

MEMBERSHIP

Post Excellence Award with V.E.T.S. license plate

To qualify for the American Legion's Post Excellence Award and National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola's V.E.T.S. license plate, a post is required to achieve excellence in four areas: membership, submission of the Consolidated Post Report (CPR), attaining a 90% renewal rate, and community activity.



The purpose of this award is membership growth, exposure of American Legion values to the community, and increased visibility of the American Legion Family through service projects. A post achieving this qualification will have had numerous post members involved in planning and achieving these goals. Many posts are already active in these areas and will qualify without extra effort. Others, however, will need to increase their efforts in one or more areas to qualify for the award.

The standard to be achieved in each area is as follows:

- **Membership:** The post must attain at least 103% of their membership goal. At least one post officer attends district meetings.
- **Consolidated Post Report:** CPRs must be submitted by July 1. The American Legion's federal charter requires the submission of an annual report to Congress on activities for the year. MyLegion.org has made it simple for a post to submit its CPR in a timely manner.
- **90% Renewal Rate:** The post must renew at least 90% of their members that were on the 2022 roster.
- **Community Activity:** The post must conduct an event that con-

nects the local community with The American Legion post. The objective is to open your doors, welcome the community in, and educate them on what The American Legion is all about and how the post is an asset to the community. Posts do not need to have a physical building to accomplish this. This activity can be held in a park, a community center, or any-

where the post can welcome and interact with the local community.

- **Certification for the award:** The district commander responsible for the post will certify a post as having achieved the four specified criteria. The district commander will submit a list of posts meeting the criteria to department headquarters. That list should include the post name, phone number, address and commander's name. If possible, accompany the last two criteria with copies of press releases submitted to the local media about the projects to show that the projects were not only accomplished but that an attempt was made to enhance the image of The American Legion through local media. The copy submitted should include a date and time stamp showing receipt by the media outlet.

The department adjutant will transmit information as posts qualify to:

The American Legion National Headquarters
Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206-1055

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100% American Legion Family Ribbon

American Legion National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola will award his 100% American Legion Family Ribbon to any American Legion Family that achieves 100 percent membership by the 2023 100% membership target date. For this award, the Legion Family is defined as a post and/or any combination of an Auxiliary unit or Sons squadron. Each must achieve 100% membership to qualify for the award.

The department adjutant will transmit information to:

The American Legion National Headquarters
Attn: Internal Affairs & Membership Division
P.O. Box 1055

Indianapolis, IN 46206-1055

Download the 100% Legion Family Ribbon form at

legion.org/commander/ribbon.

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103% membership award



American Legion National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola will award his national commander "Be the One" membership incentive pin to any post, district, county, division or department commander, or membership chairman, who achieves 103 percent of their assigned membership goal for 2023.

Download the 103% membership award form at legion.org/commander/103percent.

Dispatch

November 2022

Veterans Strengthening America



P.O. BOX 1055 • INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
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LEGION

Holiday blood drive starts Nov. 24

The annual American Legion Holiday Donor Blood Drive is Nov. 24 through Dec. 31. American Legion Family members are encouraged to give blood and host blood drives as part of the program to help a lifesaving cause. Visit legion.org/security/blood for more information.

MEMBERSHIP

Purpose of the Membership Data Form

The American Legion Member Data Form (MDF) is a multipurpose form for tracking and providing accurate information on post members. You can download the form online at legion.org/publications under Membership or contact your department headquarters. With the exception of transferring members from one post to another, most MDF changes can be made through MyLegion.org.

Note: Members can be transferred online through MyLegion.org if the member is paying at the time of the transfer.

The MDF can be used to report: deceased member; continuous years; name correction; address change; war era; branch of service; telephone number; date of birth; honorary life member; email; and post transfer.

On the MDF, always include the nine-digit member ID number, post number and department name. The signature of the authorized post officer is required at the bottom of the form. Route the parts of the MDF as follows:

- Part 1-3: Mail to department headquarters
- Part 4: Retain in post files

Membership transfer

Membership transfer from one post to another is handled by completing the Member Data Form. The right to transfer does not include the right to be accepted by any post. Members still must vote upon acceptance of the applicant. Being the member of more than one post at one time is a violation of the American Legion Constitution. Formal transfer is the only method of transferring from one post to another so continuity of Legion membership is available to members in good standing.

IMPORTANT! Always ask prospective members if they currently are or have been members. If the veteran has a current or previous nine-digit member ID number, it should be reported on the transfer request and dues card forwarded to the department.

Many members who change posts start paying dues in the new post without the formality of an official transfer. This can result in a duplicate membership record entered in the database. Such transfers risk the member losing his or her continuous membership record. The member will also likely receive renewal notices from National Headquarters asking for dues to be paid to both the former and current posts.