$100 above the donation, the Post earns (1) Team Point*
- * 100 to 399 members - \$200.00 – *For every \$200 above the donation, the Post earns (1) Team Point*
- * 400 or more members - \$300.00 – *For every \$300 above the donation, the Post earns (1) Team*

Point

12. The Post must submit reports of their activities in the online reporting portal of the State HQs. The reports must be submitted **at least once a quarter** by Sept 30, 2025, Dec 31, 2025, Mar 31, 2026, and June 30, 2026, respectively and the reports shall be as follows:

- (1) Americanism Report
- (2) Community Activities Report
- (3) Safety Report
- (4) Youth Activities Report
- (5) Hospital Report

13. The Post must participate in **at least** 3 of the 4 following categories of programs:

- **Patriot's Pen Program:** Theme: "How are you showing Patriotism and Support for our Country?" Posts must submit at least one entry to their District for judging. Entries must be turned into the Post by Friday, October 31, 2025. Posts must submit them to their District no later than Friday, November 14, 2025.
- **Voice of Democracy Program:** Theme: "How are you showing Patriotism and Support for our Country?" Posts must submit at least one entry to their District for judging. Entries must be turned into the Post by Friday, October 31, 2025. Posts must submit them to their District no later than Friday, November 14, 2025.
- **JROTC, Sea Cadets, or Civil Air Patrol:** Entries for any **one** of these three programs will earn the Post credit for this category. Posts will not receive credit for doing more than one of the three programs in this category. Entries for these programs must be turned into the Post by Friday, February 13, 2026. Posts must submit a copy of the Cadets certificate to the State HQs no later than Friday, March 6, 2026, to receive credit for the All-State program.
- **Teacher of the Year Program:** Posts must submit at least one teacher to their District for judging. Entries must be turned into the Post by Friday, October 31, 2025. Posts must submit them to their District no later than Friday, November 14, 2025.

****For Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy, Posts shall use the Scholar App for judging and delivery.**



Posts who complete ALL requirements by April 30, 2026, will receive their awards at the 2026 State Convention. Posts who complete all requirements EXCEPT membership by April 30, 2026, will have until June 30, 2026, to complete ONLY their membership goal of 101% and will receive awards as noted in this document at the first District meeting of the 2026-2027 year.

Note 1: Five (5) additional Team Points towards being the Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to Posts submitting entries in all four (4) program categories.

Note 2: Posts will receive additional Team Points towards being the Captain of the All-State Team for membership. One fifth (1/5) of one (1) point will be assigned for each additional member above 101%.

Note 3: Posts will receive additional Team Points towards being the Captain of the All-State for submitting of entries for Scout of the Year, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Firefighter of the Year, Emergency Medical Technician of the Year, 911 Dispatcher of the Year, and/or Explosive Ordinance Disposal Technician of the Year.

POST ALL-STATE TEAM AWARDS

1. All-State Post Commanders who have met all criteria, including membership, by Thursday, April 30, 2026, and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2019 will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin, and a citation. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300 will be given to this commander to assist in paying expenses while attending the convention and participating in events. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the State Commander.
2. Those Post Commanders who meet all requirements except for the membership requirement by April 30, 2026, and then meet their membership requirement by Tuesday, June 30, 2026, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at the first District meeting of the 2026-2027 year but will not receive the monetary award or cap. Caps may be purchased.
3. All-State Post Quartermasters who have met all criteria, including membership, by Thursday, April 30, 2026, and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2019 will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin, and a citation. Additionally, a check in the amount of \$300 will be given to this quartermaster to assist in paying expenses while attending the convention and participating in events. Time of payment will be at the discretion of the State Commander.
4. Those Post Quartermasters who meet all requirements except for the membership requirement by April 30, 2026, and then meet their membership requirement by Tuesday, June 30, 2026, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at the first District meeting of the 2026-2027 year but will not receive the monetary award or cap. Caps may be purchased.
5. From the All-State Team, the Post with the highest number of Team Points in the state on Thursday, April 30, 2026, will be designated as the Outstanding Post of the 2025-2026 Year. The Commander and Quartermaster of that Post will be Captains of the All-State Team.



6. The Awards and Citations Committee will break all ties, and their decision will be considered their recommendation to the State Commander.
7. The State Commander shall make the final decision on all recommendations of awards, and the State Commander's decision shall be final.

2025-2026 DISTRICT ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS

****There is no limit on the number of Districts that can earn All-State****

All-State District Requirements:

1. Districts must meet their 101% membership quota by May 1, 2026, to receive their awards at the 2026 State Convention. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**.
2. All Posts in the District and the District must be inspected. State HQs must receive the inspection reports for the District and all Posts in the District no later than Friday, December 12, 2025. All documented discrepancies must be corrected by Thursday, April 30, 2026, to complete this requirement.
3. The District Quartermaster and anyone with access to assets must be properly bonded.
4. The District Commander and Quartermaster must sign into their state email account and send one (1) email to either cdr@vfwva.org or dhoffman@vwfva.org no later than Sept 19, 2025. It is the responsibility of each of those officers to ensure this is met. It will be visible in the District Reports section of the online reporting page on the State HQs website, www.vfwva.org.
5. All audit reports for the District must be turned into the State HQs as required by Section 418 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
6. The District shall ensure all Posts submit reports of their activities in the online reporting portal of the State HQs. The reports must be submitted **at least once a quarter** by Sept 30, 2025, Dec 31, 2025, Mar 31, 2026, and June 30, 2026, respectively and the reports shall be as follows:
 - (1) Americanism Report
 - (2) Community Activities Report
 - (3) Safety Report
 - (4) Youth Activities Report
 - (5) Hospital Report
7. The District must donate at least \$150 to the Virginia Veterans Foundation (VVF). This is the official foundation for the State HQs, and you can contact the State HQs to make this donation.



All-State District Awards

1. All-State District Commanders who have met all criteria, including membership, by Thursday, April 30, 2026, and have not received an All-State cap for this level of leadership since June 2020 will receive an All-State cap, an All-State pin, and a citation.
2. Those District Commanders who meet all requirements except for the membership requirement by April 30, 2026, and then meet their membership requirement by Tuesday, June 30, 2026, will receive a citation and an All-State pin at the first District meeting of the 2026-2027 year but will not receive a cap. Caps may be purchased.
3. All-State District Commanders will receive a State Commander's Medallion if all Posts within their District are 100% or more in membership by Thursday, April 30, 2026.

POST COMMANDER MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Post Commanders who have their Post at 100% in membership by Tuesday, December 31, 2025, will receive a State Commander's "100 Club" polo shirt. Winners will be announced at the Winter Council of Administration meeting, and shirts will be presented at a District meeting.

INDIVIDUAL RECRUITER AWARDS FOR LIFE MEMBERS AND LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLANS

All individual recruiting awards will be awarded by using the National Recruiter Report dated Thursday, April 30, 2026. These awards will be presented at the State Convention. Individual recruiters will receive for:

- 3 New or Reinstated Life/Life Install Members – Commander's Challenge Coin
- 15 New or Reinstated Life/Life Install Members – State Aide-de-Camp Recruiting cap & citation
- 30 New or Reinstated Life/Life Install Members – \$250.00 and State Commander Medallion

THE SAMUEL B. DeVAUGHAN MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

First Place: The Samuel B. DeVaughan Membership Award is presented to the member who receives the most points for each type of new member recruited for the 2025-2026 membership year by using the National Recruiter Report dated Thursday, April 30, 2026. **The following points are awarded for each new or reinstated member:** 1 point for each annual member recruited, 3 points for each life member installment plan recruited, and 5 points for each life member recruited. They will receive the following:

- A check in the amount of \$300.00 to help defray expenses of the Convention.
- A citation.
- A distinctive cap and name badge
- State Commanders Medallion
- Commander's "Top Recruiter" Polo Shirt



There will be **2nd and 3rd place** winners awarded in this competition. The recruiters who finish in second and third place in new member competition of the 2025-2026 Membership Year will receive the following:

- A citation
- State Commanders Medallion

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Law Enforcement Officer of the Year is presented to the most outstanding law enforcement officer. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State HQs is Thursday, January 8, 2026. Send a resume of nominee's background, resume of background in law enforcement work, accomplishments in the field of law enforcement, title, and address. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (5) five Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of (1) entry.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Firefighter of the Year Award is presented to the most outstanding firefighter. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State HQs is Thursday, January 8, 2026. Send resume of nominee's background, resume of background in fire/emergency safety work, accomplishments in fire/emergency safety field, title, and address to State HQs. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (5) five Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of (1) entry.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Emergency Medical Technician of the Year is presented to the most outstanding Emergency Medical Technician. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State HQs is Thursday, January 8, 2026. Send resume of nominee's background, resume of background in paramedic work, accomplishment in this professional field, title, and address to State HQs. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (5) five Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of (1) entry.

911 DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The 911 Dispatcher of the Year is presented to the most outstanding dispatcher. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State HQS is Thursday, January 8, 2026. Send resume of nominee's background, resume of background in emergency services, accomplishment in the field, title, and address to State HQs. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (5) five Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of (1) entry.

EXPLOSIVE ORDINANCE TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The EOD Technician of the Year is presented to the most outstanding Technician. The selectee will receive a plaque and a monetary award. The deadline for submission to State HQs is Thursday, January 8, 2026. Send



resume of nominee's background, resume of background in EOD services, accomplishment in the field, title, and address to State HQs. This award will be presented at the Post or District meeting or at a local venue. An additional (5) five Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry. Each Post may submit a maximum of (1) entry.

LARRY MATTERA MEMORIAL PATRIOT'S PEN AWARD

The Larry Mattera Memorial Patriot's Pen Award is presented to the Post sponsoring the State's first place Patriot's Pen winner and will be presented at the Winter Council of Administration banquet.

CLARENCE E. KELLEY MEMORIAL VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AWARD

The Clarence E. Kelley Memorial Voice of Democracy Award is presented to the Post sponsoring the State's first place Voice of Democracy winner and is presented at the Winter Council of Administration banquet.

Note: The State Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners will receive a plaque and monetary award for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place to be presented at the Winter Council of Administration banquet. The first three place winners are expected to attend the banquet where the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be announced, and the 1st place winner will read their essay.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Teachers of the Year awards are presented to the most outstanding teachers. The selectees will receive an award and a check. There are three winners – Kindergarten through 5th grade, 6th through 8th grade, and 9th through 12th grade. These awards will be presented at the Winter Council of Administration banquet.

THE GEORGE E. McCracken Honor Guard/Color Guard Award

The George E. McCracken Honor Guard/Color Guard Award is presented to the most outstanding Post Honor Guard/Color Guard. Deadline for submission to State HQs is the day prior to awards judging Thursday, April 30, 2026. This award will be presented at the 2026 State Convention.

THE W. I. WOODDELL MEMORIAL POST QUARTERMASTER AWARD

The W. I. Woodall Memorial Post Quartermaster Award is presented to the Post Quartermaster who has shown outstanding dedication to their Post and the entire state. The Post Commander must send in a nominating letter on why the Post Quartermaster should be considered for this award. Submission must be received by Thursday, April 30, 2026. The recipient is to be selected by a committee headed by the State Quartermaster. The award will consist of a citation, plus a check in the amount of \$200 from the State HQs. This award will be presented at the 2026 State Convention.



SCOUT OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Scout of the Year Award is presented to the State Scout of the Year winner. Submissions must be to the Scouting Committee Chairman by April 1, 2026. An additional (5) five Team Points will be earned for the submission of an entry for Scout of the Year with a maximum of one entry allowed from each Post. A plaque and a \$500.00 monetary award will be presented. This award will be sent to the Post to be presented at the time and place of the Post's choosing.

THE CHRIS MULHOLLAND COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOK

The Chris Mulholland Community Service Record Book should be kept from May 1, 2025, to April 30, 2026, for judging. Plaques will be awarded to the top three (3) entries at the 2026 State Convention. Citations will be awarded to the fourth through tenth place awardees. Electronic submissions are accepted and must be submitted on a thumb drive. The Chris Mulholland Community Service Record Book **is not** a requirement to be All-State. Posts shall submit their entry no later than Thursday, April 30, 2026, to State HQs for judging.