



THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER

THE LEADERSHIP LEDGER

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION SUPPORT
NEWS LAWS REPORTS TRAINING TEAMWORK RESULTS
EVENTS SUCCESS IMPROVEMENT DELEGATING COACHING

Welcome to the 49th Edition of The Leadership Ledger. It includes Post, Department and National reports, leadership training events, upcoming conferences/conventions as well as rules and regulations pertaining to local, state and national laws. The Ledger is available by visiting the Department's website at www.mainelegion.org under "News & Events" or on the home page. If you have any information to be published in The Leadership Ledger, please forward to Department HQ via email at:

legionme@mainelegion.org.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Be Connected – Be Heard – Be Informed

District 5 – Oxford: Sept. 21

Oxford Post 112, 7PM Refreshments after.

District 6 – Knox: Sept 25

St. George Post 34, 9AM



District 11 – Waldo: Sept 19

Palermo Post 163, 2PM

District 14 – Piscataquis: Sept. 18

Guilford Post 119, 12 Noon Lunch w/Business Meeting at 1PM

District 17 – No. Aroostook: Sept. 12

Stockholm Post 136, 1PM

Note: If you haven't submitted your district meetings for 21-22, please do so as soon as possible!

THE NEW NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Paul E. Dillard

Paul E. Dillard was elected national commander of The American Legion on Sept. 2, 2021, in Phoenix during the organization's 102nd national convention. His theme as national commander is "No Veteran Left Behind." He first joined The Legion in 1969.

A native Texan, Dillard graduated from Whitesboro High School in 1965 before joining the U.S. Navy and serving in Vietnam through four campaigns including the Tet offensive. He later received an honorable discharge as a radarman second class petty officer from the Navy Reserve before attending Grayson County Junior College and East Texas State University.

Dillard worked several years in the manufacturing business as an engineer, plant manager and director of manufacturing in Tennessee. Upon returning to Texas, he accepted a sales representative position with Sherman Foundry and became its airplane pilot. A career change was made when he and his wife, Donna, began their family and he entered into the insurance business specializing in employee benefits and later forming Dillard & Gann Insurance.

As a paid-up-for-life member of American Legion Post 265 in Lake Kiowa, Texas, Dillard served as post commander, vice commander, adjutant and judge advocate. He coached American Legion Baseball for more than 10 years and served as his post's Boys State chairman.

Dillard served the 4th District as commander and vice commander and served the department as sergeant-at-arms, Membership & Organization chairman, National Security chairman, Uniformed Organization chairman, Board of Trustees chairman, and he served on the Finance Committee and the Long-Range Planning Committee. He was elected as Department of Texas commander in 2007.

(cont. next page)

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(Commander Paul E. Dillard, cont.)

On the national level, Dillard has served as Alternate National Executive Committeeman, consultant to the Insurance Committee, Distinguished Guest Committee, Children & Youth Committee, and Media and Communications Council. He has served as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, chairman of the Veterans Employment & Education Commission and chairman of the Legislative Commission. He was elected as national vice commander in 2013.

Dillard married Donna in 1983. They have two sons, William and his wife Allison, and Jonathon and his wife Karri, and two grandsons Jarrett and Lukas. All are members of the American Legion Family. Donna has been an active and dedicated member of The American Legion Auxiliary for several years and has served in numerous positions of leadership at all levels of the organization, including department president in 2017-2018.

— www.legion.org

URGENT: CHANGE IN HONOR FLIGHT MAINE FLIGHT STATUS

Hello,

It breaks my heart to advise you of the following results of tonight's HFM Zoom meeting and vote.

~ Our Public Announcement ~

After hours of discussion, due to the uncertainty regarding Covid and Covid related issues, the Honor Flight Maine Board of Directors has decided in the best interest of our Veterans, we must forgo our September and October 2021 trips.

As much as we regret having to make this difficult decision, the safety and well-being has always and always will be our priority for our Veterans, Guardians, and Volunteers.

Your continued support of our Mission is critical!

We plan to come back stronger than ever in the Spring of 2022

I am heartbroken for the Veterans, Guardians, and Volunteers that waited so long. The Veterans were willing, despite the numbers and trends, to fly LAST year if we had been allowed to provide flights to them. Most have looked death in the eyes and wanted to fly to their memorials and were fearless.

We will undoubtedly lose many through these next months.

It is my deep-rooted belief that time will take them before Covid would. By the same token, I never want to look the Veteran or family member of a Veteran in the eyes that contracted Covid on my watch.

I abstained from the vote because my time invested and heart strings could not keep me neutral. I researched, committed to, and provided the very best reasons and information "To Fly vs Not to Fly" to my Board for discussion and vote.

The protocols set forth from Honor Flight Network, though thorough and worthy, are why many of the Honor Flight Hubs across our country have made the same decision to look toward the Spring of 2022 on a hope and a prayer that travel will carry less risk.

Rest assured, we will continue to find and proceed with creative ways to honor our Maine Veterans until we take flight again in the Spring of 2022.

Respectfully & humbly,

~Laurie~

Laurie A. Sidelinger, Board Chairperson/Trip Lead
Honor Flight Maine
PO Box 1770, Portland, ME 04104-1770
Cell: 207-240-1398 • Hub Line: 207-370-7210

NEW MYLEGION.ORG INSTRUCTIONS/INFORMATION FOR



MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING, GROUP PERMISSIONS & MORE!

Now that the myLegion site is live, all accounts are now MEMBER accounts. This includes Legion and SAL members. The first requirement to access post and squadron data is to create a myLegion member account using the email address on your membership record. The new myLegion Home page will look like the image above. It provides links to your subscriptions, discounts, and resources. MY ACCOUNT provides more information about your own membership. To learn more, please click on the image or title above for information and instructions or the Video Presentation / PowerPoint links below.

[Video Presentation](#) / [PowerPoint](#) / [Q&A](#)

POST SERVICE OFFICER TRAINING

CANCELLED

Post Service Officer Training scheduled for Sept. 29 from 10:00 am – 2:00 p.m. has been cancelled. For more information e-mail Carl Curtis at carl.curtis2@va.gov.



EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS E-FILE - E-POSTCARD

What is the electronic filing requirement for small tax-exempt organizations?

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations that previously were not required to file returns may be required to submit an annual electronic notice, Form 990-N, *Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required To File Form 990 or 990-EZ*. This filing requirement applies to tax periods beginning after December 31, 2006. Organizations that fail to meet their annual filing requirement for three consecutive years are subject to losing their tax-exempt status.

Small tax-exempt organizations, whose gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less, are not required to file Form 990, *Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax*, or Form 990-EZ, *Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax*. These small tax-exempt organizations are required to file electronically the e-Postcard, Form 990-N, with the IRS annually. Exceptions to this requirement include organizations that are included in a group return, private foundations required to file Form 990-PF, and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations required to file Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. In addition, this filing requirement does not apply to churches, their integrated auxiliaries, and conventions or associations of churches.

See **e-Postcard (Form 990-N)**

for more information about this requirement.

Page Last Reviewed or Updated: 04-Mar-2021

MEMBERSHIP IMPACT REPORTS

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The following monthly reports located on <https://www.legion.org/membership/impact> provide a summary of membership, participation and volunteerism making an impact in the lives of veterans, families and communities. American Legion Posts can share the many ways Legionnaires are making a difference in their communities by [submitting consolidated post reports online](#). To visit the impact American Legion posts made throughout the year, visit:

<https://www.legion.org/bythenumbers> or
<https://www.legion.org/membership/impact>.



For more information [CLICK HERE](https://www.legion.org/benefits) or visit:
<https://www.legion.org/benefits>

DONATIONS

AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

General Fund

David C. King, Lisbon Post 158

\$ 50.00

MAINE LEGION COLLEGE CLASS FOR 2021



Maine Legion College Classes for the 2021 year have been cancelled. For more information contact American Legion State Headquarters at 207.873-3229.



IRVING
Irving Oil
Savings

**"You can have peace.
Or you can have freedom.
Don't ever count on having both at once."**

~ Robert A. Heinlein

**"This country has not seen and probably
will never know the true level of sacrifice
of our veterans. As a civilian, I owe an
unpayable debt to all our military. Going
forward let's not send our servicemen and
women off to war or conflict zones unless
it is overwhelmingly justifiable and
on moral high ground."**

~ Thomas M. Smith

HEROES TO HOMETOWNS

As the war on terrorism continues, more young American military men and women are coming home bearing the scars of battle. Many continue to recover physically and emotionally from severe injuries including loss of limbs, mobility, and psychological trauma.

The American Legion and the Department of Defense have teamed up to provide these outstanding and dedicated Americans all the help they need to re-establish their lives when they come home.

It is a pillar of The American Legion — “to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness”.

If your post has agreed to participate in the Heroes to Hometown program because a comrade is coming home to your community, [download this guide](http://www.mainelegion.org/media/download_gallery/whentheycomehome.pdf) or go to: http://www.mainelegion.org/media/download_gallery/whentheycomehome.pdf. These resources will provide you with information you need to ensure that the servicemember and their family will get full assistance for a successful transition back to civilian life.

Also see our [Heroes2 Hometowns FAQ](#) for answers to frequently asked questions. Committeeman

FOR VETERANS:

How are you doing? The opportunity to talk over personal challenges in a free, confidential, and non-judgmental setting is now available for anyone who served for any length of time.

A veteran who is a trained Peer Support Specialist is now available for a Monday group from 4p-5p at the Lakes Region Recovery Center in Bridgton. 207-803-8707.

MILITARY TRIVIA:

Q: What was one of the earliest and almost deadliest acts of sabotage, perpetrated by the Viet Cong, against US Military personnel?



VETERAN'S EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VEFAP)

Do you know of a veteran in your community in need of assistance? Someone who during these challenging times just needs a little help to keep them going? Maybe a veteran that is homeless? Or worst of all, a homeless veteran with children? If so, we want to remind you that The American Legion, Department of Maine can assist you to help these veterans during their difficult and troubling times.

You can call us at 207-873-3229 Ext. 3 or visit our website:

<http://www.mainelegion.org/pages/resources/va-resources.php>

We will contact you as soon as possible and we hope to enable you to help veterans in need.



LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST

- ▶ The next mailing is Accidental Death (AD) in September.
- ▶ We will be in attendance at the National Convention in August.
- ▶ LIT Fall Trust Directors meeting is scheduled for September 14th in Williamsburg, VA



For more information [CLICK HERE](#) or go to: www.legion.org/benefits

The Maine Legionnaire

~ Printing Delay! ~

The August issue of The Maine Legionnaire has been delayed and will be printed in October due to various reasons including, but not limited to; mylegion.org, staffing issues and an overabundance of photos and articles.



The American Legion, Department of Maine High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

**Thomas College
180 West River Rd.
Waterville, Maine 04901**

February 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

(Snow date: February 19, 2022)

The American Legion, Department of Maine High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest will once again be held at Thomas College in Waterville on February 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Snow Date: February 19, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

The main purpose of The American Legion Oratorical Contest "A Constitutional Speech Contest" is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties, responsibilities, the rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Young orators will have the opportunity to earn some of the most generous scholarships. At the Post and District level, scholarships offered range from \$50 - \$100, and at the State level \$50 - \$1500. At the National level, each department (state) winner who is certified and participates in the National Oratorical Contest's 1st round receives \$2,000 scholarship. Each first round winner who advances to and participates in the second round, but does not advance to the final round, will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship to pursue education beyond high school. The overall national contest winner gets an \$25,000 scholarship. Second place takes home \$22,500, and third gets \$20,000. The members of the Oratorical Committee will be working with both Area and District Commanders to prepare Posts and Districts for their local contests. We hope to have all Post contests completed by Mid-December 2021 and all District contests completed by the end of January 2022.

The 2022 **National Finals is April 22-24** in Indianapolis, at the Wyndham Indianapolis West. Quarterfinal and semifinal contests are scheduled for Saturday, April 23, with the finals scheduled for Sunday, April 24. **Certification of Department winners is due to National by March 14, 2022.**

For additional questions and/or information pertaining to the Oratorical Contest in Maine, please contact Oratorical Co-Chairman Dale Midgley at 207-590-3532 | e-mail: midgleyd@earthlink.net or

Oratorical Co-Chairman Maureen Malley at maureenmalley.66@gmail.com. More information can be obtained by visiting www.mainelegion.org, your local American Legion Post, or The American Legion, Department of Maine Headquarters at 207-873-3229. Please check out the State and Local Oratorical Contests by visiting National's website at www.legion.org/oratorical.

LETTER FROM THE ORATORICAL CO-CHAIRMAN DALE MIDGLEY

If you have never attended the High School Oratorical Finals, you are missing the opportunity to see some of the very Brightest and Talented High School Students in the State of Maine!

Did you know that: The Original proposed Bill of Rights contained 12 Rights not 10?

Did you know that: James Madison, author of the Bill of Rights, used the Magna Carta (1215),

English Bill of Rights (1689) and the Virginia Declaration of Rights (1776) in writing the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

Did you know that: The Constitution was finally ratified by all 14 States in January 1791, the last being Vermont.

Did you know that: A proposed Bill of Rights Amendment submitted in 1789 was not officially ratified until 1992 and became the 26th Amendment?

I didn't know any of these things, plus a whole lot more, until I attended our Post Oratorical Contest, the District Oratorical Contest and the State Oratorical Contest.

The students who research and present their Prepared Speech and Assigned Topics will amaze you by how much time and effort they have spent rehearsing and polishing their presentations.

I hope to see you at the Oratorical Finals, for I am sure, I will learn even more about the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights again this year at the Post, District and State Finals.

For More Information [Click Here](#)

or go to

www.mainelegion.org/pages/programs/oratorical.php

*For the Oratorical Committee,
Dale Midgley*

**Department of Maine HS Oratorical
Scholarship Application**

**Department of Maine
Oratorical Brochure**

2022 Oratorical Rules Brochure

**Oratorical Promotional
Brochure - National**

FALL CONFERENCE 2021

~ SCHEDULE ~

Friday, September 24th

Entertainment and socializing: Westbrook Post 197, 300 Conant St., Westbrook

Saturday, September 25th

Breakfast: Post 62 and Post 197 - donuts/pastries/coffee, tea, orange juice, water, fresh fruit - FREE

Legion Fall Conference: Westbrook Post 62, 17 Dunn St., Westbrook 9 – 4 p.m.

Auxiliary Fall Conference: Westbrook Post 197, 300 Conant St., Westbrook 9 – 3 p.m.

SAL Fall Conference: Westbrook Post 197, 300 Conant St., Westbrook 9 – 11 p.m.

BBQ DINNER: 6:00 p.m. Westbrook Post 197, 300 Conant St., Westbrook (See below for details.)

Entertainment: 7 – 11 p.m. Westbrook Post 197, 300 Conant St., Westbrook

Sunday, September 26th

Breakfast Post 197: Waffle bar, hazelnut spread, strawberries, apple topping, blueberries, fudge sauce, whipped cream and sausages - FREE

Legion and Auxiliary Department Executive Committee meetings – Westbrook Post 197, 9 a.m.

Note: Legion Department Officers Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

~ HOTEL LIST ~

Please contact the hotels directly or reserve online. Group rates are not available.

Exit 48 off the Maine Turnpike:

- Super 8 by Wyndham, 208 Larrabee Rd., Westbrook, Maine (207) 209-2480 (No elevator)
- Fireside Inn & Suites, 81 Riverside St., Portland (207) 774-5601
- Ramada Plaza by Wyndham Portland, 155 Riverside St., Portland (207) 774-5861
- Motel 6, 1 Riverside St., Portland (207) 775-0111

There are many more hotels in the Portland area if you go online.

LUNCH AND DINNER MEAL CHOICES FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th

(Lunch Available at both Post 62 & Post 197)

_____ Lunch - \$8.00 per person, pre-paid only
_____ GLUTEN FREE

Club sandwiches, assorted wraps, pasta salad, home-made potato chips, cookies/brownies & soda/water

(Dinner will be at Westbrook Post 197)

_____ Dinner - \$15.00 per person, pre-paid only
_____ GLUTEN FREE

BBQ - hamburger sliders, barbecue chicken, pulled pork sliders, potato salad, Cole slaw, mac-n-cheese, cornbread, beans, apple crisp dessert & chocolate whoopie pies and pumpkin whoopie pies, soda/water.

_____ Combo – lunch and dinner, \$20.00 per person, pre-paid only

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Make checks payable to:

**ALA Unit 197**

mail to:

**Stasi Heitman**

**American Legion Post 197**

**300 Conant St., Westbrook, ME 04092**

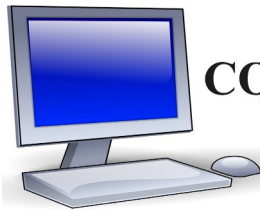
**DEADLINE FOR MEAL RESERVATIONS:  
SEPTEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>**

## IMPORTANT DATES IN MILLIARY HISTORY

### September

- 9/1 New Dawn Began (2010)
- 9/2 Japan Formally Surrendered (1945)
- 9/3 American Revolution Ended (1783)
- 9/10 Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron Founded (1942)
- 9/10 US Naval Sea Cadet Corps Incorporated (1962)
- 9/11 Patriot's Day/National Day of Service and Remembrance
- 9/14 Ladies Auxiliary VFW Organized (1914)
- 9/15 POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 9/17 Citizenship Day
- 9/17 U.S. Constitution Approved (1787)
- 9/18 US Air Force Established (1947)
- 9/24 Gold Star Mother's Day
- 9/29 VFW Day/VFW Established (1899)





## COMPUTER 101

**Computer 101** is a resource which aims to help those who wish to learn basic skills with the powerful technology of today's world. Increased proficiency with computers and the Internet has positive outcome across all fronts, both personally and professionally.

### 20 Mind-Blowing Facts You Didn't Know About Technology

1. The first computer was almost 2.5 meters high and weighed nearly 30,000kg
2. The internet is 10,000+days old, [click here to find out the actual age of the internet.](#)
3. In 2006 someone tried to sell New Zealand on eBay. The price got up to \$3,000 before eBay shut it down.
4. Apple launched a clothing line in 1986. It was described as a "train wreck" by others.
5. The name Google was created accidentally. A spelling error was made by the original founders who were under the impression they were going for Googol.
6. The founders of Google were willing to sell Google for \$1 million to Excite in 1999, but Excite turned them down. Google is now worth \$527 Billion.
7. [Wikipedia Is Downloadable!](#)
8. The Apple II had a hard drive of only 5 megabytes when it was released.
9. In 2011, more than 1 in 3 divorce files in America contained the word Facebook in them.
10. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Pinterest, and Tumblr are all banned in China.
11. Samsung is also a full-time weapon manufacturer which uses the most up-to-date technology to support peace and security.
12. Bluetooth was named after a King named King Harald Bluetooth. He united Norway and Denmark.
13. [9 Coding languages were invented by women!](#)
14. TIME Magazine named the computer the "Man of the Year" in 1982.
15. The internet speed at NASA is 91GB per second.
16. 51% of internet traffic is "non-human". 31% is made up from hacking programs, spammers and malicious phishing.
17. The word emoji has no similarity and link to the word emotion, emoji comes from the Japanese words e for "picture" and moji for "character".
18. The QWERTY keyboard was designed to slow you down. If you want to type faster, try the Dvorak Keyboard.
19. The world's largest hard drive is a 60TB SSD.
20. About 28% of IT professionals hide their career from friends and family to get out of giving free tech support.

Source: [RegionWeek.com](#)

## MILITARY TRIVIA:

**A.** In 1963, a Viet Cong undercover woman, (Le Thi Thu Nguyet) swapped identical suitcases during cargo loading at Tan Son Nhut airbase, just prior to a Boeing 707 flight for 50 US Officers back to Honolulu. The "new" suitcase was filled with C-4 & a timer, but did not explode until 2 minutes after everyone had deplaned in Hawaii. She had used a cheap timing clock, which slowed down in the unpressurized aircraft cargo bay & didn't restart until after landing.

Think about it. What if you **DISABILITY RIGHTS** ordered a pizza and couldn't hear or understand what the caller was saying? Does everyone mumble **MAINE** when you are talking on the phone? Try Maine Relay, which provides captions during phone calls.

Join us for monthly community presentations via Zoom\*. Debra Bare-Rogers, TRS Advocate at Disability Rights Maine (ORM) will be presenting. Learn about different Maine Relay Services available for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech difficulty. Debra will also share about the Telecommunications Equipment Program (TEP).

Join Zoom Meetings online:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88354208083?pwd=Z0k1SXhRYjAxMFdsVXM1NkVlcEcvdz09>

Meeting ID: **883 5420 8083**

Please email [DRogers@DRME.org](mailto:DRogers@DRME.org) for passcode.

By phone: 646-558-8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 883 5420 8083

Please email [DRogers@DRME.org](mailto:DRogers@DRME.org) for numeric passcode.

### Monthly presentations:

|                     |                                               |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Thu, Sep. 9, 1-2pm  | What is Maine Relay?                          |
| Thu, Oct. 14, 1-2pm | What are Sprint IP Relay & Sprint Web CapTel? |
| Thu, Nov. 18, 1-2pm | What is Speech-to-Speech Relay?               |
| Thu, Dec. 9, 1-2pm  | What is Relay Conference Captioning?          |

Relay Conference Captioning (RCC) will be scheduled; email for the captioning link. Questions? Need to meet at a different time? Contact Debra Bare-Rogers [DRogers@DRME.org](mailto:DRogers@DRME.org)

Sincerely,

**Debra Bare-Rogers, Advocate for  
Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS)  
Disability Rights Maine  
Maine Relay Services <https://www.maine.gov/trs/home>**

Disability Rights Maine [drme.org](http://drme.org)  
Disability Rights Maine  
160 Capitol Street, Suite 4, Augusta, ME 04330

# MEMBERSHIP: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## Eligibility Questions

Are you eligible? Here are a few frequently asked questions regarding American Legion eligibility. For any other eligibility questions, feel free to contact us at [membership@legion.org](mailto:membership@legion.org) or 317-630-1321.

### **What are the eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion?**

Thanks to the LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act), Congress expanded the current eligibility period to cover Dec. 7, 1941, to the present, and includes the current war campaigns. Previously, there were seven declared war periods. Now there are two, the current war period dating back to World War II and another war era covering World War I. No other restrictions to American Legion membership changed.

### **I'm currently on active duty. Am I eligible?**

Yes, you are a veteran. All current active duty military are eligible for membership.

### **I didn't retire from the military, but was on active duty during one of the qualifying time periods. Am I eligible?**

Yes, you are a veteran. As long as you have served at least one day of federal active duty during any qualifying period, you are eligible for membership.

### **I served during one of the qualifying periods, but was never in a combat zone. Am I eligible?**

Yes, you are a veteran. Location of active duty service is not a consideration for membership.

### **I'm currently in the National Guard/Reserve. My unit was activated under Title 10 orders during a qualifying time period. Am I eligible?**

Yes, you are a veteran. Title 10 orders are issued by the Secretary of Defense and therefore are federal orders.

### **My National Guard unit was activated for crowd control under Title 32 orders during one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible?**

No. Title 32 orders are issued under a governor's authority, whereas Title 10 orders are issued from the Secretary of Defense.

### **I'm currently a cadet at one of the U.S. Military Academies. Am I eligible?**

Yes, you are a veteran. The American Legion has considered service in the military academies as eligible for membership since WWI.

### **Can I be an honorary or social member of The American Legion?**

No. Per National Constitution and By-laws, no form or class of membership is authorized except regular active or paid up for life.

### **I served my entire military career in the National Guard/Reserves, and only have a DD214 from my Active Duty for Training that I was in during one of the qualifying dates. Am I eligible?**

Yes, you are a veteran. In the mid-60s all basic training and occupational training schools were considered federal active duty service.

### **I served active duty as a SPAR, WAC, WASP, or WAVES during the one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible?**

Yes, you are a veteran. Even though women served separately than men, their service is equal.

### **I served with allied military forces during one of the qualifying periods. Am I eligible?**

Yes, you are a veteran, only if you were a U.S. citizen at the time of entry.

### **I served with the Civil Air Patrol/Civilian Technical Corps/USPHS as a civilian during two qualifying periods. Am I eligible?**

No. Eligible members must have federal military service during a qualifying period and received an honorable discharge or discharge under honorable conditions.

### **I enlisted and went to basic training, but received an uncharacterized discharge due to a medical condition. Am I eligible?**

Yes, you are a veteran. Uncharacterized discharges for medical discharges are assumed to be under honorable conditions unless specifically stated otherwise. There are other categories of uncharacterized discharges and before they are determined eligible for membership the discharge should be sent to National for determination and a record will be maintained at National on final determination.

### **I'm eligible for The American Legion, but do not have a copy of my DD214 to show as proof of eligibility. How can I get one?**

You can go to [archives.gov/veterans](https://archives.gov/veterans) to request another copy of your discharge papers. A copy of orders putting you on federal active duty can be used as proof of eligibility as well.

— [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)