

Send to: The American Legion, PO Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102 - 0179

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------|--------|
| Name of Post | Post number | |
| District | Located in the City of | County |

IMPORTANT -- Your Post **Will Not** receive the new membership cards until you return this completed form to Department Headquarters. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ADJUTANT OR PREVIOUS ADJUTANT TO COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM. Forward immediately following the election.

IMPORTANT -- Department mail list of POST OFFICIALS and DIRECTORY are prepared from information on this certification.

| Print or Type Name, Complete Mailing Address, Phone Number and Email if applicable | Date of Military Enlistment | Date of Military Discharge | Military Rank and Branch | American Legion Membership # |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Commander Address Phone: () Email: | | | | |
| Adjutant Address Phone: () Email: | | | | |
| Finance Officer Address Phone: () Email: | | | | |
| Membership Chrmn. Address Phone: () Email: | | | | |

List additional officers on back side

Membership supplies & mailings will go to Post Adjutant unless specify otherwise below.

Send Post Mail To:

Indicate Officer of Post Commander/Adjutant/Finance Officer etc.

Street Or P.O. Box

City

State

Zip

Early submission of Officers List (9/01/2025) will ensure your Post listing in the 2025-2026 Department Directory.

Additional Officers:

| Print or Type Name, Complete Mailing Address, Phone Number and Email if applicable | Date of Enlistment | Date of Discharge | Rank and Branch | American Legion Membership # |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Vice Commander Address | | | | |
| Vice Commander Address | | | | |
| Service Officer Address | | | | |
| Historian Address | | | | |
| Chaplain Address | | | | |
| Judge Advocate Address | | | | |
| Sergeant-at-Arms Address | | | | |

Post Meeting Dates _____ Time _____ Post Phone (____) _____
Not to be Post Officers Home Phone #

Physical Address of Post _____
Street City Zip

Post Meeting Place If Not At Post _____

Annual Dues \$ _____ Are Officials Bonded? _____ Is Post Incorporated _____

DEPARTMENT BY-LAWS:

ARTICLE IX, SEC. 2 Each Post in the Department shall have a Commander, one or more Vice Commanders, an Adjutant, a Finance Officer, a Chaplain, a Historian, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and such other officers as may be provided by the Constitution and By-laws of the Post.

ARTICLE IX, SEC. 3 The election of Post Officers for the ensuing year shall be held at least thirty days (6/10/25) but not more than sixty days (5/10/25), prior to the the Department Convention (7/10/25) Officers elected shall be installed after the Department Convention, but not later than 10/10/25, after the adjournment of the Annual Department Convention.

POST OFFICER BONDING:

ARTICLE XV, SEC 4 Department By-Laws provides that all Post officials handling American Legion monies shall be properly bonded with a good and solvent bonding and surety company, or by other duly qualified bond, as surety. Bonds should be approved annually by the Post. Many local insurance brokers/agents provide such coverage.

Pursuant to the Department Constitution and By-Laws, I hereby certify that the following Officers have been duly elected to serve the Post as indicated below and that I have examined the service record of each and find them eligible to belong to The American Legion.

Certified by _____

Post Adjutant/Officer

Date

THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI



CORNHOLE

TOURNAMENT

Sponsored By

Past Post Commander's Club

THURSDAY, JULY 9 2026

OASIS HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER

9:00 AM

(BACK-UP LOCATION - LEGION POST 125)

Registration:

\$30

**Per Person
NLT 1 July**

2-Person Teams

Cash Prizes!

**Best of 3 - Advances
50/50 Drawing**

Grab a

**Partner or
Come Solo
We'll Match
You Up!**

All Proceeds Benefit: Dept of Missouri Charitable Account

Make Checks Payable To: American Legion Dept of MO

Name: _____

Teammate: _____

Solo: ☐

Phone #: _____

Mail To:

**Betty Gonzales
34 Countrywood Dr
St. Peters, MO 63376**

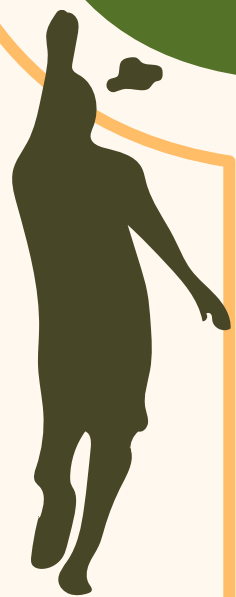
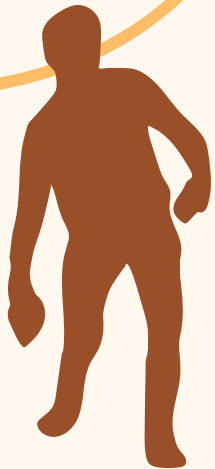
**For Additional Info:
Betty (636) 485-9772**



THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

SPONSOR YOUR CORNHOLE



Sponsored By

Past Post Commander's Club

THURSDAY, JULY 9 2026

**OASIS HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER
9:00 AM**

All Proceeds Benefit:

Dept of Missouri

Charitable Account

Yes, I would like to sponsor this event with a \$50 Donation

Make Checks Payable To: American Legion Dept of MO

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Mail To:

Betty Gonzales
34 Countrywood Dr
St. Peters, MO 63376

**The Department of Illinois will host the 92nd
Annual Lincoln Pilgrimage and the 17th Annual
Lincoln Pilgrimage Membership Challenge
February 11-12, 2026, in Springfield, IL**



The Department of Missouri will award
Five (5) Post Commanders a two (2) day trip to the 91st Anniversary Lincoln Day Pilgrimage to
President Lincoln's Tomb, held in Springfield, Illinois on February 11 & 12, 2026.

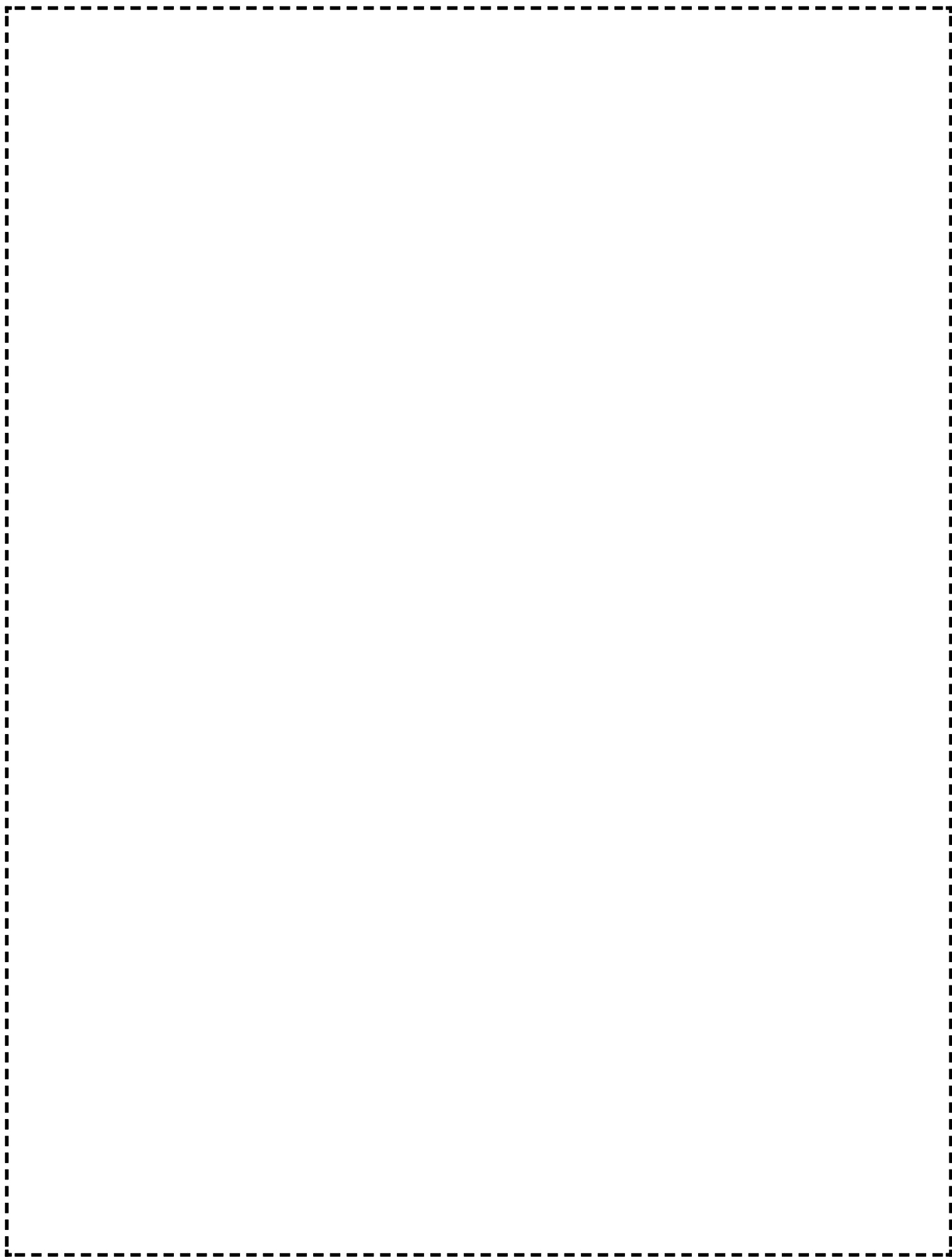
The Award will include: If possible, shared transportation from The Department Headquarters in
Jefferson City and/or a location to be decided later, Room accommodations the night of the 11th,
Breakfast and Luncheon on the 12th with National Commander Dan Wiley, National President
Pam Ray and National SAL Commander William Clancy III..... ***Plus, the following Lincoln
Pilgrimage Membership Challenge items: a lightweight embroidered jacket, a paid tour thru
the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, and a Lincoln pin.***

This Award is for the Post Commander with the highest percentage of their membership goal
into Department by December 31, 2025 (**All membership Postmarks by December 31, 2025
will be included**). Winner's will be notified NLT January 5, 2026, confirmation of attendance
will be needed no later than January 15, 2026.

The Categories are as follows:

- Category I: 15 – 50 Members**
- Category II: 51 – 100 Members**
- Category III: 101 – 200 Members**
- Category IV: 201 - 500 Members**
- Category V: 501 + Members**

Good luck to all Post Commanders and hope to see you in Springfield, IL !!!



USA250 Challenge.

Department of Missouri Initiative

September 1, 2025 – July 4, 2026

Proposal

For the Department of Missouri to create a program, overseen by the 250th Anniversary Committee, to support participation in The American Legion's National USA 250 Challenge.

Scope

Reflecting on the successes of the *100 Miles for Hope*, the USA 250 Challenge has three Challenge Categories:

Fitness Challenge

- Log 250 miles or hours through walking, running, cycling, swimming, etc.
- *Team example: 10 members walk 25 miles each.*
- *Suggested Missouri tie-in: Walk portions of the Katy Trail or hike in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways.*

Wellness Challenge

- Achieve the number 250 related to mental and emotional well-being activities.
- Examples include performing 250 hours of yoga, conducting 250 buddy checks, signing up 250 participants for the *Be the One* training, or Riders covering 250 miles.
- *Suggested Missouri tie-in: Riders could plan a 250-mile route across historic Route 66 in Missouri or Katy Trail.*

Community Service Challenge

- Complete 250 hours of community service to achieve the number 250 related to such an activity.
- Examples include collecting and sending 250 care packages to service members, cleaning up 250 gravestones at a veteran's cemetery, teaching flag advocacy to 250 students, and more.

- *Suggested Missouri tie-in: Clean and honor graves at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery or Springfield National Cemetery.*

Note: There are many more challenges under each category, and additional ones are being considered.

Discussion

The USA 250 Challenge is a “canned” program provided by National. Participants from the Legion Family would need to enroll in the program via the portal, follow the rules, and purchase the commemorative shirt (with proceeds going to Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF)).

The national program has the tools to track the successes of the participants. This accessible data will be used to determine if criteria (to be developed) has been met for monetary awards (to be approved).

Suggested Awards

The individual or group must meet eligibility rules and challenge criteria to be considered for awards. These awards are available to both individuals and groups.

Criteria

- All participants, whether individually or in a group, must enroll in the TAL USA 250 Challenge.
- An individual or group must complete a minimum of five challenges, and may only duplicate one particular challenge, no later than July 4, 2026.

Recommended Awards

- Five (5) \$250 cash awards
 - 10 challenge coins featuring the Missouri Bicentennial design or Gateway Arch imagery
-

Request

That this program be adopted and funded by the Department of Missouri, and executed by the 250th Anniversary Committee, Ken Gullledge, Committee Chair.

Financial request: \$2,000.00

Challenges available

Note: You may complete any challenge, mix if you wish, but you may only duplicate one specific challenge. A minimum of five challenges is required. You may choose to do one challenge twice, but each of the other three must be different.

- 250 hours of community service
- 250 care packages to Missouri National Guard members or deployed troops
- Cleaning 250 Veteran Gravestones at **Jefferson Barracks** or **Springfield National Cemetery**
- Teach flag advocacy to 250 Missouri students
- Log 250 miles or hours through walking, running, cycling, swimming, etc. (e.g., Katy Trail rides or Ozark hikes)
- Perform 250 hours of yoga or wellness workshops at Missouri Legion Posts
- Conduct 250 buddy checks with Missouri veterans
- Sign up 250 for the *Be the One* training
- Riders could cover 250 miles on **Route 66 across Missouri**
- Collect/Retire 250 worn flags at Missouri posts and memorial sites
- Distribute 250 wreaths on **Wreaths Across America Day**
- Collect and distribute 250 items to Homeless Vets or Seniors in Kansas City, St. Louis, or Springfield
- Invite 250 veterans to a dinner or breakfast hosted by local posts
- 250 toys for Toys for Tots (St. Louis or Kansas City drives)
- Spend 250 minutes in Missouri classrooms teaching civic and veteran history
- 250 hours of mentorship for Missouri youth programs like Boys State
- Spend 250 hours with a veteran in Missouri nursing homes
- Volunteer 250 hours at Missouri VA Hospitals (Columbia, St. Louis, Mexico, Kansas City)
- Call 250 games of Veterans Bingo at local posts
- Be a Marine, chew 250 crayons (humorous tradition retained)

New Challenges are added all the time

Make it a 250 thing!

Website,

<https://www.legion.org/get-involved/community-programs/usa250/challenge>

**NATIONAL COMMANDER DAN K. WILEY'S
103 PERCENT MEMBERSHIP GOAL
2026 MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE INCENTIVE PIN
(CERTIFICATION FORM)**

**This form must be sent to the department headquarters to be verified
by the department adjutant.**

Date: _____

Name: _____

Membership ID Number: _____

Street Address or PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

A DOG TAG COIN WILL BE AWARDED TO ANY POST COMMANDER, DISTRICT COMMANDER, COUNTY COMMANDER, DIVISION COMMANDER, DEPARTMENT COMMANDER OR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN WHO ACHIEVES 103 PERCENT OF THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERSHIP GOAL FOR 2026. COINS WILL BE MAILED DIRECTLY TO THE RECIPIENT UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

☐ MAIL TO RECIPIENT ☐ MAIL TO DEPARTMENT

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS JUNE 30, 2026, OR UNTIL SUPPLIES ARE EXHAUSTED.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INDIVIDUAL LISTED ABOVE HAS REACHED 103 PERCENT OF THEIR 2026 MEMBERSHIP GOAL.

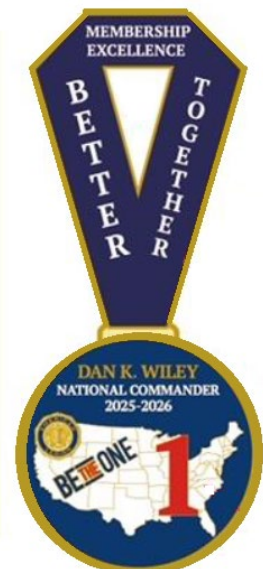
Department Adjutant

Date

**For Department use only – return completed forms to:
The American Legion
Internal Affairs & Membership Division
PO Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206**

Fax: 317-630-1413

Email: kadams@legion.org





**NATIONAL COMMANDER DAN K. WILEY'S
2026 MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE INCENTIVE PIN
CERTIFICATION FORM**



**Please make sure that the address, phone number and email address
provided is for the recruiter and not the post.**

Date: _____

Name: _____

Membership ID Number: _____

Street Address or PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

☐ MAIL TO RECRUITER ☐ MAIL TO POST

TO QUALIFY YOU NEED TO RECRUIT (2) NEW MEMBERS INTO THE AMERICAN LEGION.

(A NEW MEMBER IS DEFINED AS ANY ELIGIBLE VETERAN JOINING FOR THE 2026 MEMBERSHIP YEAR WHO WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DURING THE 2025 MEMBERSHIP YEAR). TRANSFERS DO NOT COUNT AS NEW MEMBERS.)

NEW AUXILIARY MEMBERS AND SAL MEMBERS DO NOT COUNT TOWARDS THIS INCENTIVE. PLEASE FORWARD THE NAMES OF NEW SAL MEMBERS OR AUXILIARY MEMBERS TO YOUR SQUADRON OR UNIT FOR USE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS. CONTACT YOUR STATE HEADQUARTERS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED BEFORE SUBMISSION.
COINS WILL NOT BE MAILED UNTIL THEY ARE VERIFIED ON THE NATIONAL DATABASE.

THE DEADLINE FOR THIS INCENTIVE IS JUNE 30, 2026, OR UNTIL SUPPLIES ARE EXHAUSTED.

(2) NEW MEMBERS:

(Include full name, ID number, department, post)

1. _____

2. _____

Return completed forms to:

The American Legion

Internal Affairs & Membership Division

PO Box 1055

Indianapolis, IN 46206

Fax: 317-630-1413

Email: kadams@legion.org



**NATIONAL COMMANDER DAN K. WILEY'S
2026 MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE INCENTIVE PIN
CERTIFICATION FORM**



**Please make sure that the address, phone number and email address
provided is for the recruiter and not the post.**

Date: _____

Name: _____

Membership ID Number: _____

Street Address or PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

☐ MAIL TO RECRUITER ☐ MAIL TO POST

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(Include full name, ID number, department, post)

1. _____

2. _____

Return completed forms to:

The American Legion

Internal Affairs & Membership Division

PO Box 1055

Indianapolis, IN 46206

Fax: 317-630-1413

Email: kadams@legion.org

MISSOURI CADET PATROL ACADEMY

Sponsored by The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.
in Cooperation with the Missouri State Highway Patrol

54th Class held June 7 through June 12, 2026

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Age: 16-18. No condition of race, creed or sex is a prerequisite for selection. Former Cadet Patrol graduates will NOT eligible.
2. Applicants must have a C grade average or higher (2.0+ GPA). Home-schooled students that meet the C grade average requirement are also eligible.
3. Must furnish own transportation to and from the Missouri State Highway Patrol Law Enforcement Academy.
4. Every applicant must be of good moral character and come well recommended.
5. ***Applicants must be in excellent physical condition and able to participate in a rigorous physical program.***
6. **Copy of valid Missouri driver's license must be attached.**
7. This application must be endorsed by an American Legion Post in your area to be considered.

PERSONAL DATA

1. Name _____ Home Phone _____
2. Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Sex _____ School Grade _____ Do you Swim? ___ Yes ___ No
3. Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____
4. Student Email Address: _____
5. Father's Name _____ Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
6. Father's Email Address: _____
7. Mother's Name _____ Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
8. Mothers Email Address: _____
9. I do believe in The American Legion's Principles of Law and Order and for God and Country. Circle Y N

UNIFORM MEASUREMENTS: (How to Measure) For accuracy, you must have someone else measure you. Keep the tape straight and snug, but not too tight. If your measurements are between sizes, order the next larger size, to the nearest inch, e.g., 34, 35, 36, etc. These garments do shrink somewhat with washing, so plan accordingly. **Pants Inseam:** Measure down the inseam of the leg to one inch below the ankle bone and round up to the nearest full inch. *Example:* Actual measurement is 31-1/2" = 32" inseam as shown above. **Waist:** Measure over the shirt (not the trousers). **Neck:** Measure actual collar size to the nearest one-half inch (e.g., 15-1/2, 16-1/2, 17-1/2, etc.) **It is very important that these measurements are correct. Uniforms are ordered from a uniform company using the sizes given from below and cannot be changed.**

***** You can find a how-to guide at the back of this application *****

Height: _____

Weight: _____

Uniform Pants:

Uniform Shirts: (Nearest one-half inch)

PT Clothes: (XS – 3XL)

Waist _____

Neck _____

T-Shirt: _____

Inseam _____

Chest _____

Shorts _____

Neck size must be accurate because shirts will be worn with a necktie.

NOTE: PLEASE FILL IN ENDORSEMENTS ON BACK OF FORM.

Must submit copy of medical insurance in case of illness. Student will be taken to Urgent Care clinic if complaining of illness while attending the program. Co-payment will be the responsibility of student.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE (Must be completed in full by applicant.)

1. _____
(Name, Relationship and Phone Number of person to be notified in case of medical emergency.)

2. Circle diseases you have had:

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------|----------|
| Measles | Mumps | Smallpox | Chicken Pox | Pneumonia | Scarlet Fever | Asthma | Polio | Diabetes |
| Allergies | Diphtheria | Appendicitis | Convulsions | Heart Trouble | Lung Trouble | Ear Trouble | (Other) | |

3. Date of last Tetanus Shot _____

4. Have you been vaccinated against Smallpox? (Please circle) Yes No

5. Have you received Polio Immunization? (Please circle) Yes No

During your stay at the Academy you will be covered by insurance. Your personal medical insurance will be the primary policy and the insurance provided by the Cadet Patrol program is the secondary policy.

Applicant's Signature _____
(Name) (Date)

TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR FAMILY PHYSICIAN:

What is the physical condition of the applicant:

Heart _____ Ears _____ Skin _____ Eyes _____ Lungs _____ Throat _____

Do you feel the applicant is physically capable of taking part in a program that includes rigorous physical activity?
_____ Yes _____ No

(Signature of Physician)

(Date)

EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION

(To be completed by parent or legal guardian.)

I, _____, as the **PARENT** or **LEGAL GUARDIAN** of the applicant, do hereby consent to the performance of emergency medical or dental care, including surgical procedures, for this applicant. I understand this will be done only in an emergency, and by a licensed physician. Anesthesia may be used when deemed necessary, by medical personnel.

(Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian)

(Date)

ENDORSEMENTS

1. **SCHOOL** – I hereby certify that the above-named student is a member in good standing of our local high school or home school and has a C grade average or higher (2.0+ GPA) and is recommended for participation in the youth program.

Signature of School Official – Name of School – Position

2. **LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL** I, _____, regularly employed in the field of law enforcement, do know, or have interviewed the applicant and do recommend him/her as a worthy candidate to participate in the youth program.

Signature of Peace Officer

Title

Date

Name of Law Enforcement Office

3. **LOCAL LEGION POST** – I hereby certify that the above listed applicant is a resident of Missouri. Our Legion Post Cadet Patrol Chairman recommends his/her acceptance in the youth program. **(Note: PAYMENT FOR FEE OF \$450.00 (PAID BY SPONSORING POST) MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION. Make the check payable to *The American Legion Department of Missouri*.**

Name and Number of American Legion Post

Signature of Post Commander or Adjutant

Phone Number

4. **DISTRICT ENDORSEMENT** – The applicant named in the application is hereby approved as our District Representative in the youth program. *(Student must be interested in pursuing a career in Law Enforcement.)*

District #

Signature of District Commander or District Cadet Patrol Chairman

Date

**THIS APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY DISTRICT CHAIRMAN
NO LATER THAN March 1, 2026.**

**APPLICATION MUST REACH DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY
April 1, 2026.**

PURPOSE

It should be unnecessary to say that at the heart of the American system is this nation's dependence upon Law and Order, yet few concepts now are more misunderstood by our society than those which govern the relationships between Freedom and Democracy and Law and Order.

Never in the history of this nation has this relationship been so strained and under attack, but at the same time, never has there been a greater need or opportunity to convey to the general public, and in particular the youth, the need for Law and Order in a dynamic and progressive Democracy. Because of current social unrest and changing lifestyles in this country, the role of Law Enforcement Agencies in upholding the law needs full understanding and support.

The principal responsibility of our law enforcement authority is to insure all the rights and freedoms of **All** members of our society, and the underlying purpose of The Missouri Cadet Patrol Academy is to provide firsthand experience of the role of Law Enforcement in promoting and safer-guarding American freedoms and rights.

It is hoped that the young men and women who participate in The Cadet Patrol Academy will develop favorable attitudes toward law enforcement and will help disseminate these attitudes throughout the community.

Our young people have proven their abilities to think clearly and often to be the staunchest of supporters for moral and legal rights. The Academy gives them the opportunity to see law enforcement practices and concepts at their best.

SPONSORSHIP

The local Legion Post may accept outside financial assistance to send a Cadet to the Academy. However, none can be accepted except through the local Post which will send their nominations to the District Chairman who will make the final selections. District Chairmen are encouraged to make alternate selections.

The Cadet Patrol program will be conducted at the Missouri State Highway Patrol Law Enforcement Academy in Jefferson City, Missouri, located at 1510 East Elm Street, (Highway 50 East).

THE PROGRAM CONSISTS OF A TYPICAL WEEK OF RIGOROUS PATROL RECRUIT TRAINING

The week's activities will include: Classroom instruction in the History of Law Enforcement, defensive driving, Radar, Motor Vehicle Laws, First Aid, shooting demonstrations, drug abuse, and use of alcohol, as well as demonstrations of police skills, such as personal defense and weapons firing. Organized sports will be a part of the program as well as tours of the area as time permits. It is expected that Missouri State officials will visit during the week. The American Legion will furnish staff assistance during the program.

QUALIFICATIONS

Age — 16 through 18 years of age. Must Have reached sixteenth birthday by **April 1, 2026.**

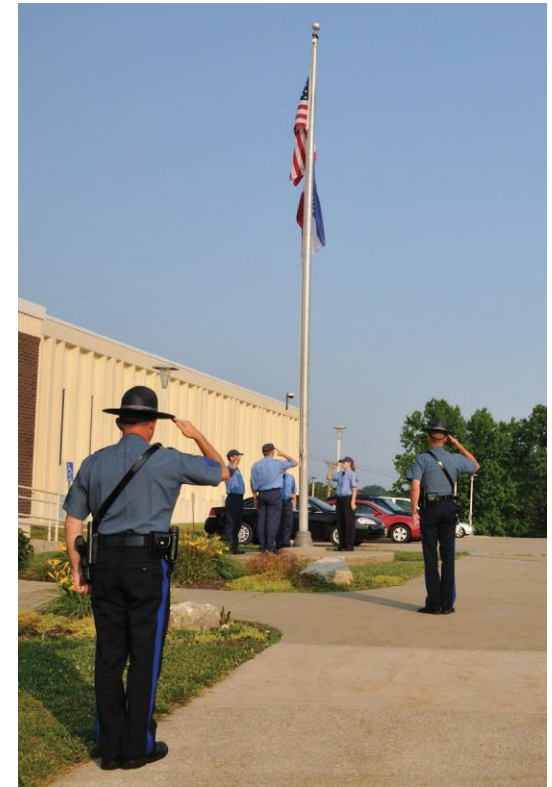
Applicants must have a (C) average or higher (2.0+ GPA). Home schooled students that meet the (C) average requirement are also eligible.

Each applicant must be of good moral character, present a neat, well-groomed military appearance and come well recommended. Males will not report to the Academy with a beard.

Possess a valid driver's license or a learner's permit (due to driving course). Copy of driver's license or learner's permit must accompany the application.

Have an interest in pursuing a career in the Criminal Justice System.

Any individual applying for Cadet Patrol must meet the qualification requirements and only those recommended by their local high school official may be considered. If home school note on application.



“KEEP IT FLYING”



“LOOKING GOOD”

Former Cadet Patrol Graduates are not eligible. NO CONDITION OF RACE, CREED OR COLOR IS A PREREQUISITE TO SELECTION. UNDER NO CONDITIONS WILL HARASSMENT BE TOLERATED.

APPLICATION

Official application forms, which must be fully completed, may be obtained from your local American Legion Post and online at www.missourilegion.org. Be sure the necessary signatures of your high school principal, your local Post Commander or Adjutant, your Doctor and local law enforcement official have been secured. The applicant should express a personal interest in the program.

Applicants must be physically able to take part in a Rigorous Physical Program. The local Post Commander, Adjutant, or Cadet Patrol Chairman will interview each applicant, and forward each completed application with the fee of \$450.00 to the District Commander or Chairman, **no later than March 1, 2026.**

Make checks payable to: The American Legion Dept. of MO.

The District Commander must forward his endorsed application to The American Legion, Department of Missouri, Inc., Post Office Box 179, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, no later than **April 1, 2026.** (The District Commander is urged to forward additional applications in the event they might be accepted. If not accepted, fees will be returned.)

EQUIPMENT

Each Cadet will be issued an official uniform which will be worn at all times, except during recreational periods. Personal toiletry items, including glasses (if you wear contacts), clothing for athletic activities such as gym shoes, T-shirts and black dress shoes for marching in uniform will be the responsibility of the individual.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cadets are quartered two per room which includes restroom and bathing facilities. Rooms are heated and air conditioned. A lounge with TV and recreational facilities. In case of illness the student will be taken to a medical facility for care. This will not be a choice of the cadet.

REGISTRATION AND CHECKOUT

Registration will begin on Sunday, June 7th at **3:00 p.m. and must be completed by 5:00 p.m.** Once Cadets complete registration, they will be staying at the academy for the remainder of the week.

Checkout will begin immediately following graduation on Friday, June 12th.

Individuals providing transportation will be permitted to pick up Cadets only at the Missouri Highway Patrol Law Enforcement Academy — **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

For those Cadets wishing to drive their own vehicles to the academy, parking space will be available. However, they must remain parked until checkout time Friday June 12th, 2025.

VISITORS

GRADUATION WILL BE AT 10:00 a.m., (Time is subject to change. Please call 573-526-6174 to confirm.) **Friday, June 12th, 2026.** Families and friends of the Cadets are invited to attend.

Cell phones will not be permitted during scheduled activities.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY A CADET MAY BE REACHED BY TELEPHONE AT 573/526-6174 or 573-526-6175



54th Annual MISSOURI CADET PATROL ACADEMY

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC SAFETY



conducted at
MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL
LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

sponsored by

THE AMERICAN LEGION
Department of Missouri

in cooperation with

THE MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

June 7th through June 12th, 2026

Frankie Adams, Chairman
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 380-6231

Grateful appreciation is extended to Past Department Commander Charles A. Barron (1967) whose dedication led to the creation of this National Security activity.

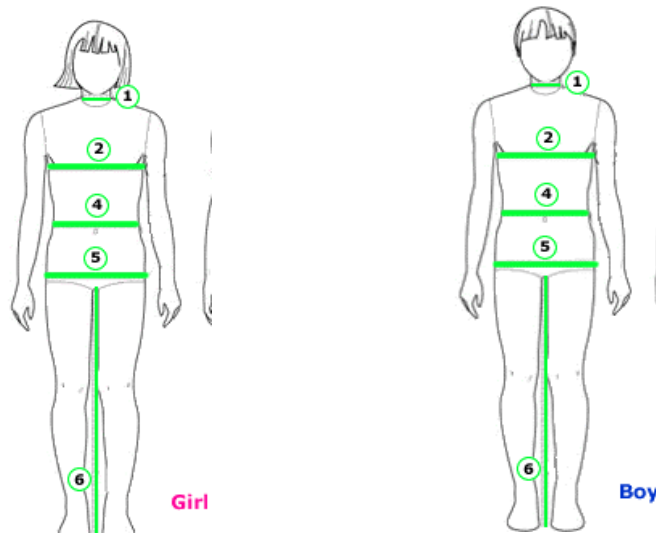


**54th ANNUAL MISSOURI
CADET PATROL ACADEMY
DISTRICT CHAIRS**



- 1st District** Norm Goforth, 420 E Main St, Ethel, MO 63539 (660) 486-3259
burningmemories.46@yahoo.com
[Ralls, Schuyler, Scotland, Clark, Adair, Knox, Shelby, Lewis, Macon, Marion, Monroe]
- 2nd District** Phyllis Campbell, 3112 County Rd 1140, Clifton Hill, MO 65244 (660) 261-4218
phylliscampbell706@gmail.com [Mercer, Putnam, Grundy, Sullivan, Livingston, Linn, Carroll, Chariton, Randolph]
- 3rd District** Calvin Bumgarner, 5212 Cody St., Shawnee, KS 66203 cbumgarner522@aol.com (913) 522-1103
[Worth, Harrison, Gentry, DeKalb, Daviess, Clinton, Caldwell, Clay, Ray]
- 4th District** Kevin Stremmel, 6614 N London Dr, Kansas City, MO 64151 (816) 405-6762
phlhnttl@gmail.com [Atchison, Nodaway, Holt, Andrew, Buchanan, Platte]
- 5th District** Richard Nicholai, 1005 S Valley Rd, Olathe, KS 66061 (913) 777-6453 rbnicholai@gmail.com
[Jackson County]
- 6th District** Kenneth J. Goth, 1905 Rustic Lane, Clinton, 64735 kgoth@charter.net (660) 351-2184
[Cass, Johnson, Bates, Henry, Vernon, St. Clair, Cedar]
- 7th District** Stephen J. Olson, 423 E North St, Marshall, MO 65340 stephen.j.olson@hotmail.com
(660) 831-0982
[Lafayette, Saline, Howard, Pettis, Benton, Hickory]
- 8th District** Paul Backues, PO Box 207, Freeburg, MO 65035 pbakues@gmail.com (573) 291-3526
[Cooper, Callaway, Boone, Morgan, Cole, Osage, Camden, Miller, Moniteau]
- 9th District** Daniel Sauer, 3006 Blanchette Dr, St Charles, MO 63301 dsauer@aol.com (314) 808-8438
[Audrain, Pike, Montgomery, Lincoln, Warren, Gasconade, St. Charles, Franklin]
- 10th District** Edward Ucinski III 1370 Green Birch Dr, Fenton, MO 63052 (314) 660-7685
educkinski780@hotmail.com [St. Louis County]
- 11/12th District**
[St. Louis City]
- 13th District** Paul J. Kohm Jr., 2153 S Perryville Blvd, Perryville, MO 63775 (573) 768-5461
pkohm@hotmail.com
[Jefferson, Washington, Iron, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Perry, Madison, Reynolds, Wayne]
- 14th District** Frankie Adams, 805 Cherokee St., Sikeston, MO 63801 kc5pin@yahoo.com (573) 380-6231
[Carter, Bollinger, Ripley, Butler, Stoddard, Cape Girardeau, Pemiscot, Dunklin, New Madrid, Mississippi, Scott]
- 15th District** Bob Loudermilk, 1913 E 44th St Joplin, MO 64804 (417) 438-6504
Bloudermilk4767@gmail.com [Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, McDonald, Barry]
- 16th District** Rick Hirsch, 19945 Hwy 28, Dixon, MO 65459 vwtriker@gmail.com (573) 528-9131
[Oregon, Maries, Pulaski, Phelps, Laclede, Crawford, Dent, Wright, Texas, Shannon, Howell]
- 17th District** Allen Hines, 3377 W Tracy Ct., Springfield, MO 65807 2thirty@mehsi.com (417) 866-9602
[Polk, Dallas, Greene, Webster, Christian, Douglas, Stone, Taney, Ozark]

How to measure for your uniform.



Neck (1):

Measure around base of neck, just below adam's apple, allowing for comfortable fit. About a finger width of room.

Chest/ Bust (2):

Measure the fullest part of the chest. Boys just under the arms. Girls across the fullest part of the bust.

Waist (4):

Measure around the narrowest part of your natural waist. Generally around the belly button area. To ensure comfortable fit, do not pull the measuring tape too tightly.

*DO NOT measure over the belt or waistband.

Inseam (6):

Measure while standing, from the top of your inner thigh down to the bottom of you ankle.

*About one inch below the anklebone.

INSURANCE INFORMATION

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN

(Please Return to Department Headquarters with Acceptance Form)

(Name of Claimant)

(Date of Birth)

(Home Address)

Person to contact in an Emergency

(Address)

(Phone Number)

During the applicant's stay at The American Legion Cadet Patrol Academy, Supplemental insurance will be provided by The American Legion **after all claims have been submitted to the individuals insurance company.**

1. Parents Name _____ Home Phone _____

Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Father's Occupation _____ Employer _____
(Name/Address/Phone No.)

3. Mother's Occupation _____ Employer _____
(Name/Address/Phone No.)

4. List of family medical insurance policies _____
(Attach separate sheet if more space is needed)

Name of Insurance Co. _____ Group Individual HMO
Policy No.(s) _____

Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

To whom (Employer, Union, etc.) was policy issued _____

(Date)

(Signature of Parent or Guardian)



ANNOUNCING!!!!

DISTINGUISHED LEGIONNAIRE AWARD

Deadline Feb. 6, 2026

Eligibility: Living members of The American Legion Department of Missouri, who have rendered and continue to render outstanding and even sacrificial service to The American Legion and its programs for "God and Country." No Past Department Commander, Past National Executive Committeeman or Alternate National Executive Committeeman shall be eligible for the award.

Source of Nominations: Nominations may come only from Districts of the Department of Missouri. Nominations must be approved by Districts action. Each District may submit no more than one nomination annually.

Method for Nomination to be written: They should state the branch of service and period of time during which the nominee served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. The nomination must give, in detail, the history of service the nominee has rendered to The American Legion on the Post, District, and Department levels, giving dates of such service. Nomination should be accompanied with other supporting material.

Deadline for Nomination: Nominations must be received at The American Legion Department of Missouri Headquarters by February 6, 2026.

Post Awards: No award will be made posthumously unless death occurs after nomination of Legionnaire has been received at Department Headquarters.



ANNOUNCING!!!!

Distinguished Service Award

Deadline Feb. 6, 2026

The Distinguished Service Award Committee is seeking nominations of individuals to be considered for the 2026 Award.

A resolution approved by the 1966 Department Convention authorized this award. The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor The American Legion Department of Missouri can bestow upon a Missourian, other than being elected Department Commander.

The Award is presented to Missourians who have throughout the years rendered dedicated and exceptional service to their state of Missouri and to the nation.

The recipients need not be a member of The American Legion, nor a Veteran of the military service.

Only one award may be made each year to a living person, but more than one posthumous award may be made in any one year.

Deadline for the receipt of nominations is February 6, 2026. The Committee will meet during the 2026 Spring DEC meeting to determine their recommendation to the Department Executive Committee for final action.

Please mail nominations to the **Department of Missouri Attention Distinguished Service Award** PO Box 179 Jefferson City, MO 65102 or to the email to services@missourilegion.org .



THE EMPLOYER OF OLDER WORKERS AWARD

Nomination Form

The American Legion Department of: _____ Date: _____

The American Legion Post's name and number: _____

Please print or type information

1. Exact name of company: _____
2. Business address: _____
3. Name and title of the company's contact person: _____
4. Contact person's telephone number: _____
5. Type of business: _____
6. **Total employees:** _____ **Employees over 55:** _____ **Employee 55 years old with 5 years or more:** _____ **Numbers of hires last year over 55:** _____ **Number of employees age 55 or greater who are veterans** _____
7. Attach additional pages of reasons why you feel this nominee should receive this year's Employer of Older Workers Award. Include a brief summary of the company's policies and records that qualify it, such as hiring, promotion, retention, and affirmative employment policies.
8. Name, title and daytime telephone number of the person making the nomination:

Only those nominations that include adequate documentation on the nominee's employment practices concerning veterans will be considered for the National Employer of Older Workers 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 Older Workers Award winner.

Nominations by posts and individuals must be sent to department headquarters as soon as possible so that the department will have time to review all nominations received and make the selection of its winners.

NATIONAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION
1608 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

OR FAX TO 202.861.0404
OR E-MAIL A SCANNED COPY
ECON@LEGION.ORG

DEPARTMENTS MAY REPRODUCE ALL FORMS FOR WIDER DISTRIBUTION

All nominations from departments must arrive at National Headquarters on or before January 15th. Either the department adjutant or department employment chairman must approve this nomination.

Approved Signature: _____ Date: _____

Circle One: Department Adjutant Department Employment Chairman

Desired presentation date at Department Convention: _____

THE EMPLOYER OF OLDER WORKERS AWARD

NATIONAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION
1608 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

OR FAX TO 202.861.0404
OR E-MAIL A SCANNED COPY
ECON@LEGION.ORG

DEPARTMENTS MAY REPRODUCE ALL FORMS FOR WIDER DISTRIBUTION



THE EMPLOYER OF VETERANS AWARD

Nomination Form

The American Legion Department of: _____ Date: _____

The American Legion Post's name and number: _____

Employer's Size: (check one)

_____ **Small (50 or fewer employees)**

_____ **Medium (51-200 employees)**

_____ **Large (201 or more employees)**

Posts submit nominations to their Departments for consideration. Departments select one nomination per employer size category and submit those nominations to National Headquarters. The Veterans Employment and Education Commission will provide a plaque for each nominee. During the Washington Conference, the Employment and Education Award Subcommittee reviews all eligible nominations in the three size categories and selects a winner in each category. The three winners are then invited to send their representatives to the National Convention to receive the Employer of Veterans Awards. In order to be eligible for the national awards, the nominee must meet the following criteria:

- 1) At least 10 percent of the employer's work force must be veterans.
- 2) The employer must have been in business for at least five years.
- 3) The employer cannot restrict employment to veterans only.
- 4) The nominee must be a private sector employer. In other words, the nominee cannot be a city, state or federal employer.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE INFORMATION

1. Exact name of company: _____
2. Business address: _____
3. Name and title of the company's contact person:

4. Contact person's telephone number: _____

NATIONAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION
1608 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

OR FAX TO 202.861.0404
OR E-MAIL A SCANNED COPY
ECON@LEGION.ORG

DEPARTMENTS MAY REPRODUCE ALL FORMS FOR WIDER DISTRIBUTION

5. Is the employer a branch or subsidiary? _____ If yes, what is the name and address of the parent company?

6. Date the company, or branch, was established: _____
7. Average number of employees over the past five years: _____
8. Is the company's business seasonal? _____ If yes, how many employees are full-time? _____ How many are part-time? _____
9. Total number of employees: _____ Number of veterans: _____ Percentage of veterans: _____
10. Total hires last year: _____ Number of veterans: _____ Percentage of veterans: _____

Only those nominations that include adequate documentation on the nominee's employment practices concerning veterans will be considered for the National Employer of Veterans 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 Veterans Award winner.

Nominations by Posts and individuals must be sent to department headquarters as soon as possible so that the department will have time to review all nominations received and make the selection of its winners.

Name, title, address, and daytime telephone number of the person making the nomination:

All nominations from departments must arrive at National Headquarters on or before January 15th. Either the department adjutant or department employment chairman must approve this nomination.

Approved Signature: _____ Date: _____

Circle One: Department Adjutant Department Employment Chairman

Desired presentation date at Department Convention: _____

THE EMPLOYER OF VETERANS AWARD

NATIONAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION
1608 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

OR FAX TO 202.861.0404
OR E-MAIL A SCANNED COPY
ECON@LEGION.ORG

DEPARTMENTS MAY REPRODUCE ALL FORMS FOR WIDER DISTRIBUTION



**THE VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION
COMMISSION
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AWARDS**

Nomination Form

The American Legion Department of: _____ Date: _____

The American Legion Post's name and number: _____

Award Category (circle one): LVER DVOP

Name and title of nominee: _____

Address: _____

Daytime telephone number: _____

Office manager's name: _____

Name and title of nominator: _____

Address: _____

Daytime telephone number: _____

Nominator's signature: _____

Veteran Placement Activity (Annual Figures):

1. Veterans placed in full-time employment: _____

2. Veterans placed as a result of job development: _____

3. Disabled veterans entered employment: _____

NATIONAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION
1608 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

OR FAX TO 202.861.0404
OR E-MAIL A SCANNED COPY
ECON@LEGION.ORG

DEPARTMENTS MAY REPRODUCE ALL FORMS FOR WIDER DISTRIBUTION

4. Please document the following: Support of American Legion programs, including Employer Awards; Leadership activities; Community service; Special achievements; Use of technological innovations (E-mail, Internet, etc.):

You may add up to two pages of supporting data on any subject above.

Only those nominations that include adequate documentation on the nominee's employment practices concerning veterans will be considered for the National Employment Service 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 National Employment Service Award winner.

Nominations by Posts and individuals must be sent to Department headquarters as soon as possible so that the Department will have time to review all nominations received and make the selection of its winners.

All nominations from departments must arrive at National Headquarters on or before January 15th. Either the department adjutant or department employment chairman must approve this nomination.

Approved Signature: _____ Date: _____

Circle One: Department Adjutant Department Employment Chairman

Desired presentation date at Department Convention: _____

**THE VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION
COMMISSION
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AWARDS**

NATIONAL VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION
1608 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

OR FAX TO 202.861.0404
OR E-MAIL A SCANNED COPY
ECON@LEGION.ORG

DEPARTMENTS MAY REPRODUCE ALL FORMS FOR WIDER DISTRIBUTION

The American Legion Department of Missouri

Fire Fighter/ EMT Award Nomination

1. Name of Nominee _____ Age _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Recommended by _____ Post No. _____
2. Present Position (i.e., Lieutenant, Captain, Fire Chief, etc.) How long as a Fire Fighter/ EMT?

3. List of previous experience: _____

4. Give a brief biographical sketch of nominee, including, but not limited to education, family, church affiliation (if any), fraternal or social organizations including youth groups worked with.
5. Just what, in your opinion, makes this nominee an outstanding Fire Fighter/ EMT?

6. List any honors or awards for outstanding work.

7. If this nominee is declared the winner, will he or she appear at our Department convention? Yes___ No___

8. Has the nominee’s superior been informed of this recommendation? Yes___ No___

Please attach hereto a letter of recommendation from the nominee’s superior.

9. If additional space is needed for further comments on anything pertaining to this nomination use the remaining space or attach additional sheets with comments.

Deadline February 6, 2026

Mail to Kenny Goth, Chairman
Law & Order and Public Safety
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102

(Post Commander)

(Post Adjutant)

CAREER FIRE FIGHTER/ CAREER EMT
VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER /VOULUNTEER EMT ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY:

To be considered for this most prestigious award, all nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a citizen of the United States of America.
2. Be a Career Fire Fighter or Career EMT, or a Volunteer Fire Fighter or Volunteer EMT, personnel, who swore an oath to protect the lives and property of the citizens of their respective jurisdiction.
3. Consideration for posthumous award is permissible only when the recipient has died subsequent to selection for the award and prior to its presentation.
4. Be assigned as a Career Fire Fighter or Career EMT, or a Volunteer Fire Fighter or Volunteer EMT, personnel, representing within the State of Missouri:
 - A Municipality (City)
 - County
 - State Fire Fighter
 - Private communities that have paid Fire Departments
 - Federal Fire Fighter
5. Reside and serve with in the State of Missouri.

Note: An individual can only be considered for one award and cannot be submitted under the guidelines for both career (paid) and volunteer services.

NOMINATIONS:

The following rules apply to all nominations for this most prestigious award. All candidates:

1. Must meet the guidelines spelled out in the beginning of the letter.
2. Period of **2026** Nominees service: January 1, **2025**-December 31, **2025**.
3. Must be nominated using the official form provided; copies of which can be obtained from the department website : www.missourilegion.org
Please contact Department at 1-800-846-9023
4. Nominations for a Career Fire Fighter or EMT must be accompanied with a copy of the nominee's certificate of graduation from an accredited fire academy, Should the volunteer Fire Fighter or EMT have a certificate, please include that also.
5. Must be recommended by his/ her commanding officer
6. Nomination Applications shall have the following: **(1)** a completed application form.
(2) A total of 12 pages of service documentation. The first 6 pages will be one-sided 8 ½ "x 11" bond paper and include press articles. (Specific acts of community service;heroism and meritorious performance recognized by his/her fire agency should be included and documented.) **(3) A 5x7 color photograph of the nominee in uniform must be submitted for packet to be considered.**
7. Nominations shall be submitted to their local post
8. All nominations shall be submitted with the official cover sheet as the top page of the application.

Mail to: Kenny Goth, Chairman
Law & Order and Public Safety
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(660) 351-2184

Deadline February 6th, 2026

CAREER FIRE FIGHTER/ CAREER EMT **VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER /VOULUNTEER EMT ELIGIBILITY**

Judging Criteria:

Many Fire Fighters/ EMT personnel exemplify themselves with a single act of bravery or distinguishing event. However, Community Service will count significantly in the overall selection criteria and will make up fifty percent of the criteria for The American Legion Career Fire Fighters/ EMT's or Volunteer Fire Fighters/ EMT's awards. Volunteers also distinguish themselves by attaining additional training and studies (College) towards degrees and studies within their own Agency to advance in the Volunteer ranks of their agency.

Specific Act of Heroism or Meritorious Service (20 Points):

Citations for acts of heroism or meritorious service must be provided including a description of the act that was performed in detail, the medal or the award that the individual was recommended for and received. The award or citation must have been awarded within the time frame designated by the Standing Rules. Any supporting documentation such as newspaper accounts of the act or of the individual receiving the award, certificates and letters of recommendation and commendation should be submitted.

Community Service (50 Points):

Career Fire Fighters/ EMT's or Volunteer Fire Fighters/ EMT's personnel provide service to their communities as First Responders on a daily basis at their local Volunteer stations. These activities must be performed within the time frame set by the Standing Rules and must be described in detail and must be substantiated by official letters from their agency, community or county officials, citizens associations, American Legion Post or other recognized private or civic organizations.

Community service typically has been performed over an extended period of time. Those activities, in addition to those described above, should be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter from the city or county officials, Missouri State Officials, citizens associations, American Legion Posts, county, or district, or other officially recognized private or civic organizations. Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings must be included.

Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recommendation or commendation and newspaper clippings must be provided.

Note: Any full time paid Fire Fighter/ EMT personnel that volunteers at a local Volunteer Fire Station and is being considered for The American Legion Career Fire Fighters/ EMT awards, under the guidelines of the full time personnel, cannot also be considered under the Volunteer Fire Fighter/ EMT guidelines and have two applications submitted.

Career Achievements (25 Points):

Many Fire Fighters/ EMT, Career or Volunteer, personnel excel in their careers over the years by continuing their education and training to better themselves in the performance of their daily duties. Education leading to a degree in fire service and promotions and specialized training to enhance their job performance is relevant and should be included. These achievements must be substantiated by official letters or other official documentation from the Agency he/she is a volunteer for, and should be included.

Committee Preference (5 Points):

The Committee will be given the option to award five points to the candidate that exhibits the best letters of recognition and news clippings and has the best overall record in their opinion.

Judges:

A panel of six committee members shall judge all entries. All entries shall be judge based upon criteria specified herein. A quorum shall constitute four committee members.



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
JUNIOR ROTC CADET
OF THE YEAR



2026

Name and Contact Information

Name: _____

High School: _____ Phone #: _____

JROTC Unit: _____ JROTC Unit Email: _____

JROTC Unit Address: Street _____

City _____ MO, Zip Code _____

JROTC Phone #: _____ Military Service Associated with: _____

Cadet Rank: _____ Grade Point Average: _____

JROTC Medals & Ribbons

(List your medals and ribbons in order of highest precedence
and indicate multiple earned medals and ribbons – Spell out award name)

1 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____

9 _____ 10 _____

11 _____ 12 _____

Other JROTC Awards

(List any award received and year received. Do not list additional Medals & Ribbons from the above section)

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| 1 _____ | 2 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 4 _____ |
| 5 _____ | 6 _____ |
| 7 _____ | 8 _____ |
| 9 _____ | 10. _____ |

Participation in Your JROTC Unit Leadership Positions and Roles

(List your top 4 JROTC participation with most recent listed first)

1. School Year _____ Rank at Time _____

Briefly describe your most important accomplishment or award while in this position.

2. School Year _____ Rank at Time _____

Briefly describe your most important accomplishment or award while in this position.

3. School Year _____ Rank at Time _____

Briefly describe your most important accomplishment or award while in this position.

4. School Year _____ Rank at Time _____

Briefly describe your most important accomplishment or award while in this position.

Cadet Last Name:

Participation in Activities with The American Legion

List any participation with The American Legion as either a member of one of the Legion organizations or member of the JROTC. List up to six activities.

1. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

2. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

3. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

4. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

5. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

Cadet Last Name:

6. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

**Participation in Activities or Organizations other than the
JROTC or The American Legion**

List up to four activities

1. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

2. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

3. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

4. Activity (enter activity and year) _____

Briefly describe your participation in the activity

Cadet Last Name:

Membership in the American Legion Family

Are you currently a member of the Sons of the American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary?

If YES what Squadron or Unit: _____ # of Years as a member: _____

Post name and number affiliated with: _____

Cadet Last Name:

[illegible]

JROTC SENIOR INSTRUCTOR ENDORSMENT

(Provide your endorsement of the cadet below)

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Signature of Instructor



Department of Missouri American Legion JROTC Cadet of the Year 2026

The application for the Department of Missouri American Legion JROTC Cadet of the Years consists of:

Completed application form

Photograph of cadet in service dress uniform at least 5" x 7" in size

Instructions for Completion of the Application Form

Cadet of The Year must be a cadet currently in or just completed their junior year of high school when the application is sent.

The cadet will fill out the first six pages of the application. The senior instructor should review the application for accuracy and provide their written endorsement on page seven of the application. Any JROTC program will submit only one application.

Additional Information Sheet: If there is not enough space on the application then list additional relevant information on a separate page. Do not list more entries than requested on the application.

Additional page(s) will have the below information centered at the top of this page:

Additional Information for Section:
(enter title of the section from the application)
Cadet Rank & Name
Page ____ of ____

Name and Contact Information: Provide accurate name and contact information as requested in this section.

JROTC Medals & Ribbons: List your top 12 medals and ribbons earned through JROTC. The medals/ribbons need to be listed in order of precedence as viewed when looking at your uniform. The medal/ribbon with the highest precedence will go in block one. Indicate if you have been awarded the medal/ribbon more than once. On the medal/ribbon line you can enter OLC with the number of times received. Example: Top Performer Award & 2 OLC.

Other JROTC Awards: List up to 10 other JROTC awards you have received and the school year it was earned (i.e. 2024-2025). Enter most recent awards first. **Do not** list additional Medals and Ribbons that would go in JROTC Medals & Ribbons entry above.

Cadet Last Name: Enter last name of cadet at the bottom left of pages other than the first page.

Unit Leadership Positions and Roles: Document your participation in your JROTC unit. Enter most recent school year participation first and go back in chronological order.

School Year: Enter in the appropriate school year it was earned (i.e. 2024-2025).

Rank at time: Identify the rank you held while in this position.

Accomplishment: Summarize your MOST significant accomplishments while in this position. If you received an award for this accomplishment, explain what you did to earn it (be very specific) on your additional information sheet.

What we are looking for: 1) Leadership role, 2) Significance of the accomplishment

Participation in Activities with The American Legion: If you have participated in activities associated with the American Legion then provide the details in this space. If known enter the post number associated with. Examples may include Veterans and Memorial Day events, parades, events at an American Legion post or Flag Day ceremonies. Legion activities can be associated with The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion or American Legion Riders.

What we are looking for: 1) Leadership role, 2) Significance of the accomplishment

Participation in Activities or Organizations other than the JROTC or The American Legion: List any activity you are active in that would not fit into the above sections.

Activity: List the activity or organization you were associated with. List most recent and go back in chronological order. Examples may include student body government elected positions, captain of sports team, positions in a church group or FFA. List activities with other veteran organizations here also (VFW, DAV, or SAR are examples).

Office Held: If you held a leadership position for that activity then list it.

Accomplishment: Summarize your MOST significant accomplishment while in this position.

What we are looking for: 1) Leadership role, 2) Active involvement,

Membership in the American Legion Family: If you are a member of one of these Legion organizations list this information here to include post, unit, squadron or chapter associated with.

What are your Goals after High School: In the space provided, describe what your plans are upon graduating from high school? Do not enter information for this section on an additional information page.

Signatures: The application must be signed by both the cadet and parent or legal guardian to be accepted for award consideration.

Senior Instructor Endorsement: In the space provided the senior instructor will provide written endorsement. Be specific on Americanism and Leadership qualities demonstrated by the cadet in the JROTC unit, school and community. Signature of senior instructor is required.

Award Package Submission

Award package will consist of completed application by cadet, endorsement by senior instructor, and full-length photograph (portrait orientation) of cadet in service uniform with current rank and ribbons. Photo should be at least 5" x 7" on photo paper.

Mail application and photograph in large envelope so application and photograph are not folded.

Mail to:

The American Legion Dept of Missouri
Attn: ROTC Committee Chairman
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Completed awards packages must be received by **June 24, 2026** for consideration.

The American Legion Department of Missouri

Law & Order Award Nomination

1. Name of Nominee _____ Age _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Recommended by _____ Post No. _____
2. Present Position (i.e., Patrolman, Chief of Police, Deputy, etc.) How long in Police service?

3. List of previous Police experience: _____

4. Give a brief biographical sketch of nominee, including, but not limited to education, family, church affiliation (if any), fraternal or social organizations including youth groups worked with.
5. Just what, in your opinion, makes this nominee an outstanding Police Officer?

6. List any honors or awards for outstanding police work.

7. If this nominee is declared the winner, will he or she appear at our Department convention? Yes___ No___

8. Has the nominee’s superior been informed of this recommendation? Yes___ No___

Please attach hereto a letter of recommendation from the nominee’s superior.

9. If additional space is needed for further comments on anything pertaining to this nomination use the remaining space or attach additional sheets with comments.

Deadline February 6, 2026

Mail to: Kenny Goth, Chairman
Law & Order and Public Safety
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102

(Post Commander)

(Post Adjutant)

LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Judging Criteria:

The emphasis of The American Legion Department of Missouri Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Program is not a single act of bravery or a single distinguishing event. Community Service will count significantly in the overall selection criteria and will make up fifty percent of the criteria for The American Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. While those acts in themselves count significantly in the overall selection criteria, they constitute only twenty percent of the total. Many Law Enforcement Officers excel in the daily performance of their duties demonstrating a distinct pattern of dedication and professionalism. They further distinguish themselves through extra curricular service performed for the community, state and nation. The following will be considered for judging:

Specific Act of Heroism or Meritorious Service (20 Points):

Citations for acts of heroism or meritorious service must be provided including a description of the act for which the citation was issued. The citation must have been presented during the time period described under Standing Rules. Any supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings should be included.

Community Service (50 Points):

Community services provided while on or off duty, which contributed significantly to the well being of his/her community must be provided. These activities for the time frame designated under Standing Rules, must be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter from city or county officials, Missouri State Officials, citizens associations, American Legion Posts, county or district, or other officially recognized private or civic organization. Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings must be included.

Community service typically has been performed over an extended period of time. Those activities, in addition to those described above, should be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter from the city or county officials, Missouri State Officials, citizens associations, American Legion Posts, county, or district, or other officially recognized private or civic organizations. Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings must be included.

CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS (25 Points):

Many law enforcement officers excel in the daily performance of their duties exhibiting a distinct pattern of dedication and professionalism. Career achievements should be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter or other official documentation, and/or newspaper clippings and must be included. Education leading to a degree in law enforcement or special training that has enhanced professional and job performance is considered relevant and should be included.

JUDGES PREFERENCE (5 Points):

Judges will be given the option to award five points to the candidate that exhibits the best letters of recognition and news clippings and has the best overall record in their opinion.

Judges:

A panel of six judges shall judge all entries. All entries shall be judged based on the criteria specified herein. A quorum shall constitute four judges.

LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Nominations:

The following rules apply to all nomination for this most prestigious award. All candidates:

1. Must meet the guidelines spelled out in the beginning of the letter.
 - a. The American Legion Posts present their selections to Department Chairman of the Law & Order Committee.
 - b. The Chairman must receive the agencies nomination by February 6th, 2026.
Only one nomination will be accepted from each agency. Each Troop of the Missouri State Highway Patrol can submit one nomination.
2. Period of Service for this award shall be specified under the Standing Rules of the National criteria. (2025 Nominees service: January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025).
3. Must be nominated using the official form provided; copies of which can be obtained from The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc. Jefferson City, MO. 1-800-846-9023
4. Nominations must be accompanied with a copy of the nominee's certificate as a law enforcement officer.
5. Must be recommended by his/her commanding officer or supervisor.
6. Nomination Applications shall have the following: **(1)** a completed application form. **(2)** A total of 12 pages of service documentation. The first 6 pages will be one-sided 8 ½ "x 11" bond paper and include press articles. (Specific acts of community service; heroism and meritorious performance recognized by his/her law enforcement agency should be included and documented.) **(3) A 5x7 color photograph of the nominee in uniform must be submitted for packet to be considered.**
7. Nominations shall be selected by the Law & Order Committee, where a final selection will be made prior to the State Convention.
8. All Nominations shall be submitted with the official cover sheet as the top page of the nomination package.
9. All candidates must agree and be granted prior permission to attend The American Legion National Convention if selected to receive the National Award.

Mail to: Kenny Goth, Chairman
 Law & Order and Public Safety
 P.O. Box 179
 Jefferson City, MO 65102
 (660) 351-2184

Deadline February 6th, 2026.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Category I -- Legionnaire to recruit **3 New Members** by **May 10, 2026** will be announced during General Session.

Category II -- Legionnaire to recruit **5 New Members** by **May 10, 2026** will receive a Certificate.

Category III -- Legionnaire to recruit **10 New Members** by **May 10, 2026** will receive a Plaque.

Category IV -- Legionnaire to recruit **25 New Members** by **May 10, 2026** will receive a Plaque.

Category V -- Legionnaire to recruit **50 New Members** by **May 10, 2026** will receive a Plaque.

Largest Post -- Membership must be received at Department Headquarters by **July 1, 2026**.
(Postmarked not honored)

Auxiliary Members -- Any Auxiliary member to recruit 3 **New Legion Members** for **2026** by **May 10, 2026** will receive a certificate. The Auxiliary member who recruits the most Legion Members will receive a certificate of recognition.

Recruiters Name should only be submitted once. New member names and membership numbers must be provided to be considered This form should not be submitted to Department Headquarters **before April 10, 2026** to ensure proper credit is given to the recruiter. New Members names will be verified at Department. This form must be returned to Department no later **than May 10, 2026.**

Recruiters Name _____ Post No. _____

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|
| New Members Names: | Post No. | New Members Names: | Post No. |
|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|

| | |
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| 1 _____ | 2 _____ |
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| 3 _____ | 4 _____ |
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| 5 _____ | 6 _____ |
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| 7 _____ | 8 _____ |
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| | |
|---------|----------|
| 9 _____ | 10 _____ |
|---------|----------|

2026 Membership Recruiter

This form is to be completed by the Post Adjutant or Post Membership Chairman to submit names for Membership Recruiter Awards. Send to Department Headquarters at P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102, no later than **May 10, 2026**.

Post # _____ District _____

Please Mail Pins To:

[illegible]

[illegible]

2026 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER COMPETITION

The power and importance of a Post Newsletter is indescribable. Effectively used, it is an unbelievably valuable tool for communicating to the members of the Post the news, events, and programs that make The American Legion such a dynamic organization of veterans. Every Post should be communicating their news to their members. This news gives the members a sense of pride and accomplishment and makes them want to be a part of their Post and take part in programs if they can.

To recognize the importance of Post newsletters, The Department of Missouri conducts an annual Post Newsletter competition to recognize the most outstanding newsletters. There are five awards, one for each of five membership categories. The five awards based on membership are: Category 1, 15 to 50 members; Category 2, 51 to 100 members; Category 3, 101 to 200 members; Category 4, 201 to 500 members; and Category 5, 501 or more members. Only first place is awarded in each category.

Winners of the Newsletter competition are announced at the Department Convention, and the awards are presented to each winner at the Fall Conference.

A post should present one year of their Post Newsletter in a folder, binder, or book. A Post may also send one year of their post newsletter in digital format on a thumb drive, a CD or DVD is acceptable. The submission needs to be in only one form, printed or digital.

Judging is based on:

- a. Neatness and legibility as well as the information contained in the newsletters.
- b. Informative content: Organized by activities/programs/news-information (from Post to Department and vice-versa).
- c. Internal Content: Organized articles by officers and/or committees.
- d. Membership growth & retention: Newsletter presenting information on recruitment and retaining membership.
- e. Calendar of Events: A list of events scheduled to take place within the post and other events of importance that members should be aware of. (Items should have dates, time and location of each event and should reflect timely notice to all members so members can take part in the events.)
- f. Judge's Discretion: Judges overall opinion.

Any advertising contained in the newsletters should have a disclaimer to the effect that the below or above-named business donates to and supports our Legion programs.

The Media & Communication Commission's goal is that every Post that publishes a newsletter will send their newsletter for competition at the Department Convention. Newsletters submitted for competition should be hand delivered to the Department Convention Office before 9:00 am Friday, July 10, 2026 or must be mailed to The American Legion, Department of Missouri, ATTN: Media and Communications Commission, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0179 so they arrive NLT July 7, 2025.

For information concerning this program, contact Commission Chairman Theadore McCart (314)550-9791 or by E-mail at tmccart09@gmail.com.

“TOOT OUR HORNS AWARD PROGRAM”

A project of the Media and Communications Commission, Department of Missouri

This program is to encourage each post in Missouri to promote the American Legion in local and state media; to increase participation in District and Department functions; to improve public relations with non-members; to encourage posts to set and attain goals they can be proud of in support of American Legion and veteran programs; to encourage non-member veterans to join the American Legion, and to encourage posts to develop a line of communication between them and their members.

A ‘TOOT OUR HORN’ plaque will be presented to each post qualifying with “BARS” to be added for each completed membership year that the post participates in this program. This application **MUST BE RECEIVED NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30th** of the membership year that this award is being applied for. Posts qualifying for the TOOT OUR HORN award will be announced at the Department Convention and the awards will be presented at the Fall Conference. Listings of all Post(s) receiving their award for the current year will also be published in the *“Missouri Legionnaire.”*

REQUIREMENTS

Complete a minimum of 5 out of the following 10 categories:

- ☐ At least 6 advertisements, notice of meetings, or listings in local media (newspaper, television, radio, etc.) announcing Post meetings
- ☐ Publish a Post newsletter. This may be paper or emailed. (attach copy of newsletter)
- ☐ At least 1 Post member attending the State Convention (provide a list of those who attended, signed by the Post Commander or Adjutant)
- ☐ At least 1 post member attending the State Spring DEC meeting or Fall Conference (provide a list of those who attended, signed by the Post Commander or Adjutant)
- ☐ Post participation in a community event (parade, fair, troop rally, etc) (Attach a photo, newspaper clipping, etc.)
- ☐ Philanthropic activity (e.g., benefits, fund-raisers for a charitable cause, food pantry collections, bell ringing for Salvation Army, etc.)
- ☐ Conduct a new member recruiting campaign or Post revitalization campaign
- ☐ Conduct a complete Buddy Check
- ☐ Attain 100% or membership goal for current year by the May National target date.
- ☐ Maintain a post web presence (webpage, Facebook, centennial page)

Complete a minimum of 3 of the following categories

- ☐ Conduct monthly meetings
- ☐ One or more members of the Post are a District Officer (provide name(s) and office(s) held)
- ☐ One or more members of the Post are a Department Officer (provide name(s) and office(s) held)
- ☐ Host a District meeting
- ☐ Submit the Consolidated Post Report for the current year (attach copy)
- ☐ Submit a Certified Post Officer list to Department within 30 days of Department Convention

Reporting is to be done on this form as soon as requirements are met but no later than June 30th of the current membership year.

Copies of substantiating materials must accompany this application.

Post Name and Post Number: _____

Membership year submitted for: _____, Date submitted: _____

SIGNATURE OF POST COMMANDER OR ADJUTANT: _____

SEND THIS APPLICATION BY MAIL WITH SUBSTANTIATING MATERIAL(S) TO: The American Legion, Department of Missouri, ATTN: Media & Communications Commission, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0179 or BY E-MAIL TO TED McCART at tmccart09@gmail.com

CERTIFICATION FOR
THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, INC.
HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST

Date _____

THIS CERTIFICATION SHOULD BE MAILED **OR** E-MAILED
ON OR BEFORE **NOVEMBER 30th**.

The total number of students in our high school who participated in the Oratorical Contest is:

Number of Students (Please include **all students who studied** for this program.)

Student selected to represent our High School in the County (or Group) Contest:

Mr./Ms. _____
(NAME) (STREET) (CITY, STATE, ZIP)

(GRADE) (AGE) (EMAIL ADDRESS) (PHONE NUMBER)

Alternate Selection:

(NAME) (STREET) (CITY, STATE, ZIP)

(GRADE) (AGE) (EMAIL ADDRESS) (PHONE NUMBER)

HIGH SCHOOL _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY & ZIP _____ COUNTY _____

PRINCIPAL Mr./Ms. _____ PHONE _____

TEACHER/COACH Mr./Ms. _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Local Newspaper Name/Address _____

You may enter electronically at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

MAIL THIS COPY TO

Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission
The American Legion
PO Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102
services@missourilegion.org

OR E-MAIL TO

"High schools may select, in any reasonable manner, a contestant to represent the school. Each contestant, to advance, must be certified the winner of each prior contest beginning with the high school. Certification must be made in writing to both the COMMISSION Chair and the CHAIR of the next contest. If a winner is disqualified, withdraws, or cannot compete, then the second-place contestant may advance. If a substitute contestant is not available without undue delay, the contest shall proceed among available contestants."



For God and Country

★ DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, INC. ★ PO BOX 179 ★ JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102-0179 ★
★ (573) 893-2353 ★ (800) 846-9023 ★ FAX (573) 893-2980 ★
★ E-MAIL: info@missourilegion.org ★ WEBSITE: www.missourilegion.org ★

92nd ANNUAL
2025-2026 ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
A Constitutional Speech Contest

Greetings High School Administrator:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, teaming with your local Post, will again sponsor the High School oratorical contest. The contest meets the guidelines of the Missouri State High School Activities Association and appears in the Advisory List of Contests and Activities, of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Legion contest is a partner with the National Speech & Debate Association, the honor society for high school students (formerly the National Forensic League).

The Oratorical Contest exists to increase students' knowledge of the Constitution of the United States, to develop the ability to think and speak clearly, and to promote the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.

We hope your students will participate in the Contest this year. We encourage you to enroll at least one to represent your school.

This year, state finalists will receive the largest scholarship certificates ever--for **\$5,000, \$2,500, \$2,250, and \$2,000** respectively--redeemable after graduation at any college. Also, some colleges grant substantial scholarships to the participants.

All information about the contest is at <http://missourilegion.org/oratorical> For any questions, simply contact Department Headquarters, PO Box 179, Jefferson City, 65102, services@missourilegion.org, or call (573) 893-2353

To enter a student, send the Form to me or you may enter electronically at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

School administrators and educators have supported this program for the past 90 years. We trust it continues to earn the cooperation of your speech, social studies, civics, government, and similar programs.

Sincerely,

Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission

P.S. Feel free to pass this to your speech teacher/coach, and to other interested teachers or students.

2025-2026 High School Oratorical

District Chairs- As of 8/01/25

| District | Chairs | Email | Phone |
|---|---|--|----------------------------------|
| 1 st District | Ed Anderson, 602 S. Campbell St., Edina MO 63537 [Ralls, Schuyler, Scotland, Clark, Adair, Knox, Shelby, Lewis, Macon, Marion, Monroe] | eanders1@sbcglobal.net | (660) 341-1416 |
| 2 nd District | Matt Hopper, 16365 LIV 222, Chillicothe, MO 64601 [Mercer, Putnam, Grundy, Sullivan, Livingston, Linn, Carroll, Chariton, Randolph] | mhopper@cmuchillicothe.com | (660) 973-6518 |
| 3 rd District | Jeffrey Benes, 4934 Norwood St, Westwood, KS 66205 [Worth, Harrison, Gentry, DeKalb, Daviess, Clinton, Caldwell, Clay, Ray] | jefferybenes@skcschool.org | (913) 334-8722 |
| 4 th District | Mark Hummer, 12820 Jantzen Ln, Platte City, MO 64079 [Atchison, Nodaway, Holt, Andrew, Buchanan, Platte] | Markmh1409@gmail.com | (816)390-4521 |
| 5 th District | Rachel Merlos 3302 S Hawthorne Ave, Independence MO 64052 [Jackson County] | penguincook20@yahoo.com | (816) 786-1786 |
| 6 th District | Patricia C. Olmstead, 1005 S. Main St., El Dorado Springs MO 64744 [Cass, Johnson, Bates, Henry, Vernon, St. Clair, Cedar] | patriciaolmstead@hotmail.com | (417) 684-7512 |
| 7 th District | Stephen Olson, 423 E North St., Marshall, MO 65340 [Lafayette, Saline, Howard, Pettis, Benton, Hickory] | stephen.j.olson@hotmail.com | (660)831-0982 |
| 8 th District | Christine Sapp, 608 Appaloosa Dr Ashland, MO 65010 [Callaway, Cooper, Boone, Morgan, Cole, Osage, Camden, Miller, Moniteau] | csapp88130@gmail.com | (573) 469-3461 |
| 9 th District | Larry DuFour, 106 Mill Run Ln., St. Peters MO 63376 [Audrain, Pike, Montgomery, Lincoln, Warren, Gasconade, St. Charles, Franklin] | | (636) 441-7102 |
| 10 th District | Scott Owen 7350 Manchester Rd, St. Louis, MO 63143 [St. Louis County] | pappabear@hermanlondon.com | (314) 277-0621 |
| 11 th /12 th District | Darlene Coats, 5389 Wells Ave, St. Louis MO 63112 [St. Louis City] | darlenecoats@sbcglobal.net | (314) 367-1173 (314) 477-6841 |
| 13 th District | Duane DeClue, 108 Virginia Ave., Crystal City MO 63019 [Jefferson, Washington, Iron, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Perry, Madison, Reynolds] | duanedecclue@earthlink.net | (636) 208-9097 |
| 14 th District | Dennis Woeltje, 422 Lorraine, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 [Bollinger, Carter, Ripley, Butler, Stoddard, Cape Girardeau, Pemiscot, Dunklin, New Madrid, Mississippi, Scott] | navyseabee@charter.net | (573) 339-5822 |
| 15 th District | Mike Birthelmer, 603 Willow Ln., Neosho, MO 64850 [Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, McDonald, Barry] | micbirt@yahoo.com | (502) 220-8485 |
| 16 th District | David E. Shafer, 14325 Camden Ln., Dixon 65459 [Oregon, Maries, Pulaski, Phelps, Laclede, Crawford, Dent, Wright, Texas, Shannon, Howell] | shaferde@windstream.net | (573) 759-6874 |
| 17 th District | Bill Roark, 3712 W. Morningside St., Springfield MO 65807 [Polk, Dallas, Greene, Webster, Christian, Douglas, Stone, Taney, Ozark] | bill@billroark.com | (417) 207-0038 |

**2025-2026 High School Oratorical
District Chairs- As of 8/01/25**

2025—2026 HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
A Constitutional Speech Contest

TO: Post Adjutants (For Post Oratorical Chair)

This letter inaugurates the 92nd Annual High School Oratorical Contest. For nine decades, Legionnaires of Missouri have unselfishly worked to help boys and girls become better citizens. Certainly, it is a record we can be proud of.

To accomplish our goal, we cannot merely wish for results. It takes hard work by the Post Chair. The Post Chair is **the key** to the Oratorical Program, which can be no better than the number of schools and students enrolled by them.

Post Chair must contact their schools immediately. The minute that high schools receive our materials is when contestants need to begin to prepare for this program.

Contact your schools. Briefly explain the program, its purpose, and what it does for the students. Encourage the school to enroll its entire speech or social studies class, but if the school can enroll only one student, that is fine. Tell the school the name and address of the County Oratorical Chair, available from your District Chairman.

All the forms for the Oratorical Contest are only available online at <https://www.missourilegion.org/general>. This is the only material to be used this year, as outdated materials can cause embarrassment.

Thank you for making the Oratorical program successful. Call or write if I can help in any way.

Sincerely,



Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission

P.S. ***Oratorical information is now available at <http://www.missourilegion.org/oratorical>***

Checklist
POST Oratorical Chair
for
Local high-school contests

The High School Oratorical Contest—one of our great Americanism programs—emphasizes knowledge about the U.S. Constitution. It stimulates speaking abilities for high school youth, along with emphasis on the duties, rights, and responsibilities of citizenship under the Constitution.

The Post Oratorical Chair (and Committee) are the key to participation. Here are some specific suggestions.

- _____ 1. Study the Missouri Rules Brochure for all details of the program. Or visit <https://www.missourilegion.org/oratorical>
- _____ 2. Contact local high schools to encourage participation. (Talk with principals and relevant teachers—speech, social studies, and history teachers—as well as school board members and other community leaders..)
- _____ 3. A local high school contest has only one speech—an oration on some phase of the U.S. Constitution with emphasis on the attendant duties, rights, responsibilities, and privileges of citizenship. It must last between 5-6 minutes.*
- _____ 4. Volunteer to help—if asked by the high school—to furnish judges, timekeepers, and other helpers.*
- _____ 5. Find out when the County Contest is. Tell the local schools of the time, place, and date of County Contest. Also, tell them of name of the County Chair. [If there's any doubt who the County Chair is, please do contact the District Chair, listed on the enclosed list.]
- _____ 6. Remind the high school to certify the winner's name, age, grade, and address, and total number of students who study the topic, to the District Chair and to the State Oratorical Chair. **DEADLINE - NOVEMBER 30th**

Remember, entry is easy at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

- _____ 7. Arrange with your Post to sponsor the winner to the next contest levels. Arrange transportation, if needed. Ask Post members to attend subsequent contests.

* **Note:** Local high schools may conduct the contest in any reasonable way, and most conduct no contest.

92nd ANNUAL
2025-2026 ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
A Constitutional Speech Contest

Greetings High School Administrator:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, teaming with your local Post, will again sponsor the High School oratorical contest. The contest meets the guidelines of the Missouri State High School Activities Association and appears in the Advisory List of Contests and Activities, of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Legion contest is a partner with the National Speech & Debate Association, the honor society for high school students (formerly the National Forensic League).

The Oratorical Contest exists to increase students' knowledge of the Constitution of the United States, to develop the ability to think and speak clearly, and to promote the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.

We hope your students will participate in the Contest this year. We encourage you to enroll at least one to represent your school.

This year, state finalists will receive the largest scholarship certificates ever--for **\$5,000, \$2,500, \$2,250, and \$2,000** respectively--redeemable after graduation at any college. Also, some colleges grant substantial scholarships to the participants.

All information about the contest is at <http://missourilegion.org/oratorical> For any questions, simply contact Department Headquarters, PO Box 179, Jefferson City, 65102, services@missourilegion.org, or call (573) 893-2353

To enter a student, send the Form to me or you may enter electronically at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

School administrators and educators have supported this program for the past 90 years. We trust it continues to earn the cooperation of your speech, social studies, civics, government, and similar programs.

Sincerely,



Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission

P.S. Feel free to pass this to your speech teacher/coach, and to other interested teachers or students.

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION
Charles L. Bacon Memorial Scholarship

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly)

Full name of applicant _____

Complete Address _____

Phone # Home () _____

Work () _____

Date of Birth _____

Graduation Date _____

SAT/ACT Score _____

This application is based on the membership of The American Legion Family, i.e., Legion Member, Auxiliary Member, Sons of The American Legion Member, or a **descendant*** of any member thereof.

Legion Family Members Full Name _____

Membership Number _____

American Legion Post Number _____

or

Legion Auxiliary Unit Number _____

or

S.A.L. Squadron Number _____

Family combined gross annual income _____

Number of children under 18 in the family _____

Name and complete address of High School _____

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee; A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

_____ Date _____

Applicant's signature

This application for scholarship aid is being submitted with my knowledge and approval.

_____ Date _____

Signature of Parent / Guardian

All inquiries should be directed to: Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068 or ajnoonan2004@yahoo.com

Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements on reverse.

Charles L. Bacon Memorial Scholarship - Two recipients \$750.00 each.

The \$750.00 scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

Basis for Eligibility:

1. Must be a member of The American Legion Family, i.e., Legion Member, Auxiliary Member, S.A.L. Member, or a descendant* of any member thereof.
2. Be a resident of the state of Missouri.
3. An unmarried dependent under the age of 21.
4. Must be attending an accredited college / university as a full-time student.
5. Consideration for scholarship will be determined annually for high school graduates in NEED of financial aid to attend a college / university.
6. Scholarship must be used the first fall semester of a college / university following graduation from high school.

(*) DEFINITION OF "DESCENDANT": Any child, grandchild or great grandchild of a veteran who is unmarried and under the age of 21 and is (1) A legitimate child. (2) A child legally adopted. (3) A stepchild of and living in the veteran's home. (4) An illegitimate child (when necessary proof of relationship is provided).

This scholarship application may be obtained on the web at www.missourilegion.org

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION**

COMMANDER'S SCHOLARSHIP

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly)

Full name of applicant _____

Complete mailing address _____

Phone # Home () _____ Phone # Work () _____

Date and place of birth _____

Name of Institution Attending _____

Address of Institution _____

Year in College _____ Marital status _____ Number of dependants _____

Combined Gross Annual Income (not taxable income) _____ Are you using the GI Bill? _____

Are you a member of The American Legion? _____ If yes, Post # _____

Payments of this scholarship will be in accordance with the financial rules of the institution you are attending.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee: A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

Applicants signature

Date

All inquiries should be directed to Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068 or ajnoonan2004@yahoo.com

Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements on reverse.

Two \$1000.00 Scholarships will be awarded annually to eligible veterans who are currently or planning to attend a vocational technical college, college or university in the state of Missouri. The Education and Scholarship Committee of The American Legion, Department of Missouri will determine the recipients of the scholarship.

Basis for eligibility:

1. Applicant must have served in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Space Force, or Coast Guard for a minimum of 90 days and received an Honorable Discharge. **Photocopy of DD-214, Discharge or Separation papers must be included with application.**
2. Applicant must be enrolled or accepted, as a full time student, in an accredited vocational technical college, college or university in the state of Missouri. **A letter verifying enrollment or acceptance from the institution must be attached to application.**
3. Applicant must be a resident of the state of Missouri.
4. The scholarship must be used the following semester after it is awarded.

The scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

Please direct questions concerning the scholarship to Mr. A.J. Noonan. Phone (573) 872-9068.

Completed application and supporting documentation should be submitted by April 20, 2026.