



# 2023-2024 DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS VFW AUXILIARY CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE FOR AUXILIARIES

Every Auxiliary has the opportunity to join the Department of Illinois Circle of Excellence. The criteria are listed below. Consider this a checklist for the year to meet important deadlines that **MUST** be met. Your Auxiliary **MUST** achieve 240 points or above to enter the Department of Illinois Circle of Excellence.

## Criteria for entering the Circle of Excellence:

1. **Growth in Membership:** Membership Standings by April 30, 2024, based on the June 30, 2023, final membership statistics.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
110		100% +3 new or rejoined members (current %)
105		100% +3 new or rejoined members (paid %)
100		100% +1 new or rejoined member (current %)
95		100% +1 new or rejoined member (paid %)
90		100% in Membership (current %)
85		100% in Membership (paid %)
80		97% - 99% in Membership (current %)
75		97% - 99% in Membership (paid %)

2. **Comply with Bylaws/Administrative Follow-Through:**

A) Auxiliary Installation Report **MUST** be completed and received by Department.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
20		Installation Report submitted by June 30, 2023
15		Installation Report submitted by July 10, 2023

B) Auxiliary President and Treasurer **MUST** be bonded.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
20		President and Treasurer bonded by July 15, 2023
15		President and Treasurer bonded by July 31, 2023
10		President and Treasurer bonded by August 15, 2023

C) Auxiliary Officers dues **MUST** be paid before December 31, 2023. This includes the offices of President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
20		Officers' annual dues paid by July 31, 2023
15		Officers' annual dues paid by September 30, 2023
10		Officers' annual dues paid by November 30, 2023

D) Auxiliaries must submit ALL audits to the Department Treasurer by the due dates listed.  
No partial points will be given.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria	
10		<u>AUDIT DATES:</u> April – June July – September October – December January - March	<u>DUE DATES:</u> August 15 <sup>th</sup> November 15 <sup>th</sup> February 15 <sup>th</sup> May 15 <sup>th</sup>

- 3. Training:** An Auxiliary member **MUST** attend at least one training session or school of instruction on each of the following: (*NOTE: Training session topics can be combined into one school of instruction. A written report must be submitted to the Department Secretary immediately following the training session.*)

A) Duties of Officers

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		Auxiliary member attends a District training session on officers' duties by November 30, 2023

B) Overview of Programs

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		Auxiliary member attends a District training session giving an overview of all programs by November 30, 2023

C) Attend a Department Training Program

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		At least one Auxiliary member to attend a training program hosted by Department by April 15, 2024

D) Programs Participation and Working Together on a Common Goal: Auxiliary **MUST** complete projects, activities and donations that benefit Veterans by December 31, 2023

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
20		X-sheet is 100% completed in all programs by December 31, 2023
10		Donations to all Hospitals and Hospital Pledge by December 31, 2023
10		Donation to the Department President's Special Project "Project Diehard" by December 31, 2023
5		Donation to the National President's Special Project VFW National Home Welcome Center Renovation Project by December 31, 2023
5		Donation to Health & Happiness of at least \$0.25 per person based on June 30, 2023, membership standings by December 31, 2023
5		Donations sent to the VFW for both Veterans and Military Support AND National Veterans Service by December 31, 2023

5		Donation of \$10.00 or more is made to the Department of Illinois Patriotic Art Escrow Fund by December 31, 2023
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NOTE: Donations made to National Military Services (NMS) or National Veterans Service (NVS) are sent directly to VFW National Headquarters. To received credit for these donations, the Auxiliary must notify the Department Secretary.

a. Working Together: Joint Fundraiser

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
15		The Auxiliary and VFW must hold a fundraiser that benefits the Department's joint fundraiser. The proceeds sent to the Department Treasurer earmarked "Joint Fundraiser" and a report with details of the fundraiser sent to the Department Secretary. Deadline: April 15, 2024
10		The Auxiliary must participate in a District Joint Fundraiser or make a donation to the Department Joint Fundraiser with the check sent to the Department Treasurer earmarked "Joint Fundraiser" and a report with the details of the fundraiser send to the Department Secretary. Deadline: April 15, 2024

*Note: An Auxiliary can receive both points for hosting a joint fundraiser with its Post AND can receive points for participating in a District Joint Fundraiser.*

## Circle of Excellence Awards:

Each Auxiliary entering the Department of Illinois Circle of Excellence will receive an award that will be presented at the Department Convention.

