

# **Department of Massachusetts Veterans of Foreign Wars**



## **Membership Program 2019-2020**

**Prepared by Jeffrey Najarian, State Commander**

**Michael Raymond, Membership Chairman**

***“Do The Right Thing” and “Take The Extra Step”***

This Membership Program has been designed to recognize and reward you for promoting membership in the Department of Massachusetts Veterans of Foreign Wars. We must be able to effectively recruit, retain and mentor a consistent membership base that includes all generations of veterans. Due to the dedication and involvement of all our members at all levels of the organization, we will continue to grow and have the ability to thrive.

When asked: 'Why should I join the Veterans of Foreign Wars?' Reply that: "Our strength comes from our members....and that's you and me!" The VFW strives to do good things for deserving people; particularly veteran, their families and their communities. From local grass root ideas up to national influence, we work every day to make a difference. It's our strength as an organization and with each individual membership, we grow stronger!

As VFW members and officers, remember to always strive to 'do the right thing' and 'be willing to take that extra step' to make it happen!

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#### **Goals**

1. To increase membership and participation in the VFW
2. Present a positive image of the VFW to our veterans, families and community
3. Build a stronger VFW for the future generations of veterans
4. Instill team building and Esprit de Corps amongst members
5. Provide trained veteran service officers outreach to posts and districts
6. Ensure that the 365,000+ veterans living in the Commonwealth are aware of the many programs and resources that are available through the VFW

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#### **Membership Achievement Goals**

1. Increase the number of new members by 10%
2. Increase life membership by 5%
3. Increase Re-instated members by 10%
4. Average 85% retention for posts in Massachusetts

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**Note: To receive credit, please remember to include your name and VFW membership number on all Membership Application Forms for all new members you recruit**

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**To be eligible for any award:**

**You must meet the award criteria on or before the Department deadline date (as indicated in this guide)**

**Membership numbers must appear on National's website (memstats) on or before the Departments contest deadline date**

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**A Post must have at least 50 (fifty) members to receive any award**

**Unless otherwise stated, awards will be presented at the State Convention**

**The Commander reserves the right to update and/or change the awards program at any time**

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**Respectfully,**

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**Monthly Membership Contest**

Each month posts and recruiters leading with the most new members on the last day of the month will receive a monthly prize (listed below). In the event of a tie, a raffle will be held to determine the winner. Note: you must have a minimum of (5) for posts, (5) for recruiters. Awards will be based on the current month's totals and not the accumulated total. Every month posts and recruiters will have the opportunity to compete as the contest starts over at the beginning of the month

**Post: New Members Monthly Contest**

July 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate & 1 Commanders shirt
August 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate and 2 tickets to the Cmdrs. Testimonial
September 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
October 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
November 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
September 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate & 2 tickets to the VOD/PP Banquet
January 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
February 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate & 2 tickets to the C-in-C's Banquet
March 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
April 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
May 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Cert. & 2 tickets to the State Conv. Awards Banquet
June 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate

**Recruiter: New Member Monthly Contest**

July 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate & 1 Commanders Shirt
August 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate & 2 tickets to the Cmdrs. Testimonial
September 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
October 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
November 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
December 2019	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate & 2 tickets to the VOD/PP Banquet
January 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
February 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate & 2 tickets to the C-n-C's Banquet
March 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
April 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate
May 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Cert. & 2 tickets to the State Conv. Awards Banquet
June 2020	\$50.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate

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**100 % Membership Award Deadline: March 31, 2020**

Posts achieving 100% membership by March 31, 2020 will be entered to win a \$1000.00 cash prize and two (2) \$500.00 cash prizes (2 winners). Note: A Post must have a minimum of 50 members (prior year total) or more to qualify for this award.

**Post Commander's Contest Deadline: May 31, 2020**

Post Commanders *leading* in their *Division* as of May 31, 2020 at 8:00 AM and reaching or exceeding the percentages listed below *will be the guest* of the State Commander to attend the State Convention in June 2020. They will receive a full room and tax (2 nights) and two (2) tickets to the Awards Banquet.

**All State Post Award**

**Must** have 100% or greater in membership by June 30, 2020 at 8:00 AM and **must** have completed the following three (3) tasks:

- 1. The Post Quartermaster *must* be bonded for the full year NLT August 31, 2019**
- 2. The Post *must* be inspected NLT March 31, 2020**
- 3. The Post *must* have all four (4) quarterly audits submitted NLT May 1, 2020**

***In Addition***, the Post **must** have completed a minimum of **seven (7)** of the items listed below:

1. Must have submitted all Community Service Reports (for 5/1/19-10/31/19 and 1/1/19-4/30/20)
2. Must have participated/purchased Buddy Poppies through the Department
3. Must have participated in the Voice of Democracy Program (Entry)
4. Must have participated in the Patriots Pen Program (Entry)
5. Must have submitted a Candidate to one of the following: Teacher Award, Police, Fire, EMT or Scout Award
6. Must have attended Membership Training (September 2019)
7. Must have participated in a fundraising Special Project event or Donated a minimum of \$50.00 to the Commanders Special Project via the Massachusetts Foundation
8. Must have attended a Field Training (OTI) Session
9. Must have participated with a National Home Donation (Minimum Donation of \$50.00)
10. Must have participated with an Unmet Needs Donation (Minimum Donation of \$50.00)
11. Must perform one 'Family Function' during the year



**All State Post Commander**

Post Commander's achieving All State Post status will receive the Following:

All State Commander's Cap

All State Commander's Lapel Pin

\$100.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate

**Post Quartermasters Award**

The Post Quartermaster of a Post achieves All State Post status will receive the following:

All State Quartermaster's Cap

All State Quartermaster's Lapel Pin

Note: Post Quartermaster's who achieve All State status after the State Convention will be presented with their Cap and Lapel Pin at the Council of Administration Meeting in September.

**All State District Commanders Award**

The District Commanders must be 100% by 8:00 AM on June 30, 2020, further:

- The District Quartermasters must be bonded for the full year NLT August 31/2019
- The District must be inspected NLT March 31, 2020
- The District must have an annual audit submitted NLT May 1, 2020
- The District must have made a donation to the Massachusetts VFW Foundation (Minimum Donation of \$50.00)
- The District must have All Posts in the District inspected by March 31, 2020
- The District must have a Voice of Democracy District entry submitted to the Department
- The District must have a Patriots Pen entry submitted to the Department
- The District must have at least one Post in the District submit a candidate to the Department for one of the following: Teacher Award, Police, Fire or EMT Awards
- The District must have participated in a special project event or a donation (Minimum Donation of \$50.00)
- The District must have made a donation to the VFW National Home (minimum Donation of \$50.00)
- The District must have participated in a donation to the Unmet Needs Program (Minimum Donation of \$50.00)

All State District Commander will be awarded the Following:

- An All State Commander's Cap
- \$100 VFW Store Gift Certificate
- Two (2) tickets to the State Convention Awards Banquet
- \$200.00 cash

Note: District Commanders who achieve All State status after State Convention will be presented their awards at the Council of Administration Meeting in September.

**District Quartermaster's Award**

The District Quartermaster that achieves All State District status will receive the following:

- All State Quartermaster Cap
- All State Quartermaster Lapel Pin

Note: District Quartermasters who achieve All State status after the State Convention will be presented with their awards at the Council of Administration Meeting in September.

**District Commanders Contest**

District Commanders *leading* their *divisions* and reaching or exceeding the membership percentages listed below by May 31, 2020 at 8:00 AM will receive \$200.00 cash.

Division members must be at least:

- |     |               |                                |
|-----|---------------|--------------------------------|
| I   | 1001 to 2000  | 100% of last year's membership |
| II  | 2001 to 2500  | 100% of last year's membership |
| III | 2501 to 3500  | 100% of last year's membership |
| IV  | 3501 and over | 100% of last year's membership |

**Reinstated Members Award**

The Post with the most reinstated members by June 1, 2020 will receive a \$200.00 VFW Store Gift Certificate. (Minimum of 25)

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**State Commander Special Membership Awards**

*These awards are in addition to the monthly membership contest:*

5 Members Recruited: State "5" Gold Pin and State Commanders Challenge Coin

10 Members Recruited: Top Three Challenge Coins or Commanders Set

15 Members Recruited: (1) Commanders Shirt

20 Members Recruited: (2) Tickets to the Commanders Testimonial

25 Members Recruited: (2) Tickets to the Commander-in Chiefs Reception

30 Members Recruited: (2) Nights Hotel Stay at the State Convention