

TEXAS VFW

COMMANDERS ALL-STATE PROGRAM



2024-2025



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STATE COMMANDER'S LETTER

Dear Comrades,

It is with great honor and humility that I address you today as your State Commander. Serving the veterans of this esteemed organization is a privilege I hold dearly, and I am committed to fostering an environment where teamwork and mutual respect are at the forefront of everything we do.

Team Texas is not just a phrase; it is the essence of our mission. Together, we have built the largest Department in the world, and together, we will continue to grow and thrive. Each of you plays a vital role in the success of our organization, and it is through our collective efforts that we will achieve greatness.

In our journey forward, I encourage every member to embrace a team mentality. We are all responsible for the betterment of our organization, and it is through our shared dedication and cooperation that we will make a difference. Remember, I am here to support each and every one of you. Whether you call me Bobby or Robert, my commitment to you remains steadfast.

When faced with decisions, always ask yourself: Is it legal? Is it moral? Is it ethical? These guiding principles will ensure that our actions align with our values and uphold the integrity of our organization. By adhering to these standards, we will build a legacy of trust and honor.

Open communication is the cornerstone of a successful team. I urge you all to communicate openly and honestly, sharing your ideas, concerns, and feedback. Together, we will address challenges, celebrate successes, and continuously strive for improvement.

Let us move forward as one united team, dedicated to the service and support of our fellow veterans. With each step we take, let us reaffirm our commitment to excellence and our unwavering dedication to the values that define us.

Thank you for your continued service and for being an integral part of Team Texas. Together, we will achieve great things.

Yours in Comradeship,

Robert Martinez Jr.
State Commander
Department of Texas VFW



STATE COMMANDER'S CHALLENGE

Our mission this year is to continue to grow our present organization and work together for a stronger future by focusing on the following areas (**ARRC**):

1. **A**ctively recruit new members.
2. **R**einstate former members.
3. **R**etain existing members.
4. **C**onvert Annual Members to Life and Life Members to Legacy Life

State Commander's Challenge Key Points

1. The first five (5) Posts in each Division to achieve 102% will receive \$500.
2. The first two (2) Districts in each Division to achieve 102% will receive \$2000.
3. There will continue to be 11 Post membership Divisions to stay in alignment with VFW National.
4. **NO BONUS POINTS!** The All-State Program will be strictly based on membership percentage. New Life Members will be the tie breaker and Legacy Life Membership will be the secondary tie breaker if needed.
5. The Top Five (5) Posts in each Membership Division will receive all All-State items at no cost to the Post provided that the Post submits a completed POST ALL-STATE FORM.
6. Posts not ranking in the Top Five (5) in their respective Membership Division but still qualifying for the All-State Program will receive an All-State Plaque only at no cost to the Post. All other All-State items desired will need to be paid for by the Post provided that the Post submits a completed POST ALL-STATE FORM and payment.



Post All-State Requirements

This is for those Posts who want to be competitive and recognized with widespread respect, admiration, and prominence based on their achievements that qualify them as the best in the State and represent the Texas VFW in the general public and at the National Level as an All-State Post.

Posts in the Top Five (5) of their Membership Division with the highest membership percentage as of **May 1, 2025**, will receive All-State recognition items at no cost to the Post. Posts qualifying for All-State but did not finish in the Top Five (5) of their Membership Division on **May 1, 2025**, will be recognized as an All-State Post and receive a Plaque at no cost to the Post. These Posts have the option of purchasing all other All-State items providing the Post submits a completed POST ALL-STATE FORM with payment.

Tiebreaker: In the unlikely event of a tie in a Post Division, the Post having the greatest number of new Life Members in that Division will be declared the winner. Legacy Life Membership will be the secondary tie breaker if needed.

The following is a list of goals and objectives that each Post must have completed and received credit for by **May 1, 2025**, to receive All-State recognition at the State Convention.

- **Minimum Mandatory Requirements:** Each Post must complete all minimum mandatory requirements as listed in Section 3.1 of the Department Operations SOP Manual.
- **VFW Scholarship & Teacher Program Participation:**

There are two ways to participate to receive credit for the All-State Program:

 1. Must submit VOD, Patriot's Pen, and Teacher of the Year Post Winners to the District and must be entered into the OMS Dashboard to receive participation credit in the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and Teacher of the Year programs.
 2. If a Post has not received an entry form for VOD, Patriot's Pen or Teacher of the Year after having distributed the entry forms then the following must be sent to Texas VFW HQ:
 - a) A copy of the Post Participation Form showing no entry but indicating the dollar amount of the award that would have been awarded.
 - b) A copy of the Post Meeting Minutes showing the agreed upon award amounts that would have been paid to the winners of each program.
 - c) A check for the amount of money for the respective program awards for VOD, Patriot's Pen, and Teacher of the Year that will be used for the Department of Texas VFW Scholarship Fund which will then give the Post participation credit.
- **Veteran Participation Reports (VPR's):** Nine (9) VPR's are required for All-State which include following four (4) are mandatory VPR's as per Section 223 of the National Bylaws, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Flag Day, and Loyalty Day. Timelines for project completion and reporting are strictly enforced. In addition to the four (4) mandatory VPR's an additional five (5) VPR's of choice must be completed to receive credit for the All-State Program. Everyone is highly encouraged to complete all VPR's that are listed in the SOP.
- **Membership:** Each Post must have reached their membership of 102% ending on May 1, 2025, (these are the requirements).



- ***Exclusion Rule:*** Failure to attain Post membership of 102% on or before June 30, 2025, or timely completion of any program at the Post level by **May 1, 2025**, will disqualify a Post from competing in the All-State Post competition.
- ***Donation to the Texas VFW Foundation:*** A donation of any amount to the Texas VFW Foundation.
- ***Donation to One Tribe:*** A donation of any amount to One Tribe.
- ***Donation to US Veterans Service Dogs (USVSD):*** A donation of any amount to the US Veterans Service Dogs



POST COMMANDER 102%+ MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE & INCENTIVE

State Commander Robert Martinez Jr. is recognizing those Post Commanders that lead their post to **102%** attainment in membership goal by **June 30, 2025**, with this American Eagle Trophy such as the one pictured below. Only one per member. The first three (3) Posts in each Division will receive \$500 for their Post Relief Fund



DISTRICT COMMANDER 102%+ MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE & INCENTIVE

State Commander Robert Martinez Jr. is recognizing the first Two (2) Districts in each Division that attain 102% by December 31, 2024 will Receive \$2,000.00 for their District Relief Fund. Additionally, those District Commanders who attain All-State in District membership by **June 30, 2025**, will receive this American Eagle with Flag Trophy. Only one per member.



“NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS”



MACK JOHNSON DISTRICT COMMANDER MEMBERSHIP DISTINCTION AWARD

Any District that has all Posts within the District at **102%+** by **June 30, 2025**, will receive a special recognition American Eagle with Texas and American Flag trophy. Additionally, \$1,000.00 will be awarded to the District Commander which is in addition to the Mack Johnson Award.



RECRUITER INCENTIVES FROM STATE COMMANDER

State Commander Robert Martinez Jr. is recognizing those recruiters credited with recruiting fifteen (15) new and/ or reinstated* members as verified by the National Membership Recruiting reports by **June 30, 2025**, only one per member while supplies last.

**Reinstated means a member of the VFW who has had their membership lapse for a period of two years and one day or more.*

15 MEMBERS Bayonet



“NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS”



DISTRICT ALL-STATE REQUIREMENTS

This is for those Districts who want to be recognized with widespread respect, admiration, and prominence based on their achievements that qualify them as the best in the State and represent the Texas VFW in the general public and at the National Level as an All-State District.

The top two (2) qualifying Districts with the highest membership percentage in each Membership Division **May 1, 2025** will receive All-State recognition items at no cost.

Districts qualifying for All-State and not finishing as the top District in their respective membership Division on **May 1, 2025** will still be recognized as an All-State District and receive a Plaque. However, they will have the option of purchasing the All-State Recognition items for an additional fee if they so desire. It will be presented at the State Convention.

The following is a list of objectives that each District must have credit for on **May 1, 2025**, to receive All-State recognition at the State Convention.

- **MINIMUM MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:** *Each District must timely complete all Quartermaster Bonding, IRS 990, MAP Contribution, Texas House Contribution, District and Post Inspections completed by December 31, 2024, and the 2025-2026 Election Report at the end of the fraternal year. District Audits are required when conducting a District Meeting/Convention and must be submitted within 30 days.*
- **THIS ENSUING YEAR 2024-2025:** It is highly encouraged that all District Commanders appoint the following: a Membership Chair, a Homeless Chair, and a Legislative Chair. Make sure that your Chair is listed on your District Election Report.
- **PROGRAM PARTICIPATION:** Must be credited with participation in the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Teacher of the Year, and Scout of the Year programs.
- **DONATION TO THE TEXAS VFW FOUNDATION:** A donation of any amount to the Texas VFW Foundation.
- **DONATION TO US VETERANS SERVICE DOGS (USVSD):** A donation of any amount to the US Veterans Service Dogs.
- **MEMBERSHIP:** Each District must have reached their membership of 102% ending on May 1, 2025, (these are the requirements).
- **ENTRY FORM:** For public recognition at the Annual State Convention Banquet as an All-State District you must complete and submit the All-State District Entry Form to Department by **May 12, 2025**, to receive any recognition items.
- **MEMBERSHIP PERCENTAGE:** The top District with the highest Membership Percentage in each Membership Division on **May 1, 2025** will receive All-State recognition items at no cost.



- **DISTRICTS QUALIFYING FOR ALL-STATE BUT NOT FINISHING AS THE TOP DISTRICT OF THEIR RESPECTIVE MEMBERSHIP DIVISION:** They will still be recognized as an All-State District and Receive a Plaque. However, they have the option of purchasing the All-State Recognition items for an additional fee if they so desire.
- **TIEBREAKER:** In the unlikely event of a tie in a District Division, the District having the greatest number of new Life Members in that Division will be declared the winner. Legacy Life Membership will be the secondary tie breaker if needed.
- **EXCLUSION RULE:** Failure to attain District membership goal of **102%** on or before June 30, 2025, or timely completion of any program at the District level by **May 1, 2025**, will disqualify a District from competing in the All-State District competition.

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP DIVISIONS and Military Assistance Program Donation		
Division 1	3,000+	\$200
Division 2	2,200 - 2,999	\$175
Division 3	1,600 - 2,199	\$150
Division 4	1,200 - 1,599	\$125
Division 5	1,000 - 1,199	\$100

ALL-AMERICAN DISTRICT: Please refer to National Membership Program for All-District American requirements on the flip side of this All-State Program.



ALL-STATE DONATIONS FORM

POST #: _____ DISTRICT #: _____

Physical Address: _____

NOTE: All required and completed forms must accompany this cover form for tracking purposes

Category	Criteria	Date of Check	Check Number	Check Amount
<i>Example Only</i>	<i>\$25 Donation</i>	<i>01-Jun-24</i>	<i>1492</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>
Texas VFW Foundation	Donation			
One Tribe	Donation			
USVSD (Service Dogs)	Donation			
			TOTAL:	

Commander Name: _____

Quartermaster Name: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

HOW TO SUBMIT

STEP 1: Make scanned copies of forms and checks and save for reference.
(Please ensure all checks are made out to “Texas VFW”)

STEP 2: Please mail original completed forms packet along with checks to:

VFW Department of Texas
8503 N. Interstate 35
Austin, TX 78753



POST ALL-STATE ENTRY FORM 2024-2025

My Post has met all the eligibility criteria for All-State recognition.

Post Leadership Information

Post #:		District #:		Post Division #:		City:	
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Commander Name:

Life Member:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	Legacy:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bronze	<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold	Cap Size:	
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Quartermaster Name:

Life Member:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	Legacy:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bronze	<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold	Cap Size:	
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Our Post is (mark one of the boxes below)

- One of the top five (5) Posts of our State Membership Division and will receive the recognition items at no cost.
- Not in the top five (5) of our State Membership Division, however, we qualify for All-State, and we are purchasing the following recognition items for presentation at the State Convention. Our payment is enclosed.
NOTE: Items will not be ordered until payment is received.

Please indicate which items you would like and send payment for the items you have selected if your Post is not one of the top five (5) Posts in your respective membership division.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------|--|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$35.00—Post All-State Plaque | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$75.00—Commanders All-State VFW Overseas Cap* | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$75.00—Quartermasters All-State VFW Overseas Cap* | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$25.00—Commanders All-State Lapel Pin | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$25.00—Quartermasters All-State Lapel Pin | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$25.00—Commanders All-State Recognition Medal | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$25.00—Quartermasters All-State Recognition Medal | TOTAL: | | Check# |

By my signature below, I confirm that all the above information, INCLUDING CAP SIZE, is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that caps will NOT be re-ordered or otherwise replaced if the sizes reported on this form are incorrect. I also understand that the Post must pay in advance for the recognition items that have been checked unless the Post is ranked in the top five (5) of their respective membership division on Thursday, May 1, 2025.

Post Commander or Post Quartermaster Signature: _____

THIS FORM MUST BE IN DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AFTER MAY 1, 2025, AND BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS MAY 12, 2025, FOR PUBLIC RECOGNITION AT THE STATE CONVENTION.

*We order VFW All-State Overseas Caps from National Emblem & Supply, and they can take an average of 6-8 weeks or longer for delivery and may not be available for presentation at the State Convention or the Officer Training Seminar (OTS).



DISTRICT ALL-STATE ENTRY FORM 2024-2025

My Post has met all the eligibility criteria for All-State recognition.

District Leadership Information

District #:		Division #:			
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Commander Name:		Post #:	
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Life Member:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	Legacy:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bronze	<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold	Cap Size:	
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Quartermaster Name:		Post #:	
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Life Member:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	Legacy:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bronze	<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold	Cap Size:	
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Our District is (mark one of the boxes below)

- One of the top two (2) Districts in our State Membership Division and will receive the recognition items at no cost.
- Not in the top District in our State Membership Division however, we qualify for All-State, and we are purchasing the following recognition items for presentation at the State Convention. Our payment is enclosed. *NOTE: Items will not be ordered until payment is received.*

Please indicate which items you would like and send payment for the items you have selected if your District is not the top District in your respective State Membership Division.

- \$75.00 - Commanders All-State VFW Overseas Cap*
- \$75.00 - Quartermasters All-State VFW Overseas Cap*
- \$25.00 - Commanders All-State Lapel Pin
- \$25.00 - Commanders All-State Recognition Medal

TOTAL:		Check#			
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By my signature below, I confirm that all the above information, INCLUDING CAP SIZE, is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that caps will NOT be re-ordered or otherwise replaced if the sizes reported on this form are incorrect. I also understand that the District must pay in advance for the recognition items that have been checked unless the District is ranked as the top District of our respective membership division on Thursday, May 1, 2025.

District Commander or Quartermaster Signature: _____

THIS FORM MUST BE IN DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AFTER MAY 1, 2025, AND BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS MAY 12, 2025, FOR PUBLIC RECOGNITION AT THE STATE CONVENTION.

*We order VFW All-State Overseas Caps from National Emblem & Supply, and they can take an average of 6-8 weeks or longer for delivery and may not be available for presentation at the State Convention or the Officer Training Seminar (OTS).