

**2024-2025  
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS  
VFW AUXILIARY  
CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE**

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!

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

A) Auxiliary Installation Report must be completed and received by the Department by the date:

| Points Earned | Possible Points | Criteria                                 |
|---------------|-----------------|--|
| _____         | 20              | Installation Report submitted by 6/06/24 |
|               | 10              | Installation Report submitted by 7/10/24 |

B) The Auxiliary President and Treasurer must be bonded.

| Points Earned | Possible Points | Criteria                                  |
|---------------|-----------------|---|
| _____         | 20              | President & Treasurer bonded by 7/15/2024 |
|               | 15              | President & Treasurer bonded by 7/31/2024 |
|               | 10              | President & Treasurer bonded by 8/15/2024 |

C) Auxiliary Officer's dues must be paid before 12/31/2024. This includes the offices of President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

| Points Earned | Possible Points | Criteria                                |
|---------------|-----------------|---|
| _____         | 20              | Officers' annual dues paid by 7/31/2024 |
|               | 15              | Officers' annual dues paid by 9/30/2024 |

**2. 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) How to Identify a Healthy Auxiliary

| Points Earned | Possible Points | Criteria   |
|---------------|-----------------|--|
| _____         | 10              | Auxiliary member attends a District or Dept. Training session on How to Identify a Healthy Auxiliary by 11/20/2024 |

B) Overview of Programs

| Points Earned | Possible Points | Criteria  |
|---------------|-----------------|---|
| _____         | 10              | Auxiliary member attends a District or Dept. Training session giving an overview of all |

Programs 11/20/2024

C) Attend a Department Training Program

| Points Earned | Possible Points | Criteria  |
|---------------|-----------------|---|
| _____         | 10              | At least one Auxiliary member to attend a Training hosted by Department by 3/1/2024 |

D) Program participation and Working Together as a common goal. Auxiliary must complete the following projects, activities, and donations that benefit Veterans by 3/15/2025

| Points Earned | Possible Points | Criteria   |
|---------------|-----------------|--|
| _____         | 10              | Donations to all Hospitals & Hospital by 12/7/24   |
| _____         | 5               | Donations to all Hospitals & Hospital by 3/15/25   |
| _____         | 10              | Donations to Dept President's Special Project This Able Veteran by 12/7/24                                 |
| _____         | 5               | Donations to Dept President's Special Project This Able Veteran by 3/15/25                                 |
| _____         | 10              | Donations to National President's Special Project Operation Bottom Cover by 12/7/24                        |
| _____         | 5               | Donation to National President's Special Project Operation Bottom Cover by 3/15/25                         |
| _____         | 10              | Donation to Health & Happiness of at least 25¢ per person based on 6/30/24 membership standings by 12/7/24 |
| _____         | 5               | Donation to Health & Happiness of at least 25¢ per person based on 6/30/24 membership standings by 3/15/25 |
| _____         | 10              | Donations sent to the VFW for both Veterans And Military Support and National Veterans Service by 12/7/24  |
| _____         | 5               | Donations sent to the VFW for both Veterans And Military Support and National Veterans Service by 3/15/25  |

**NOTE:** Donations made to National Military Services (NMS) or National Veterans Service (NVS) are sent directly to VFW National Headquarters. The Auxiliary must notify the Department Secretary to receive credit for these donations.

A) Working Together: Joint Fundraiser

| Points Earned | Possible Points | Criteria   |
|---------------|-----------------|--|
| _____         | 25              | The Auxiliary and VFW must hold a fundraiser that benefits the Department's joint project. The proceeds sent to the Dept. Treasurer earmarked "Joint Fundraiser" and a report with details of the fundraiser sent to the Dept. Secretary by 4/15/25. |

**3. Growth in Membership:** Membership standings by April 30, 2025, based on the June 30, 2024 final membership statistics.

| Points Earned | Possible Points | Criteria   |
|---------------|-----------------|--|
| _____         | 110             | Over 101% in membership, not including Deaths (current percent)      |
| _____         | 100             | Over 100% plus in membership, not including Deaths (current percent) |
| _____         | 90              | 100% plus in membership, including deaths (paid percent)             |
| _____         | 80              | 97-100% in membership, including deaths (paid percent)               |

**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.

**If the Auxiliaries audits are not completed correctly and received by the Department Treasurer by May 31, 2025. The Auxiliary will be disqualified from the Circle of Excellence, regardless of the point total!**