

# NATIONAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

This program is designed to provide recognition and awards to VFW members who volunteer their time in service through outside organizations. Recognition is in the form of certificates and/or lapel pins, which are given to volunteers who have completed the number of hours prescribed for those awards.

**The individual in charge of a local community service organization such as a school, youth group, a food pantry or a shelter will sign the validation form for the VFW or nonmember VFW volunteer.**

NOTE: Use the VFW National Hospital Volunteer Recognition Program to recognize hospital volunteer service. Contact your Department Hospital Chairman for more information.

National Community Service Department will provide the appropriate award for presentation to the volunteer upon receipt of a completed request form properly signed by the coordinator for the community service program, Post Commander and the Department Adjutant. Awards will be made in accordance with the following schedule.

The award pin includes the Cross of Malta, the words "Community Service and VFW Volunteer" and the accumulated volunteer hours. The certificate will recognize the volunteer for attaining the appropriate cumulative hour level. Pins are to be requested on the prescribed form from the National Community Service Department. Completed forms are to be forwarded to the Department Adjutant for signature. Forms are then forwarded to the Director at National Headquarters.

## Eligibility

1. A VFW member in good standing performing volunteer service for a community service organization is eligible to receive an award.
  2. Such volunteer service must be given under the representation of the VFW.
  3. Volunteer service rendered under sponsorship of any other organization is not recognized for this purpose.
- Some examples of volunteer work benefiting nonmembers are: coaching youth, working at a food pantry, conducting flag presentations in front of schools or youth groups and supporting funeral homes/cemeteries by providing honor guard details for nonmember veterans.

## One Of A Kind

Only one award of a kind will be furnished to each volunteer. For instance, a volunteer who has served 450 hours is not eligible to receive three 150-hour pins. Replacement awards may be furnished on request.

## Non-Member Awards

Non-members volunteering under the sponsorship of the VFW may be issued a VFW pin and certificate (if applicable) once a year for the number of hours served.

## Procedure

Using the form, the VFW Post Commander (if the award is for the Post Commander, the Sr. or Jr. Vice Commander should sign and submit the form) should obtain the number of hours served by the volunteer from the local community service organization along with the signature of the volunteer coordinator and return the name and VFW Post number of the member who meets the above requirements to the Department Adjutant. Each individual form must be signed by the above designated officials. The Department Adjutant should sign the request and forward it to National Headquarters in Kansas City, MO., where the awards are shipped.

100 hours	certificate	8,000 hours	lapel pin
150 hours	lapel pin	9,000 hours	lapel pin
300 hours	lapel pin	10,000 hours	lapel pin and certificate
500 hours	lapel pin and certificate	12,500 hours	lapel pin
1,000 hours	lapel pin	15,000 hours	lapel pin and certificate
2,000 hours	lapel pin and certificate	17,500 hours	lapel pin
3,000 hours	lapel pin	20,000 hours	lapel pin and certificate
4,000 hours	lapel pin	30,000 hours	lapel pin and certificate
5,000 hours	lapel pin and certificate	35,000 hours	lapel pin and certificate
6,000 hours	lapel pin	40,000 hours	lapel pin and certificate

# NATIONAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION REQUEST FORM

This form will certify the following is entitled to a VFW National Community Service Volunteer Award for service as a VFW representative volunteering at a community service organization other than the VFW or other Veterans Service Organization. A pin will be issued for his/her volunteer work with a community volunteer service organization. *(For Hospital Volunteer Recognition Awards, please contact your Department Hospital Chairman.)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

VFW/Aux. Card No. (indicate if non-member \_\_\_\_\_) Hours Served: \_\_\_\_\_

Post # \_\_\_\_\_ Award Issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
(National Use Only)

**\* Awards for 1,000 hours or more may be the accumulation of volunteer service hours from up to three community service organizations.**

**Community Service Organization** \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Community Service Organization** \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Community Service Organization** \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>Post Commanders Signature</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____</p>
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Dept. Adjutant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## MAIL AWARD TO:

Post Commander's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # must be filled in for Delivery: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send this form to Department Headquarters by May 1, 2021:**

**Texas VFW  
PO Box 14468  
Austin, TX 78761**