



# COMMUNITY SERVICE

## Community Activities

- Community Service Programs
- Disaster Relief
- Participation in or sponsorship of community activities
- Yellow Ribbon

## Americanism/Honor Guard/Flag Honors

- Americanism
- Flag Etiquette
- Display of US or POW/MIA Flag
- Honor Guard
- POW-MIA

## Safety

- Safety Program Activities
- Public Service Recognition
  - ♦ Firefighter
  - ♦ Law Enforcement
  - ♦ Emergency Medical Technician
  - ♦ Emergency Dispatcher
  - ♦ Life Saving Award
- Employer of the Year
- JROTC Cadet of the Year

# COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

Community Activities are an important part of the Veterans of Foreign Wars way of life and has proven to be a win-win situation for the VFW and the community. Our support of community activities by volunteering, supporting community activities and organizations, or participating in events is a great benefit to the community. Your community activity raises awareness of the VFW within the community and supports our programs. Everyone develops their own perception of their community by what they see going on immediately around them. Your work within your community and with other non-for-profit organizations can help your Post accomplish our goal.

You will notice some changes in the manual this year on the community service pillar. There are only 3 sub programs under the Community Service Pillar this year. Any community activity that you do as a Post or District should fall within one of those 3 sub-programs. This year, Community Service and Americanism is consolidated under one program Chairman

Look over your Community Activity Programs and appoint an Activity Chairperson for each of the categories. Remember that all programs in the Veterans of Foreign Wars are important to Commanders at all levels. A Post that is strong in Community Activities not only earns respect in the community, but will also be strong in membership.

Commanders must report on-line or on the Community Activities Report Form by March 15, 2024 in order to qualify for a National Certificate of Recognition. Each Post must report in each of the following categories to qualify:

- a. Community Involvement
- b. Cooperation with other organizations
- c. Aid to others or Disaster Relief
- d. School and Church assistance

Community activities clearly benefits the people in the local community and involves the Post members to build a positive image for the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

When taking on a project, inform your local newspaper or TV station about your plans and if possible, document your efforts by taking photos as you work at or on your Community Activities.

Membership and community involvement will increase your Post and our goal. Your community activities can and will MAKE A DIFFERENCE. We must continue to work within our communities because "No One Does More For Veterans". Commanders at all levels should review the Department Programs Dashboard on a weekly basis by checking out our website at [www.vfwil.org](http://www.vfwil.org).



**Steve Eller**  
*Chairman*

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Post 7710-14

Here is one VERY IMPORTANT thing about reporting your Community Service Activities. If your Post is working towards becoming an All-American Post for 2023-2024, the requirements include that you submit a minimum of 1 community activity report per quarter in order to qualify. My advice is to input your community service reports immediately following the event. Don't wait until May and input 10 months of activities because it will prevent you from winning a National award but it may result in you losing notes or forgetting about activities resulting in underreporting your activities.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.....

Remember to report your dollars spent, hours, and total number of volunteers for each project. Please make sure that the dollars reported **reflect only those amounts donated or expended in the performance of their community activities.**

**Our goal is to be 90% reported by December 31, 2023.**

Report it when it happens on-line or to the:

State of Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars  
3300 Constitution Dr.  
Springfield, IL 62711

### **Community Activities Recordbooks Award**

The top Community Activities Recordbook in each Membership Category will receive a \$50.00 Cash Award at the 2024 State Convention.

Membership Category 1 - Up to 150 members  
Membership Category 2 - 151 to 300 members  
Membership Category 3 - 301 members and up

### **RULES FOR THE RECORDBOOKS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Community Service Projects completed between May 1, 2023 and April 30, 2024.
2. Book size should be no larger than 12 x 16 inches and no thicker than 3 inches. You may use as many volumes as necessary.
3. Book to be separated into 4 Sections, A- B - C & D describing each project. Show money spent, and volunteer hours for each project. Also, show total of dollars spent and hours used at the end of each Section
4. Clippings or photographs should show dates and captions from newspapers and any other information
5. Checks and Photostats should show what the money was spent for, also, total number of volunteer hours for each project.
6. Your book must be in State Headquarters by May 3, 2024 for judging on May 6, 2024.
7. The Community Activities Record Book Entry Form must be filled out and attached to the inside cover of the record book.
8. Pages must be numbered.

By reporting your out of pocket expenses, volunteers and hours for each project, we can continue to serve our fellow veterans as we continue the mission of **"MAKING A DIFFERENCE"**

## Community Activities Record Book Entry Form

1. This Form must be filled out and attached to the inside cover of the Community Activities Record Book that your Post enters in the Department Community Activities Record Book Contest.
2. All Record Books submitted for Department Judging will be returned to the Post Commander following judging.
3. The Post Commander must sign this form.
4. Your book must be in State Headquarters by May 3, 2024 for judging on May 6, 2024.

Post # \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_, State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Projects

Total Hours

Total Funds

Since 5/1/24 \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteered \_\_\_\_\_ Used/Donated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN:

Post Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGES, NOTE THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

Page # \_\_\_\_\_, Project Name \_\_\_\_\_

Page # \_\_\_\_\_, Project Name \_\_\_\_\_

Page # \_\_\_\_\_, Project Name \_\_\_\_\_

Page # \_\_\_\_\_, Project Name \_\_\_\_\_

Post Commander Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Post Commander's Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline Dates**

National VFW Post Special Project Program Deadline is April 30, 2023

"VFW Member Community Service Volunteer of the Year" Award Deadline must be in Department Headquarters by April 1, 2024

**NATIONAL COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CONTEST**

- Department selects Posts based on their own criteria and National guidelines
- Number of Awards based on Department size:
  - Up to 200 Posts                      1 selection
  - 201 to 400 Posts                      2 selections
- Department selection due to National by May 1.
- Award presented to Post Commander at National Convention
- Each Post Commander receives \$599.00 to assist with Convention expenses
- National Award Plaque
- Post Recognition Street Sign

# YELLOW RIBBON PROGRAM

I want to say thank you to State Commander Brett Nila for reappointing me as the Chairperson of the Yellow Ribbon Program in Illinois. I look forward to working with Commander Nila and the entire leadership team for the upcoming year.

The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP) is a Department of Defense-wide effort to promote the well-being of National Guard and Reserve members, their families and communities, by connecting them with resources throughout the deployment cycle. Through Yellow Ribbon events, Service Members and loved ones connect with local resources before, during, and after deployments. Reintegration during post-deployment is a critical time for members of the National Guard and Reserve, as they often live far from military installations and other members of their units. Commanders and leaders play a critical role in assuring that Reserve Service members and their families attend Yellow Ribbon events where they can access information on health care, education and training opportunities, financial, and legal benefits. The Yellow Ribbon Program works with government partners to provide up-to-date and relevant information to the members of the All-Volunteer force and their families.

Throughout Illinois, we have National Guard and Reserve units from all the branches that are being deployed around the globe. It is important for the VFW Posts to participate in the Yellow Ribbon events for these units. As they prepare to deploy, we need to be there to let them know who the VFW is and what we are doing to fight for benefits on their behalf. During deployment, we need to be there to support the families, answer questions and keep the family informed of benefits due their loved ones. Following deployment, we need to be there and make sure the service member knows what benefits are available to them as they transition back to civilian life. All the service members are potential new members of the VFW and a positive effort to support them during the deployment process can show them the importance of belonging to the VFW.

During the year, I will send out announcements about Yellow Ribbon events in Illinois. I ask each VFW Post and members to attend the Yellow Ribbon events if they are available and show the Service Member and their loved ones how the VFW can best support them during the deployment period. Consider hosting an event, like a picnic or family day, for the service member and their family. Presenting the VFW in a positive light and showing our support will pay big dividends. I hope to see you at the events throughout the year, demonstrating that we are "MAKING A DIFFERENCE"



**Joshua Seed**  
*Chairman*

3613 Timothy Rd  
Springfield, IL 62711

Phone: (217) 481-0082

Email  
jseed22@yahoo.com

Post 755-10

## POST AWARDS

A Special Plaque will be awarded to the top Post in the following Membership Categories who reports the largest number of hours, dollars, and members for participation in Yellow Ribbon events. Reports must be submitted through the Programs Dashboard and clearly identify the hours, dollars, and members participating in Yellow Ribbon events. These Awards will be presented during our State Convention.

- Membership Category 1 – Up to 150 Members
- Membership Category 2 – 151-300 Members
- Membership Category 3 – 301 Members and up



# AMERICANISM PROGRAM

"AMERICANISM"...is the unfailing love of Country, loyalty to its institutions and ideals, eagerness to defend it against all enemies, undivided allegiance to the Flag, and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and for posterity". As American citizens and members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, we know what Americanism stands for. It was, and is still, our responsibility to defend the United States in a time of peace as it is in time of war, foreign or domestic. By practicing Americanism we show our love of Country and must do so.

As veterans we should promote and participate in Americanism every day of every year. There are many things a Post, a District and an individual can do to promote Americanism. Here are just a few ideas. I am sure you can think of many more.

- Fly the American Flag and or POW/MIA Flag every day at your Post Home.
- Present Flags to different organizations or if you see a tattered flag, donate a new one
- Hold flag etiquette sessions with various other organizations
- Encourage your membership to be informed by studying political issues and get out the vote.
- Furnish Color Guards/Honor Guards for civic programs, athletic events, veteran funerals, and Memorial Service
- Remember Memorial Day, Independence Day, Patriot's Day, POW/ MIA Recognition Day, Pearl Harbor Day, Loyalty Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day and other memorial military days from our Nation's past.
- Conduct flag retirement ceremony for tattered flags

Reporting Americanism is easy: fill out the VFW of Illinois on line Reporting Form or if you don't have a computer then you may contact State Headquarters (217-529-6688) to request the form and fill it in and mail it back to State Headquarters, 3300 Constitution Dr., Springfield, IL 62711. Remember reporting dates are July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

There are three (3) categories to report: Be sure to report all hours, money spent, and number of members participating in an event. You should report every time you have an event. The more you report the better chance you have of winning awards. One very important note about credit for flying/displaying the American Flag and/or POW/MIA Flag is that you can only get credit for 1 hour per day for each of the flags. If you fly or display both flags, maximum credit is 60 hours per month or 720 hours per year. If you only fly one of the flags, maximum credit is 30 hours per month or 360 hours per year.

## DISTRICT AWARDS:

The Districts with the highest number in hours, money, and members participating in the following three Membership Categories will receive a \$30.00 Cash Award at the 2024 Department Convention.

Membership Category 1 - Up to 2,500 Members  
Membership Category 2 – 2,501 to 3,600  
Members Membership Category 3 – 3,601 Members and Up

## POST AWARDS:

Posts with the highest number of hours, money and members participating in the following three Membership Categories will receive a \$30.00 Cash Award at the 2024 Department Convention.



Membership Category 1 - Up to 100 Members  
Membership Category 2 – 101 to 300 Members  
Membership Category 3 - 301 Members & Up

“Loyalty Day May 1, 2024”

Loyalty Day or May Day is always May 1.

A truly inspired Holiday, Loyalty Day was created by the VFW Organization in 1921. It was through the efforts of the Veterans of Foreign Wars that in 1958 Loyalty Day was officially established by an act of Congress.

The reason we have Loyalty Day is to continually encourage loyal Americans to speak out. It is a Day upon which patriotic citizens should:

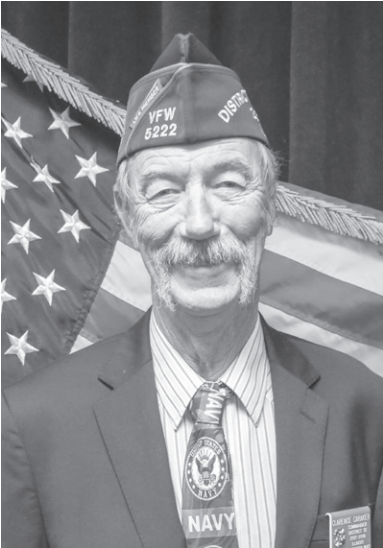
- 1) Hold parades
- 2) Conduct Flag ceremonies
- 3) Sponsor public meetings
- 4) Conduct school programs
- 5) and other American activities

Loyalty is an intangible thing, but it causes people to form a Government, to obey its laws and rules and to willingly defend their country against its enemies.

If your Post does not hold a Loyalty Day parade, maybe your District will

- 1) Invite civic leaders to participate and to speak
- 2) Encourage neighborhoods to join in
- 3) Invite the youth to march, or play in bands
- 4) Give out flags
- 5) Hold your VFW Buddy Poppy Donation Day

## POW/MIA PROGRAM



**Clarence Caraker**  
*Chairman*

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Email:  
cecaraker@gmail.com

Post 3455-15

We have not fulfilled our goal for a complete accounting of all our lost. What about our MIA or KIA's? We must continue to work for all the families to receive closure of their loved ones.

Now here are a few ways to get your credit on the dashboard under Americanism/Honor Guard/Flag Honors.

- The third Friday of September is National POW-MIA Recognition Day. Plan and carry out a POW-MIA service and invite your Post & Auxiliary members and the general public to attend.
- Display the POW-MIA missing man table & chair cover & recite the POW- MIA prayer at your meetings. (The prayer can be found in the manual procedure & ritual book )
- Carry the POW-MIA flag in a parade or fly or display it at your Post home or donate flags to local schools, village buildings or even nursing homes. If you fly the POW/MIA flag at your Post, you can get credit for 1 hour per day.
- Make a presentation at a local school and explain the importance of the POW-MIA Program to the students

REPORT REPORT REPORT !!!!

### MEANING OF THE POW/MIA TABLE

The table is set for five, representing the five branches of our Armed Forces, the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard. The military is filled with symbolism and this table is a way of symbolizing those that are missing from our midst, who are commonly called POW/MIA'S.

The table set for five symbolizes the frailty of the prisoners alone against their oppressors.

The tablecloth is white, symbolizing the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms.

The single rose displayed in the vase is symbolic of the families and loved ones who keep the faith waiting for their return.

The red ribbon tied so prominently on the vase is reminiscent of the red ribbon worn upon the lapel and breast of thousands who bear witness to their unyielding determination to demand a proper accounting of our missing and the return of all live POW'S and all those left on foreign soil.

The slice of lemon on the bread plate is to remind us of their bitter fate.

There is salt on the bread plate which is symbolic of the families tears as they wait.

The chairs are empty, they are not here.....

### POW / MIA PRAYER

Our Heavenly Father, At such time and place as we know not, there are Comrades being held against their will in hostile circumstances. Prisoners of war and those missing in action who did not return. We plead for assistance in our efforts to bring them home. Our hearts bleed for the families of these veterans, may we not forget their sacrifice and be reminded by this vacant chair of our duty toward them. (Amen)

### AWARD

The **Dennis Nelson Memorial POW-MIA Award** will be awarded to the VFW Post that demonstrates the most outstanding POW/MIA Recognition Program within their community.

Let's make sure this year we put our renewed commitment into action as we continue  
"Making a Difference"

# SAFETY PROGRAM



**Les Durov**  
*Chairman*

819 Graceland  
Des Plaines, IL 60016  
Phone: (630) 670-1355

Email:  
les@vfw1337.us

Post 1377-4

The Safety Programs of the Veteran of Foreign Wars continues to provide and promote programs designed to safeguard our communities. This long-standing commitment to safety has grown through the years to include every possible program or event associated with safeguarding people. Be creative and develop a safety activity and REPORT all accomplishments on the Department of Illinois Program Reporting Form. The six basic categories in the National Program are as follows:

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Highway Safety      | 2. Pedestrian Safety |
| 3. Recreational Safety | 4. Home/Fire Safety  |
| 5. Drug Awareness      | 6. Recognition/Other |

**1. HIGHWAY SAFETY:** Any activity intended to improve individual driving skills and awareness or activities associated with improving safety in our vehicles and on our roadways.

**2. PEDESTRIAN SAFETY:** Any worthwhile activity intended to improve individual awareness and visibility or non-motorized vehicle riding skills, awareness and responsibility

**3. RECREATIONAL SAFETY:** Any organized activity associated with improving the skills and responsibilities of those individuals engaged in recreational activities with children and adults.

**4. HOME/FIRE SAFETY:** Activities designed to promote and inform individuals within the community about protecting their homes, possessions and lives are reportable.

**5. DRUG AWARENESS:** Any program designed to inform and protect your community from the influence of substance abuse including prescription drugs.

**6. RECOGNITION/OTHER:** A program to bring public recognition to the people of the community who spend their work day protecting the lives and property. Recognizing the heroism/or safety achievements of individuals in the community. This category may be used to report an activity that does not fit any of the above categories including cooperation with other groups and organizations besides the V.F.W.

## POST AWARDS

A Special Plaque will be awarded to the top Post in the following Membership Categories who reports the largest amount of hours, dollars, and members. These Awards will be presented during our State Convention.

Membership Category 1 - Up to 150 Members

Membership Category 2 - 151-300 Members

Membership Category 3 - 301 Members and up

Report all completed work to the Department on the Department Program Report form. Good luck to all participating Posts.

## PUBLIC SERVANT RECOGNITION

Each year, the Department of Illinois recognizes the great efforts of public servants throughout Illinois. Unless otherwise noted, the deadline to State Headquarters is April 30 for award nominations in the following categories:

- ☐ Outstanding Legislator of the Year
- ☐ Law Enforcement Officer of the Year (Jan. 1 for national consideration)
- ☐ Firefighter of the Year (Jan. 1 for national consideration)
- ☐ Paramedic/EMT of the year (Jan. 1 for national consideration)
- ☐ Emergency Medical Dispatcher of the year (Jan. 1 for national consideration)
- ☐ Outstanding Patriotism of the Year
- ☐ Outstanding Governmental Service of the Year
- ☐ Clergy of the Year
- ☐ News Media Professional of the Year (Public Relations program)
- ☐ Outstanding Citizen of the Year
- ☐ Employer of the Year \*
- ☐ JROTC Cadet of the Year \*

For most of these awards, there is no special form to fill out to nominate an individual. Just submit a short nomination letter as why the individual deserves to be recognized. Include the name and address of the individual submitted in the appropriate category and the sponsoring Post and/or Auxiliary and the Post/Auxiliary contact person. Employer of the Year and JROTC Cadet of the Year MUST be submitted on the attached forms.

# **PUBLIC SERVANT RECOGNITION**

## **(NATIONAL)**

PUBLIC SERVANT AWARD CITATIONS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS, LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL, EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCHERS, AND FIREFIGHTERS

Each year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars selects emergency medical technicians, law enforcement, 911 dispatchers and fire-fighter personnel to receive VFW Public Servant Awards. Post Safety Chairmen are encouraged to submit a candidate for these awards to their Department Headquarters by Jan. 1. The Department must select a single candidate for each of the four awards and submit those to VFW National Headquarters by Feb. 1.

NOTE: The only item the National VFW Programs Department requires is the "VFW Department Public Servant Award Citation Request Form" which is now available on the VFW website. You can locate this form by logging in to [vfw.org](http://vfw.org) and searching under "My VFW" in the Training & Support section.

VFW National Emergency Medical Technician Public Servant Citation:

Any individual, who actively gives emergency medical treatment, provides rescue service or civil disaster assistance as a member of any public or volunteer company organized to give emergency medical care, provide rescue and civil disaster assistance to our nation's citizens.

VFW National Law Enforcement Public Servant Citation:

Any individual who serves in a municipal, county, state or federal unit tasked with enforcement of the laws pertaining to their area of responsibility. This award does not apply to individual employed by private companies or security services.

VFW National Emergency Medical Dispatcher Citation

Any individual who is employed by a 911 Dispatch Center

VFW National Firefighters Public Servant Citation: Any individual who actively fights fires as a member of any public or volunteer company organized to fight fires and give assistance to our nation's citizens.

Criteria for these awards – Candidates must have demonstrated:

- 1) Recognition by their colleagues or those they serve.
- 2) Consistent excellence in the performance of their duties.
- 3) Consistent dedication to their official responsibilities over a period of years and continuous growth in responsibilities and skills within their profession.

Documentation required for all Candidates:

- 1) Nomination letter containing the candidate's name, title, address, telephone and identifying the award for which the individual should be considered.
  - a. Include justification outlining background in field, accomplishments and awards.

Note NEW (not required) One (1) page VFW Public Servant Award Citation Post Entry Form is now available on the VFW website. You can locate this form by logging in to [vfw.org](http://vfw.org) and searching under "My VFW" in the Training & Support section.

If you have any questions contact Tammy Beauchamp at 816.756.3390 Ext. 6287, e-mail [tbeauchamp@vfw.org](mailto:tbeauchamp@vfw.org).



## VFW Public Servant Award Citation Post Entry Form

NOTE: VFW Point of Contact should fill out their section below prior to distributing this form.  
This will provide individuals from outside of the VFW with the needed information to submit their packets successfully.

### To be filled out by VFW representative

Sponsoring VFW Post #:  Sponsoring District #:

Date of Presentation: MM/DD/YY (if available)

### VFW Post POC

Full Name:

Phone:  Email:

Address: (where to mail entry)

City:  State:  Zip:

### Individual Submitting Nomination

Full Name:

Phone:  Email:

### Nominee Information

Choose appropriate citation: (EMT, Firefighter or Law Enforcement)

Full Name: (please list as you wish it stated on the citation)

Occupation Title: (if any) (please list as you wish it stated on the citation)

Employer Name: (please list as you wish it stated on the citation)

Address of Employer:

City:  State:  Zip:

Employer Phone:  Employer Email: (if available)

Please complete this form and submit to your local VFW Post using the information provided above. Ensure to include all required documentation that is outlined on the instructions sheet provided with this form. All post entries must be received by their **Department Headquarters no later than January 1st**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tammy Beauchamp at 816-756-3390 x 6287, e-mail [tbeauchamp@vfw.org](mailto:tbeauchamp@vfw.org)





## VFW Life Saving Award Citation Entry Form

NOTE: Please attach and send with this form all documentation of the event (newspaper clippings, articles, etc.).

### To be filled out by VFW Representative

Sponsoring VFW Post #:  VFW Department:

Date of Presentation: MM/DD/YY (if available)

**VFW POC**

Full Name:

Phone:  Email:

Address: (for mailing citation)

City:  State:  Zip:

### Nominee Information

Choose appropriate citation: (Regular, Line of Duty or Valor)

Full Name: (please list as you wish it stated on the citation)

Gender:

Occupation Title: (please list as you wish it stated on the citation or N/A)

Employer Name: (If available)

Address of Employer: (If available)

City:  State:  Zip:

Employer Phone:  Employer Email: (if available)

Please complete this form and submit to VFW National Headquarters, Attn: Tammy Beauchamp at Fax# 816-968-1149 or E-mail to [tbeauchamp@vfw.org](mailto:tbeauchamp@vfw.org) or Lynn Rolf at [lrolf@vfw.org](mailto:lrolf@vfw.org). Ensure to include all required documentation that is outlined above in reference to the event. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.



## VFW Employer of the Year Award Nomination Form

**The Purpose of Award:** To confer recognition on one employer for outstanding records in the hiring and retention of veterans.

**Deadline:** The deadline for submission of nominations of employers of veterans to State HQ is no later than April 1. Nominations received after that date will not be eligible for consideration for the national award.

**Procedure:** Nominations from Departments must be sent to National headquarters via this form only. Nominations that arrive without supporting information will not be eligible for the national awards.

- Only those nominations that include adequate documentation on the nominee's employment practices concerning veterans will be considered for the National VFW Employer of the Year Awards. The nominator should provide a copy of the company's written policy on employment of veterans if available, a description of how the employer supports veterans' activities in the community, and any other reasons why the nominee should be selected to be the Employer of the year Award winner. *Governmental agencies are not eligible for award.*

**Award:** The National Winner will receive a plaque to be presented by the National Commander at the Annual National convention and will receive a trip to travel to the convention city to accept the award.

- Nominations by Departments must be sent to National headquarters NLT April 28th.

### Judging Criteria:

1. Identify and describe the employer's programs and or benefits designed to recruit veterans, including innovative business practices used to increase veteran recruitment (10 points)
2. Describe the employer's policies that give a preference to hire veterans, referring veterans, or any other veteran policy (VA veteran sick leave hours). Provide the positive and significant impacts these policies have on the employer's business results. (10 Points)
3. Describe the employer's policies or initiatives that improve the current and future veteran employer's career opportunities. (10 points)
4. Provide the number of veterans employed, the total number of employees, and the percentage of veterans employed during a set time period: 1 January 2023 to December 31st, 2024. (20 points)
5. Describe collaborative efforts with business organizations, educational partners, and community organizations that improve veteran employment opportunities. (10 points)
6. Explain why veterans would choose this employer over other employers. (10 points)
7. Provide documented endorsements, newspaper articles, awards, or letters of support highlighting the nominee's contributions to veteran friendly employment or retention. (10 points)
8. Provide the number of veterans employed with the employer for over one year. (10 points)
9. Provide the number of veterans employed with the employer for five years. (10 points)



**VFW Employer of the Year Award  
Nomination Form**

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Point of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you feel this employer deserves this award?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## VFW JROTC Cadet of the Year Award Nomination Form

VFW award for special recognition of outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership for Junior ROTC Cadets. This award seeks to recognize a remarkable cadet who will become a leader in their community and serve their country.

**Criteria:** Possession of individual characteristics contributing to leadership including:

- A. Positive attitude toward the JROTC program
- B. Outstanding military bearing and conduct both in and out of uniform
- C. Personal attributes (self-confidence, initiative, flexibility, judgement).
- D. Patriotism (commander or member of color guard, drill team with or without arms, flag protocol instruction team, and actively promote Americanism). Shows devotion to school, community, America. An individual(s) who practices service through repeated acts of support.
- E. Courtesy (dependability, punctuality, human relations, respect, cooperation).
- F. Growth potential (capable of assuming high leadership responsibilities in JROTC Unit with additional training and experience).
- G. Demonstrated leadership potential, military bearing, and scholastic achievement.
  - Attainment of a grade of "B" in JROTC with an overall average of "C" in all subjects for the previous semester. Must not have a failing grade in any subject for that period of time.
  - Must be active in at least one other student co-curricular activity or club: i.e. music, athletics, student government, junior achievement, etc.
  - Must not have been a previous recipient of the award

**Eligibility:** Any 10th, 11th, or 12th grade student that is currently enrolled as a JROTC Cadet actively engaged in the JROTC program, and one who meets the criteria for the award.

**Procedure:** Post must submit nomination to State HQ by April 1. Department will submit nominee to National NLT May 12th.

**Award:** JROTC cadet of the year will receive a trip the National VFW convention to accept the award. Recipient will receive airfare and lodging for two nights.



**VFW JROTC Cadet of the Year Award  
Nomination Form**

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominating Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominating Post: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominating District: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Rank and Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's School: \_\_\_\_\_

JROTC Instructor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you feel this person deserves this award?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_