

STATE of MICHIGAN VFW

2025-2026 POST and DISTRICT ALL-STATE PROGRAM

The All-State Program is designed to recognize outstanding VFW Posts and Districts for their participation in all VFW programs, membership recruitment and community service. The mission of the VFW is to serve our communities, and All-State recognition is a way the VFW can say thank you to our involved membership.

Post Criteria:

To be in contention for All-State Honors, a Post must meet the following criteria:

1. Post must submit an All State application to the Director prior to June 30, 2026, preferably by Email. (The application can be found on the Department website on this program page.)
2. Post must be 101% in membership with new or reinstated members by June 30, 2026.
3. Post must be in good standing with:
 - Post Bylaws approved by the Commander-in-Chief, and
 - All Quarterly Reports of Trustee audits received by Department Headquarters prior to 2026 State Convention, and
 - Proof of paid Quartermaster's bond prior to December 31, 2025, and
 - Proof of submission to and receipt from IRS of annual IRS 990 for the last reporting year, and
 - Submission of 2026-27 Post Officers Report of Election prior to opening of 2026 State Convention, and
 - All past and current year State Convention delegates fees must be paid prior to opening of the 2026 State Convention.
4. The Post Commander and Quartermaster must attend at least one in person State conducted Veterans Training Seminar (VTS).
5. Post must submit a community service activity report through the State website report form by the 10th of every month for the preceding month for at least 10 months of the reporting period, May 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.
6. Post must submit a hospital activity report through the State website report form by the 10th of every month for the preceding month for at least 10 months of the reporting period, May 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.
7. Post must submit a legislative report through the State community service activity website report form by the 10th of the month for the preceding month for at least six months of the reporting period, May 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.
8. Post must submit a Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen entry to their District for judging and report it on the National All-American Dashboard.
9. Post must donate a minimum of \$125.00 to VMS (Veterans and Military Support. (VMS donation must be made through the All-American Dashboard on the National website.)
10. Post must be registered for a VFW National Day of Service project to be performed in May 2026 and report the completed project through the State community service website report form clearly identifying the completed project as the Post VFW Day of Service project. Post projects must be registered with National prior to May 1, 2026 or as required by the National Program instructions. Post projects must be completed prior to May 15, 2026. Post projects must be of service to the community generally outside of normal activities of the Post.

11. Post must have a Membership Recruiting Table at least one public event. Post must report the activity with pictures showing conspicuous VFW signage such as tablecloth, banner, etc. to the State Membership Director prior to June 30, 2026.
12. Post must order a minimum of 500 Buddy Poppies prior to June 30, 2026.

Posts must earn a minimum of 250 points with at least 125 points coming from Community Service reports as described below.

Community Service:

Points may be earned in this category by choosing from the following:

- A. 10 points for posting Post's Colors (US Flag and Post Flag) at the VFW National Home on Michigan Day. Colors must remain posted for the entire day.
- B. Post may perform a workday at Camp Trotter with 5 points granted for each member participating up to a maximum of 50 points. Workdays must be coordinated with the Camp Trotter Maintenance Supervisor.
Note: *Posts may earn the same points as above by performing a Community Service project in their community such as a canned food drive for a charity, park cleanup, etc. Project must be approved by the All-State Director in advance.*
- C. 10 Points for each nomination submitted for the following categories to State Safety Program Director (one nomination per category allowed):
 - a. Firefighter of the Year
 - b. Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
 - c. Dispatcher of the Year
 - d. EOD Technician of the Year
 - e. EMT/Paramedic of the Year
- D. 10 points each for Post Senior Vice and Junior Vice Commander attending a State conducted VTS.
- E. 10 points for performing a POW/MIA Ceremony. 15 points if the activity is open to the public. 10 additional points will be awarded if the ceremony is held on POW/MIA Day September 19, 2025. The ceremony with pictures must be reported to the State Americanism/POW/MIA Director.
- F. 10 points for a Post having an active Facebook and/or Website. (must provide web address to the State All-State Director)
- G. 10 points for a minimum donation of \$300.00 to the Camp Trotter General Fund to support necessary major renovations or to the camper scholarship fund.
- H. 10 points for each hosted Red Cross Blood Drive reported to the State Hospital Director through the State on line Hospital Activity Report. (maximum of four events)
- I. 10 Points for each nomination submitted for the following Youth Activity programs (one nomination per category allowed):
 - a. Junior ROTC Cadet of the Year
 - b. Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year
 - c. Scout of the Year Candidate in one or more of the below categories:
 - i. Eagle Scout
 - ii. Girl Scout Gold Award
 - iii. Venture Scout Summit
 - iv. Sea Scout QM Award).

Nominations must be submitted to the State Youth Activities Director.
- J. 25 points for supporting a local homeless veteran's shelter or an individual homeless veteran with a fundraiser or other supportive action. Documentation of the support must be submitted to the State Homeless Veteran Program Director.

Mental Health and VMS:

- A. 25 points for hosting a symposium open to the public on PTSD, Veteran Mental Health, and Welfare and/or Veteran Suicide Prevention. Posts may collaborate with other organizations and agencies. Posts should contact the State Mental Health Director for information about local agencies and organizations in their area.
- B. 5 points per member, up to a maximum of 25 points, for attending a Veteran Suicide awareness event. The event must be approved in advance by the State Mental Health Director.

Donations:

5 points for each \$25.00 donated to VFW State Headquarters for the following activities: (maximum \$100, 20 Points) per category:

- i. VFW National Home (to include Post donations made at the National Home on Michigan Day)
- ii. Day of Challenges
- iii. Gold Star Mothers
- iv. National Cemeteries
- v. Mental Health and Welfare (State fund)
- vi. Youth Scholarship Fund (Scouts & JROTC)
- vii. Cancer Fund
- viii. Homeless Veterans Fund
- ix. Veterans Service Office Fund
- x. POW / MIA Fund
- xi. Keres Burial Assistance Fund
- xii. Foxhole Fund
- xiii. Heroes to Hives Fund
- xiv. State Disaster Relief Fund
- xv. Fisher House Michigan
- xvi. VFW Charities of Michigan
- xvii. 10 points for a minimum donation of \$50.00 to the joint VFW/Auxiliary Special Project, Blue Star Service Dogs. Donations to the Joint Special Project must be made to State Headquarters and be earmarked as such.
- xviii. 20 points for a minimum donation of \$100.00 to the Commander's Special Project (National Home Store). Donations to the Commander's Special Project must be made to State Headquarters and be earmarked as such.

Donations made to support local community programs that support scouting, cancer treatment, veterans' mental health & welfare (to include direct assistance or support of programs such as Honor Flight) or homeless veterans (lodging and / or food programs) may receive credit for All-State Program purposes with proof of the donation (copy of check or receipt from the organization) provided to VFW State Headquarters.

District Criteria:

- 1. Districts must be 101% in membership prior to June 30, 2026.
- 2. Districts must donate a raffle prize to the Cancer Table at both the Fall and Mid-Winter Conference.
- 3. Districts must hold a School of Instruction at at least one District meeting with at least 75% of Posts represented, verified by the State Representative's report.

4. Districts must hold at least one membership recruiting event involving multiple posts reported to the State Membership Director.
5. Districts must have all Post inspections completed and reported to State Inspector prior to May 15, 2026.

Post Awards:

Each All-State Post Commander and Quartermaster that earn All-State honors will receive an All-State citation, pin and All-State cap at the 2026 Fall Conference.

Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to the Post Commander of the Post with the highest accumulation of All-State program points. In the case of a tie, the Post with the greatest membership percentage will be named Captain. The Captain of the Post All-State Team will receive a \$300.00 cash award at the 2026 Fall Conference. You must attend the Fall Conference to receive this award.

District Awards:

Each All-State District Commander and Quartermaster will be recognized with a District All-State cap and citation and pin at the 2026 Fall Conference.

Captain of the District All-State Team will be awarded to the District Commander with the highest percentage of All-State Posts as of June 30, 2026.

The Captain of the District All-State Team will receive a \$300.00 cash award at the 2026 Fall Conference. You must attend the Fall Conference to receive this award.

THE VFW NATIONAL WEBSITE WILL BE USED FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION (www.vfw.org). NO EXCEPTIONS! ENSURE THAT YOU ALLOW FOR PROCESSING TIME. THE STATE CHECKLIST, DONATIONS PAGE, ACTIVITY REPORTS, AND DIRECTOR'S INFORMATION WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE ALL-STATE STATUS.

The All State Program application and checklist MUST be completed and submitted to the All-State Director prior to June 30, 2026, preferably by email. The checklist portion is for your record keeping and will be of assistance to the Director if completed. Post Commanders will have until June 30 to meet the reporting and donation requirements for All State contest criteria, but the application must be received by the All State Director prior to June 30. Please plan ahead. Contact the Director with any questions.

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