

**Department Membership
Program
2023-2024**



**Department of Missouri Veterans of
Foreign Wars**

2023-2024 Dept. of MO Membership

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization. Without active, passionate members, we will cease to exist. Our membership baseline must always be 100%. In order to realize our goal, we must promote membership on two fronts:

Recruitment, and Reinstatement.

The incentives below are designed to promote membership in these three areas.

Benchmark:

- Any Post commander whose post reaches 100% in their membership by 1/1 will be entered into a drawing to attend the VFW Legislative Conference in Washington, DC.
- Any District Commander whose District reaches 100% by 1/1 will be entered into a drawing to attend the VFW Legislative Conference in Washington, DC..

Reinstatement:

- The District with the most reinstated members will earn its Commander air-fare to the VFW National Convention.

Distinguished District Commander:

- Any District Commander earning All-American status will receive a membership upgrade.
 - ◆ If their membership is continuous, they will be upgraded to Life.
 - ◆ If their membership is Life, they will be upgraded to Bronze Legacy, ect.
 - ◆ If the Commander is already a Gold Legacy Member, they may receive a stipend for \$400.00

Methods to Maximize Membership

Membership simply does not happen. It needs to be worked at and pursued. Below are suggestions for you to consider as your Post works towards its membership goal.

- Call your members. Ask how they are doing and what the VFW can do for them
- Be certain that annual post and district officers are paid up or go life
- Be observant. When you see a man or woman wearing military apparel, ask them about it. If they served, thank them for serving. If they qualify for the VFW, ask them to join.
- Conduct a phone call campaign to reach out to expired members
- Conduct a phone call campaign from the members-at-large list
- Participate in community events – (e.g., parades, street & county fairs, flag ceremonies)
- Schedule and advertise a service officer event
- Promote VFW programs at every opportunity
- Volunteer in schools
- Visit a nearby Veteran’s Home or VA Hospital
- Sponsor a local National Guard unit
- Support a local ROTC program
- Sponsor a local sports team
- Sponsor a local youth contest or special event
- Create and fund a scholarship at a local school
- Schedule and advertise a tree planting ceremony
- Conduct and advertise a community blood drive
- Conduct and advertise a community CPR class
- Institute a recycle program
- Participate in an Adopt a Highway program
- Recognize public employees at a Post dinner or other event open to the public
- Support scouting
- Support youth or hunting safety program
- Support a drug awareness program (e.g., DARE)
- Volunteer in your community (e.g., drive for Meals on Wheels, assist an elderly neighbor)
- Donate your hall to a nonprofit organization