



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

Calendar of Events

2023

July 4, 2023	Independence Day.
July 22-27, 2023	National Convention, Phoenix, AZ
August 25-27, 2023	Council of Administration Meeting, Lisle, IL
August 26, 2023	State Commander's Homecoming Banquet, Naperville, IL
September 11, 2023	Patriot Day
September 15, 2023	Prisoner of War/Missing In Action Recognition Day
September 16, 2023	Commander's Call - Rochelle, IL
September 17, 2023	Commander's Call - Addison, IL
September 23, 2023	Illinois Day at the National Home (Eaton Rapids, Michigan)
October 7, 2023	Commander's Call – Marshall, IL
October 7, 2023	Auxiliary Department President Homecoming, Marion, IL
October 8, 2023	Commander's Call – Collinsville, IL
October 20-22, 2023	Big 10 Conference Itasca, IL
November 11, 2023	Veterans Day
November 18, 2023	Council of Administration Meeting (Zoom - 9 a.m. to noon)
December 7, 2023	Pearl Harbor Day

2024

February 9-11, 2024	Council of Administration meeting in Springfield, Illinois
February 10, 2024	State Voice of Democracy & Patriot's Pen Banquet in Springfield, IL
March 2-6, 2024	Voice of Democracy, Washington DC
March 3-7, 2024	National Legislative Conference, Washington DC
April 13, 2024	Commander's Call – Springfield, IL
May 1, 2024	Loyalty Day
May 4, 2024	VFW Day of Service
May 27, 2024	Memorial Day
June 6, 2024	District Commander-Elect Training, Springfield, IL
June 7-9, 2024	State Convention, Springfield, IL
June 14, 2024	Flag Day
July 27- Aug 1, 2024	National Convention, Louisville, KY

2025

Feb 7-9, 2025	State VOD Banquet and Council of Administration Springfield, IL
June 12-15, 2025	State Convention, Springfield, IL
August 9-14, 2025	National Convention, Columbus, OH

2026

Feb 13-15, 2026	State VOD Banquet and Council of Administration Springfield, IL
June 11-14, 2026	State Convention, TBD
August 15-20, 2026	National Convention, Salt Lake City, UT

Deadline Dates to Remember for 2023-2024

June 25, 2023	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
July 25, 2023	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
July 31, 2023	Audits for quarter ending June 30 due to State HQ
August 1, 2022	Deadline to submit articles for Illinois VFW News
August 11, 2023	Deadline to make Hotel Reservations for Council of Administration and Commander's Homecoming
August 18, 2023	Deadline to order Commander's Homecoming dinner tickets
August 25, 2023	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
August 31, 2023	Quartermaster bonds issued through State HQ expire
August 31, 2023	Fall Program book ads due to State HQ
September 25, 2023	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
October 15, 2023	Deadline to submit articles for Illinois VFW News*
October 25, 2023	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
October 31, 2023	Audits for quarter ending September 30 due to State HQ
November 25, 2023	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
December 25, 2023	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
January 12, 2024	Deadline to make Hotel Reservations for Council of Administration and Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen
January 25, 2024	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
January 31, 2024	Audits for quarter ending December 31, 2022 due to State HQ
February 1, 2024	Deadline to submit articles for Illinois VFW News
February 2, 2024	Deadline to order VOD/PP Banquet dinner tickets
February 25, 2024	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
March 25, 2024	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
April 1, 2024	Deadline to submit articles for Illinois VFW News*
April 15, 2024	Ads for Convention Book due to State HQ
April 25, 2024	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Post Election Reports due.
April 30, 2024	Audits for the quarter ending March 31, 2023 due to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Any proposed By Law Changes for IL VFW By Laws due to State Adjutant
May 17, 2024	Deadline to make Hotel Reservations for State Convention
May 25, 2024	Veteran of the Month Nomination due to State HQ
May 31, 2024	Any proposed Resolutions for consideration at State Convention due to State Adjutant
June 1, 2024	District election reports due to State HQ

*Deadline subject to change

VFW PROGRAMS DEADLINE DATES

NOTE: Updated for the 2023-2024 VFW Program Year

Membership

December 31, 2023	Post membership at 98% to receive plaque
February 1, 2024	District Membership at 98% to receive \$500 cash award
February 28, 2024	Post membership at 100% to receive gift card for member meal
April 1, 2024	District Commanders with 100% in membership receive \$500 cash award
April 30, 2024	Deadline to determine winner of Cramer-Soden Award
April 30, 2024	Deadline to complete All-State Post Criteria to receive award at State Convention
April 30, 2024	Post with largest increase of Legacy Life Memberships (minimum 5) receives \$100 gift certificate to VFW Store
April 30, 2024	Deadline for Districts to have completed all Post Inspections and Inspections approved by State Inspector
June 1, 2024	100 new or reinstated members to receive \$500 to attend 2024 National Convention
June 15, 2024	Deadline to qualify for All State Post/District
June 30, 2024	Deadline to qualify for All American Post/District

Public Relations/Marketing

February 28, 2024	Deadline to submit nominations for State Publication Contest to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit nomination for New Media Professional of the Year to State HQ

Community Service

March 15, 2024	Deadline to submit Community Activities Report to State HQ in order to qualify for National Certificate of Recognition
April 1, 2024	Deadline to submit nomination of Volunteer of the Year to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit reports for Yellow Ribbon Program to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Department Community Service Report (Department to National)
May 3, 2024	Deadline for Post to submit Community Activities Recordbook to State HQ for judging

Americanism Program

April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit reports for Americanism Program to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit reports for POW-MIA Program to State HQ

Safety Program

April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit reports for Safety Program to State HQ
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Public Servant Recognition

January 1, 2024	Deadline to submit nominations for Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter, Paramedic, Dispatcher of the Year to State HQ
February 1, 2024	Deadline for State to submit Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter, Paramedic, Dispatcher of the Year to National
April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit nominations for Outstanding Legislator, Outstanding Patriotism, Government Service, Clergy, Citizen, News Media, Employer, JROTC Cadet of the Year and Life Saving Award to State HQ

Veteran's Assistance

April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit donation (\$50 min.) for MAP Program to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit donation (\$50 min.) for Homeless Veteran donation to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit donation (\$50 min.) for National Home to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Deadline to qualify for National Home Awards
April 30, 2024	Deadline to submit reports for Hospital/VAVS Program to State HQ
April 30, 2024	Deadline to order Buddy Poppies
June 30, 2024	Deadline to submit donation (\$100 min.) for VMS Program to National HQ

Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen

October 31	Student entries to the Post
November 15	Completion of Post judging
December 1	Sponsorship money due at State HQ for Posts or Districts wishing to sponsor VOD/PP Scholarships, Pizza Party, or Ice Cream Social
December 15	Completion of District judging December 22 District winners entry due to State HQ
December 29	District participation reports due to Department Chairmen
January 10	Completion of Department judging
January 15	Department winners due to National
January 31	Department reports due to National
April 30	Deadline to submit donation for VOD/PP to State HQ for Posts that had no nomination for VOD/PP

Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teacher Award

October 31	Entries to the Post
November 15	Completion of Post judging
December 15	Completion of District judging
December 22	District Winners due to State HQ
December 29	District participation reports due to State HQ
January 10	Completion of Department judging
January 15	Department winners to National
January 31	Department participation reports due to National

Scout of the Year

March 1	Scout entries to the Post
April 1	Post entries to Department Scouting Chairman or Department HQs
May 1	Department entry to National from Department Scouting Chairman or State HQs

Legislative Advocacy

May 31	Resolutions to be considered at State Convention due to State HQ
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Poppy Display Contest

April 30	Deadline for Convention Awards for Poppies
May 29	District judging of Poppy displays completed
June 8	District winners' Poppy Displays delivered to State Convention
June 30	Department sends State winners list to National HQ

Illinois Specific Programs

- April 30, 2023 Deadline to submit reports for Blood Donor Program to State HQ
- April 30, 2023 Deadline to submit donation (\$50 minimum) for Commander's Special Project to State HQ
- April 30, 2023 Deadline to submit donation (\$50 minimum) for Service Office Support to State HQ

“Required deadline (by VFW National Headquarters.) All other deadlines are suggested, and can be internally set at the discretion of the VFW Department leadership. Post Chairperson, be sure to communicate with your District Chairperson to find out their official deadlines, and District Chairperson need to communicate with their Department Chairperson to find out their deadlines.