



# Membership Handbook

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DETACHEMENT OF INDIANA

2025-2026

Dave Pearson | Detachment Membership Chairman  
[indianasal.org/membership](http://indianasal.org/membership)

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## Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Indiana

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**To:** District Commanders, Squadron Commanders, Squadron Membership Chairmen

**From:** Dave Pearson, Detachment Membership Chairman, 2025–2026

**Subject:** The Path to Membership Excellence

Every journey begins with a spark of purpose. For the Sons of The American Legion, that spark is **membership**—the lifeblood of our mission and the foundation of our ability to serve veterans, communities, and future generations. As we embark on the 2025–2026 membership year, I invite you to join me in traveling on this path forward, guided by the principles of honor, service, and unity that define our organization.

The materials enclosed in this packet outline a structured roadmap for success, complete with milestones designed to empower your squadrons and reward progress. By meeting these goals, your district or squadron becomes eligible for **cash awards** to further amplify your local impact. Let us walk this path together, step by step.

### **First Step: Leading by Example**

Our journey begins with leadership. To set the tone for the year, **all squadron officers must renew their memberships promptly**. By ensuring your leadership team is fully enrolled, we eliminate the risk of any squadron starting at zero—a critical foundation for collective momentum. This act of commitment sends a powerful message: Our dedication to the SAL mission begins with us.

### **Second Step: Strengthening Our Bonds Through Retention**

Retention is the lantern that keeps our path brightly lit. I urge each squadron to prioritize **personalized engagement** with current members. Reach out not just to collect dues but to listen. Ask members:

- How can we better support your connection to our mission?
- What opportunities would inspire deeper involvement?
- How can we honor your contributions more meaningfully?

A phone call, handwritten note, or face-to-face conversation often reveals insights no survey can capture. Remember: A member who feels valued becomes a lifelong advocate.

### **Third Step: Expanding Our Legacy Through Recruitment**

While retention sustains us, recruitment ensures our path reaches new horizons. This year, we focus on **three keys of growth**:

#### **1. Generational Membership Opportunities**

Identify Legionnaires and SAL members whose children or grandchildren qualify for membership. These individuals already understand our values—they simply need an invitation to continue their family's legacy.

#### **2. Community Outreach**

Engage local schools, youth organizations, and civic groups. Share stories of veterans' sacrifices and explain how SAL membership allows civilians to actively honor that heritage.

### 3. Digital Advocacy

Leverage social media to highlight squadron projects, scholarship programs, and patriotic events. Tag potential members and use hashtags like #SALIndiana to amplify visibility.

Every new member represents a torchbearer for our future. As you recruit, emphasize that joining the Sons of the American Legion isn't just an act of membership—it's an investment in preserving the freedoms our forebears secured.

### Tools for the Journey

- **Online Renewal Portal:** Streamline renewals via [mylegion.org](https://mylegion.org). This secure platform allows members to update information, pay dues, and access resources 24/7.
- **District Support Networks:** Collaborate with neighboring squadrons to share best practices and host joint recruitment drives.
- **Monthly Progress Dashboards:** Track your squadron's retention and growth metrics through posted reports, enabling data-driven adjustments.

### Recognition and Rewards

To celebrate your achievements, the Detachment will award squadrons the "Triple Nickle" that:

- Achieve 100% officer membership by August 1, 2025
- Retain 90% of prior-year members by December 31, 2025
- Recruit 5 new members above retention numbers by March 31, 2026

All Squadrons who win the "Triple Nickle" award will be entered into a separate drawing. for a \$500 prize.

Additional tiered incentives will recognize districts demonstrating exceptional year-over-year growth.

### A Call to Rise Up

The poet Emily Dickinson wrote, "*We never know how high we are / Till we are called to rise.*" This year, we are called not just to rise but to lead—to ensure the Indiana Sons of the American Legion's Mountain top is within reach if you just keep climbing.

I am honored to serve as your Detachment Membership Chairman and am available to assist with strategy sessions, training workshops, or brainstorming.

Together, let us forge a legacy worthy of our heritage.

Sincerely,



**DAVE PEARSON**

Membership Chairman, Detachment of Indiana

*Sons United: Forging Honor, Service, and Unity for Tomorrow's Legacy*

[indianasal.org/membership](https://indianasal.org/membership)

## Slogan: "Sons United: Forging Honor, Service, and Unity for Tomorrow's Legacy"

This slogan emphasizes the themes of unity, honor, service, and future-oriented action. It conveys a sense of collective purpose among male descendants ("Sons United") and highlights the active process of building these values ("Forging") for the benefit of future generations ("Tomorrow's Legacy").

The slogan incorporates several important concepts:

- Unity: "United" emphasizes the collective strength and brotherhood among the group.
- Honor: A core value that resonates with military and service-oriented organizations.
- Service: Highlights the commitment to serving a greater cause or community.
- Future-oriented: "Tomorrow's Legacy" implies a focus on long-term impact and continuity.

This slogan could be particularly effective in creating value around tradition, service, and male leadership. It strikes a balance between honoring past traditions and forging ahead to create a meaningful impact for the future.

### MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

The Indiana Sons of the American Legion, supported by the national organization, offers extensive resources for membership growth and retention. Here's a comprehensive guide to their membership program:

#### Resources and Tools

- National website provides downloadable materials on Publications ([legion.org/information-center/in-the-media/publications/sons-of-the-american-legion](https://legion.org/information-center/in-the-media/publications/sons-of-the-american-legion))
- Abundance of pamphlets, booklets, brochures, and notes available

#### Recruiting Strategies

- Prepare a 2-3 minute "elevator pitch" on membership benefits
- Increase community visibility through face-to-face recruitment
- Engage in public places like grocery stores, fairs, and fire department open houses
- Wear SAL caps and T-shirts to show pride and attract attention

#### Membership Engagement

- Mentor first-year members to understand The American Legion's four pillars of service
- Set goals and focus on specific programs within the pillars
- Engage new members by involving them in squadron activities

#### Program Focus

- For smaller Squadron's, concentrate on at least one American Legion program
- Make the chosen program a pillar of your community
- Utilizing MyLegion.org

- Access membership information and direct mail solicitation groups
- Use pre-developed letters for contacting former members
- Officers can access the Officers Portal for nationwide insights

### **Networking and Outreach**

- Build relationships with veteran student organizations on college campuses
- Network with first responders, civic organizations, and other veteran service groups
- Expand recruitment pool through diverse connections
- Branding and Media Relations
- Build and maintain your squadron's brand
- Publish squadron information in post newsletters

### **Community Involvement**

- Ensure the squadron is an asset to the community
- Participate in parades and service activities
- Wear official SAL apparel to increase visibility
- Recruitment Best Practices
- Don't limit focus to specific war eras; any patriotic male descendant may be eligible
- Always inquire about potential eligibility

### **Member Retention**

- Focus on retaining existing members to maintain growth

For all necessary applications and forms related to this program, visit the “forms” page on the [indianasal.org](http://indianasal.org) website.

## 2025 - 2026 SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES

<u>Date:</u>	<u>% of Goal</u>
September 10, 2025	10%
October 15, 2025	25%
November 13, 2025	35%
December 10, 2025	45%
January 14, 2026	60%
February 11, 2026	75%
March 11, 2026	80%
April 8, 2026	90%
May 13, 2026	100%
** JULY 29, 2026	105%

\*\* DELEGATE STRENGTH TARGET DATE -  
30 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION

<u>CUT-OFF DATE 1st NOTICE:</u>	<u>RENEWAL MAIL DATE</u>
September 10, 2025	SEPT 27 - OCT 3, 2025
<u>2nd NOTICE:</u> February 11, 2026	FEB 21 - 28, 2026
<u>3rd NOTICE:</u> April 8, 2026	APRIL 25 - 30, 2026

### MEMBERSHIP TURN IN PROCEDURE

***MyLegion is always your first, best choice for electronic submission of membership.***

In order for Membership dues to be processed you need the following:

- A properly completed transmittal (include the check number, the Squadron & District)
- Correct Funds included in the envelope
- A check, money order, or a credit on account at the Department (if using a credit please mark credit in the check number area).
- Both sides of the Membership cards

Best Practice Turn-in procedures:

- ✓ Place New member and paying in transfer cards on top. Make sure the number of cards agrees with the transmittal.
- ✓ Hand written membership cards need to have both parts completed
- ✓ Do not use staples or tape on the cards. Print neatly to prevent data entry errors.
- ✓ Use the Member Data Forms (MDF) for any change to continuous years or Squadron transfers.
- ✓ Do not hold paid membership cards at your squadron...they need to be processed! **Per the Detachment Constitution & By-Laws, Article XII (Section 3) Membership shall be immediately transmitted to the Detachment.** Your members are not recognized as paid until this is done. Keep your member from being repeatedly re-billed for dues already paid.
- ✓ Only submit cards that are being paid on the transmittal. All other cards (deceased, duplicates, online, post on lines, non-paying in transfers, voids) are to be kept by the Squadron.
- ✓ Keep the yellow copy of the transmittal for your Squadron records.

## ELIGIBILITY GUIDE

Sons of The American Legion (SAL) membership is open to All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I or since December 7, 1941, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible.

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION “RULES & REGULATIONS”

Please review the following IMPORTANT membership information.

1. Detachment Record Cards (membership cards), payment of \$15.00 per card, and a transmittal form needs to be mailed together. **Membership cards must always be accompanied by a check or money order.** These are to be mailed to:

The American Legion, Department of Indiana

Attn: **SAL**

5440 Herbert Lord Rd

Indianapolis, IN 46216

***\*The per capita membership dues which must be paid to Detachment and National Headquarters with the submission of membership cards is \$15.00 per member.***

2. **Manually produced membership cards:** When filling out a card for a new member, a paying in transfer member, or a member without a preprinted card (who is paying his or her current dues), please be sure to fill out the membership card completely. Print or type legibly so that next year the member will have a complete card that is correct. Any incomplete cards will be returned to the Squadron for all missing information.
3. **Membership Changes:** The ***best way*** to make administrative changes (minus continuous years & non-paying transfers) is to go to <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Home> and inputting the change. Or, you can also fill out a Member Data Form (MDF) and submit it to Department with the changes, ensure that all the information is legible & always put a member ID number on the form. The MDF is available on our website under the member tab.
4. **Attaching notes:** **DO NOT** staple or tape anything to the membership cards. Paper clipped notes or post-it notes may be used. If you do have any notes, please put these membership cards at the top of you pile so that they may be easily caught.
5. **Member Data Forms:** Submit the MDF in a separate envelope and complete the form legibly. You only need to put the information on the form that changes (i.e. deceased MDF's does not need any other information than the name, member ID, Squadron & the block marked deceased) Do not submit MDF's on new members, just put all the information on the blank card.
6. **Replacement Cards:** Each Squadron is provided with blank cards in case a member loses their card or it is destroyed. If the current dues are already paid, keep these cards. You can also print replacement cards from MyLegion as well.

7. **Transfers:** General Rule: Member Data Forms must always be filled out for non-paying transfers.

**1. Paying Transfer If the member has NOT paid current year's dues:**

- Issue a blank membership card from your Squadron.
- Write the member's permanent ID number and all required information on both parts of the card.
- Check both the Transfer and Renewal boxes.
- Submit the card with payment and process as a renewal.
- Use the member's permanent ID number from their previous card or renewal notice. If not available, contact Department Headquarters.

**2. Non-Paying Transfer If the member HAS paid dues to their previous Squadron:**

- a. Issue a blank card from your Squadron.
- b. Write the member's permanent ID number and name on the large part of the card.
- c. Mark the card as duplicate and keep it for your records.

**Transfer Regulations**

Transfers are a privilege for paid-up members, with approval from the Squadron they wish to join.

**Requirements:**

- Member must show a current membership card (good standing).
- No fee for transferring; dues are not transferred between Squadrons.
- If the new Squadron's dues are higher, the member may need to pay the difference (pro-rated).
- Approval from the receiving Squadron is required (can be oral or written).
- The new Squadron's adjutant completes and routes the forms.

**Processing Transfers:**

Non-paying transfers between states: National Headquarters processes.

Non-paying transfers within a state: Department Headquarters processes.

**Routing the Member Data Form**

<b>Part</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Parts 1 &amp; 2</b>	Mail to Department Headquarters. HQ sends the original to National and copy 2 to the losing Squadron or state.
<b>Part 4</b>	Keep for Squadron records.

**Signature Requirements**

The Squadron Adjutant's signature is required for transfers, deceased members, or changes in continuous years.

If the request was by mail, send a copy with the Member Data Form to Department Headquarters and write "see attached" on the member signature line.

If the request was made by phone, write "by phone" on the member signature line.

National will not process requests without the required signature or notation.

8. **DO NOT** use “white out” on membership cards. When changing a blank membership card ID number, draw a line through the number and above it put the correct ID number. Cards with “white out” on them tend to stick together and makes the information difficult to read.

9. **Hand written cards: DO** place all hand written membership cards on the top of your card stack.

## MEMBERSHIP CARD TRANSMITTAL FORM

Membership Card Transmittal Forms are **required** when submitting membership cards and monies to Department. These forms have been designed to be a summary of what you are submitting and provide you with a record of your membership transmittals. They have proven to be effective in solving questions relating to a difference between Squadron and Detachment membership totals.

Please send only cards being recorded on the transmittal – renewals, new members and paying-transfers.

## PRIOR MEMBERSHIP YEAR INSTRUCTIONS

If the Squadron has a member whose membership has expired and would like to renew and pay for the year(s) lost, the Department will accept prior year payments at the approval of the Squadron.

When transmitting prior year payments, you may submit lapsed years, along with current years, on one check, each lapsed year will be processed at the current Department per capita rate of \$15.00. You will need to add a sticky note with the member’s name, ID number and which prior year(s) you are paying – or write it on the right-hand side of the transmittal. The Department will fill out a blank two-part card for the member and transmit to National to update the member’s lapsed years. If you have any questions about prior year payments, please call the Membership Office at 317-630-1364.

## MEMBER DATA FORM INSTRUCTIONS

1. The Member Data Form need be used to report continuous year’s changes or Squadron transfers. All other changes can be made by the Squadron utilizing mylegion.org which makes the change happen more quickly & efficiently. You can also send a MDF into the Department to make these changes.
2. **The Member’s ID Number, Current Squadron Number and Name of Detachment are REQUIRED for a Member Data Form to be processed.** The Members ID number is the Legion nine-digit number. Do not submit MDF’s on new members unless there has been a change since joining, use the blank card to record all the information.
3. Although the information requested under “Additional Information” is optional, whenever possible this information should be provided. This will permit National Headquarters to maintain a more comprehensive database of American Legion members. You need only record the additional or changed information.

## CONTINUOUS YEARS CERTIFICATES

Continuous years membership awards (certificates) may be purchased from Emblem Sales. They are Available for every 5 years from 5 to 55 years.

<https://emblem.legion.org/SAL-Continuous-Member-Certificate/productinfo/533.111/>

SAL Continuous Member Certificate

Item Number: 533.111

## 2025-2026 DETACHMENT TARGET DATES AND PERCENTAGES

1st Wednesday of each Month (Except  
January, March, July, and September)

Target#		%of Goal	Dates	Where
1	DETACHMENT CONVENTION	5%	July 16, 2025	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
2	PURPLE HEART (8/7) MEMBERSHIP DRIVE	15%	August 6, 2025	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
3	SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION (9/15) BIRTHDAY	25%	September 3, 2025	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
4	FALL CONFERENCE	30%	October 1, 2025	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
5	VETERANS DAY DRIVE	45%	November 5, 2025	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
6	WREATHS (12/13) MEMBERSHIP DRIVE	55%	December 3, 2025	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
7	MID-WINTER CONFERENCE	65%	January 7, 2026	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
8	WASHINGTON (2/22) MEMBERSHIP DRIVE	75%	February 4, 2026	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
9	AMERICAN LEGION (3/15) BIRTHDAY	85%	March 4, 2026	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
10	SPRING CONFERENCE	90%	April 1, 2026	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
11	MILITARY APPRICIATION (MAY) MEMBERSHIP DRIVE	100%	May 6, 2026	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am
12	CLOSE OF BOOKS	105%	TBD	Mail-in Dept. HQ Accepted until 10am

## AWARDS



**Department Convention Membership Drive**

### Card Turn-In

**Wednesday July 16, 2025**

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.

## AWARDS

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (5.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 1st quarter drawing for \$500. The drawing will be at the Fall Conference.

Each District, in which 25% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: None



**Purple Heart (8/7)**

**Membership Drive Department Headquarters, Indianapolis**

### Card Turn-In

**Wednesday, August 6, 2025**

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.

## AWARDS

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (15.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 1st quarter drawing for \$500. The drawing will be at the Fall Conference.

Each District, in which 30% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 5%, August 25, 2025



9/11

**Sons of the American Legion Birthday 9/15**

**Membership Drive Department  
Headquarters Indianapolis**

**Card Turn-In**

**Wednesday, September 3, 2025**

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.

**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (25.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 1st quarter drawing for \$500. The drawing will be at the Fall Conference.

Each District, in which 40% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive three goal pins and \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 15% September 10, 2025



**Fall Conference Marriott Hotel Indianapolis**

**Card Turn-In**

**Wednesday, October 1, 2025**

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.

**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (30.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 2nd quarter drawing for \$500. The drawing will be at the Mid-Winter Conference.

Each District, in which 45% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 25% October 9, 2025



**Target 5**  
**45 Percent of Goal**

Veterans Day Membership Drive Department Headquarters Indianapolis

**Card Turn-In**

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.

**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (45.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 2nd quarter drawing for \$500. The drawing will be held at the Mid-Winter Conference.

Each District, in which 50% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.



**The District Commander and Membership Chairman with the highest % in membership will be included in the Lincoln Pilgrimage trip. (If they are not able to attend there will be no substitutions).**

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 35% November 11, 2025



**Target 6**  
**55 Percent of Goal**

Pearl Harbor Commemorative Membership Drive Department Headquarters Indianapolis

**Card Turn-In**

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.


**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (55.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 2nd quarter drawing for \$500. The drawing will be held at the Mid-Winter Conference.

Each District, in which 55% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 45% December 7, 2025



**Target 7**  
**65 Percent of Goal**

**Mid-Winter Conference Membership Drive  
Marriott Hotel Indianapolis**

**Card Turn-In**

**Wednesday, January 7, 2025**

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.

**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (65.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 3rd quarter drawing for \$750. The drawing will be held at the Spring Conference.

Each District, in which 65% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 55% January 9, 2026



**Target 8**  
**75 Percent of Goal**

**President's Day Membership Drive Department  
Headquarters Indianapolis**

**Card Turn-In**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2025**

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.


**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (75.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 3rd quarter drawing for \$750. The drawing will be held at the Spring Conference.

Each District, in which 75% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 65% February 16, 2026



**Target 9**  
**85 Percent of Goal**

**American Legion Birthday Membership Drive  
Department Headquarters Indianapolis**

**Card Turn-In**

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026**

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.

**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (85.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 3rd quarter drawing for \$750. The drawing will be held at the Spring Conference.

Each District, in which 85% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 75% March 16, 2026



**Target 10**  
**90 Percent of Goal**

**Spring Conference Membership Drive Marriott Hotel,  
Indianapolis**

**Card Turn-In**

**Wednesday, April 1, 2026**

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.

**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (90.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 4th quarter drawing for \$1000. The drawing will be held at the Detachment Convention.

Each District, in which 90% of their Squadrons meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 85% April 8, 2026



**Target 11**  
**100 Percent of Goal**

**Membership Drive Department**  
**Headquarters Indianapolis**

**Card Turn-In**

**Wednesday, May 6, 2026**

All cards must be received at Department Headquarters by 10 am. All cards received after 10 am will be on the next weekly report.

**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (100.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 4th quarter drawing for \$1000. The drawing will be held at the Detachment Convention.

Each District, in which ALL Squadrons in the District meet or exceed the goal percentage on this Target Date, will receive \$25.00. The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

National Target Date: 95% May 16, 2026



**Target 12**  
**105 Percent of Goal**

**Close of Books**

**Card Turn-In**

**Wednesday following Close of Books (TBD)**

All cards turned in after 10:00 am on Wednesday following Close of Books will not count on the COB totals. They will not count toward the 2025 goal and be considered prior year payments.

**AWARDS**

Each Squadron that exceeds the goal percentage (105.01% or higher) on this Target Date will receive a chance at the 4th quarter drawing for \$1000. The drawing will be held at the Detachment Convention.

Each District, in which ANY Squadron in the District exceeds the goal percentage (106% or higher) on this Target Date, will receive \$50.00 (one per District, a maximum payout of 11 x \$50 = \$550). The check will be issued to the District to be spent as the District chooses.

The District with the highest percentage of retention, on this target date, will receive a \$50.00 check.

Delegate Strength Target Date: 105% June 22, 2026  
30 Days prior to National Convention, July 29, 2026

## MEMBERSHIP AWARDS, RIBBONS, CERTIFICATES, AND PLAQUES

### First Squadron to Reach Goal\*

The Squadrons in each of the 5 Membership categories (on page 20), to reach their membership goal first will receive a plaque.

### Highest Percentage Over Goal\*

The Squadrons in each of the 5 Membership categories (on page 20), to get the highest percent overall will receive a plaque at Detachment Convention.

### Most Cards Over Goal for Squadron\*

The Squadrons in each of the 5 Membership categories (on page 20), with the most cards over their goal will receive a plaque.

**\*A Squadron can win only one of these three awards\***

### New Legionnaire Recruiter Award

Any SAL members who recruits a *Never before* Legionnaire and nine new members into the Sons of The American Legion during the current membership year is eligible for this award. Award forms must be submitted by June 30.

### 100% Certificates

Any Squadron achieving 100% of its goal will receive a 100% certificate and ribbon by July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### Jacket

A personalized S.A.L. jacket will be awarded to the Top District Commander, the District Membership Chairman, and the Top Recruiter in the Detachment at the end of the year.

The top two Squadron Commanders will be awarded an S.A.L. jacket for finishing with the most cards over goal at the end of the year.

## NATIONAL AWARDS

<https://www.legion.org/about/american-legion-family/sons-of-the-american-legion/publications-and-forms>

### Membership Recruiter Award

Any SAL members who recruits five new members into the Sons of The American Legion during the current membership year is eligible for this award. Award forms must be submitted by June 30.

### Citation of Achievement

A citation can be requested for each Squadron which, as of The American Legion Birthday, March 15 - 17, has reported a current membership equal to or exceeding its previous year's official total as of December 31 of the previous year.

### Blue Brigade Award

Any SAL member who signs up 30 or more new members into the Sons of The American Legion by July 22 is eligible for this award.

## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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1 - 10 to 50 members | 2 - 51 to 100 members | 3 - 101 to 200 members

4 - 201 to 300 members | 5 - 301 or more members

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## 2025-2026 DISTRICT AWARDS

**Goal Percentage #1:** Each District Commander that has 25% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #2:** Each District Commander that has 30% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #3:** Each District Commander that has 40% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #4:** Each District Commander that has 45% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #5:** \*\* Each District Commander that has 50% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #6:** Each District Commander that has 55% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #7:** Each District Commander that has 65% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #8:** Each District Commander that has 75% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #9:** Each District Commander that has 85% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #10:** Each District Commander that has 90% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #11:** Each District Commander w/ 100% of his Squadrons meet or exceed goal will receive a check for \$25. \*

**Goal Percentage #12:** Each District in which ANY Squadron in the District exceeds the goal percentage (106% or higher, this is not a misprint) will receive a check for \$50. \*

\* A check will be issued to the district to be spent as the district chooses.

A \$50 check will be awarded to the first THREE District Commanders with all their Squadrons off zero.

**A \$100 check will be awarded to all the District Commanders with all their Squadron completing all required forms and submitted 30 days prior to Detachment Convention.**

Detachment Consolidated Squadron report awards (Americanism, Children & Youth, VA&R, and Community service) will be calculated with all the CSR's received 30 days prior to the Detachment pre-convention DEC meeting.

Please note, ALL forms are now located at

<https://www.indianasal.org/forms--publications.html>

Every Squadron is Strongly Encouraged to sign up for My Legion at:

<https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Home>

The ease at which SAL cards can be transmitted will amaze you. Paying for cards online is absolutely safe and worry free. You will not be receiving a listing of your members with your cards. Your members can be easily viewed at MyLegion. Squadron Commanders & Adjutants have complete access to Squadron records.

Tell your members to sign up also. A member can see his SAL benefits and membership record and print a replacement card.

ADDITIONAL SAL AWARDS ([https://www.legion.org/about/american-legion-family/sons-of-the-american-  
legion/publications-and-forms](https://www.legion.org/about/american-legion-family/sons-of-the-american-legion/publications-and-forms)):

**Squadron Commander of the Year Award**

**Marvin P. Nay Veterans Employment and Education Outstanding Contributor Award**

**Charles B. Rigsby Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Volunteer of the Year Award**

**George B. Evans Grassroots Veterans Advocate of the Year Award**

**Snapshots of Service Award**

