

Circle of Excellence 2022-2023
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“Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence” Vince Lombardi

The National Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary and its VFW Auxiliary Departments, throughout our great USA, as well our US territories, recognizes and honors the diligent work done by our leadership on the Auxiliary (Post), District and Department Levels. The **CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE** is the award given to leadership through our various departments that meet the eligibility criteria. Collectively, Department of California VFW Auxiliaries’ ***Hands That Serve, Hearts That Care*** honors the commitment we all took when we decided to be a part of this awesome organization, by serving our nation’s veterans, their families and active-duty military, as ***VFW Auxiliary Family One Team, One Heartbeat***. Our joint commitment to service will ensure that the Department of California leadership and members receive the prestigious honor of being awarded the **CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE**.

The Department of California wants to recognize Our Districts, District Presidents, Auxiliaries and Auxiliary Presidents ***Hands That Care, Hearts That Care*** working as ***VFW Auxiliary Family One Team, One Heartbeat*** in diligent service to our veterans and this organization with awarding the **DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE**.

Please complete the forms on the following page and return to me no later than April 30, 2023. The completed form will be confirmed by our Department Headquarters.

Your District MUST achieve 225 points or above to enter the Circle of Excellence.

Criteria for entering the Department Circle of Excellence:

1) Growth in Membership:

Membership Standings by June 30, 2023, based on June 30, 2022, final membership statistics. (Select only one).

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
110		Over 101% not including deceased members
100		100% Plus in membership, not including deceased members
90		100% Plus is membership, including paid deceased members
80		97-100% in membership, including paid deceased members

2) Comply with Bylaws/Administrative Follow-Through:

- a) All Auxiliary installation reports MUST be at Department and National Headquarters by July 31, 2022. If not, the District President MUST submit a request for a suspension by that date for time to mentor and rejuvenate the Auxiliary.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
20		Installation reports submitted by June 30, 2022
15		Installation reports submitted by July 31, 2022

- b) All Auxiliaries in the District MUST be bonded by August 31, 2022. If not, the District President MUST submit a request for a suspension before that date to allow time to mentor and rejuvenate the Auxiliary.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
20		All Auxiliaries bonded by July 31, 2022
15		All Auxiliaries bonded by August 25, 2022, or request for suspension.

- c) District and Auxiliary Officers (Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers) dues MUST be paid by December 31, 2022 or submit an email to request any non-paid Officers to Department Headquarters by January 3, 2023.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		Dues of Officers at all levels paid.

- d) All Auxiliary Official Visits and reports submitted to the Department Office by December 31, 2022. If a follow-up date or extension is required, a request must be made to and approved by the Department Secretary/Treasurer.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		Official Visits completed by due date.

3) District Communications:

- a) The District MUST communicate with every Auxiliary at least quarterly in one or more of the following ways: email, mail, phone, website, newsletter, or e-newsletter. This should be reported on the District President's report.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		Communication with Auxiliaries throughout the year.

- b) The District Chairman of each National Program MUST send at least two (2) promotions and/or communications to their Department Chairman.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		District Chairman

4) Training:

The District MUST hold at least one training session* on each of the following:

**Training session can take place at a District School of Instruction, Meeting, Convention or other organized training events. These training events can be combined into one session and Districts can combine training with other Districts to receive points.*

- a) How to Identify an Unhealthy Auxiliary

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		District to host training session on how to identify an unhealthy Auxiliary. Date of Training:

- b) National Programs and Organizational Knowledge (e.g., Bylaws, Ritual and Booklet of Instructions).

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		District to host training session on National Programs and Organizational Knowledge. Date of Training:

- c) The Uses of MALTA (Membership and Leadership Technology Access).

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		District to host training session on the Uses of MALTA. Date of Training:

- d) Online Academy Video

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		District to host training session utilizing Online Academy. Date of Training:

5) Programs Participation and Working Together on a Common Goal:

- a) The District President MUST submit the District President's report as requested by designated due date.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
25		District President MUST submit the District President's report as requested.

- b) What did your District do to engage every Auxiliary in the work of the organization? This question should be answered in your final District President report.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		District President MUST report to Department President on how Auxiliaries were engaged.

- c) All Auxiliaries MUST complete and report on at least one project, activity or donation that benefits veterans by April 25, 2023.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		District President MUST monitor the donations and reports check off sheet.

- d) Every Auxiliary MUST submit at least one report in each of the National programs by March 31, 2023.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		District President MUST monitor the donations spreadsheet and dashboard.

- e) Any Auxiliary that is below 100% in membership on November 30, 2022, MUST be contacted by a District President or representative to determine a need for mentoring and/or other assistance.

Possible Points	Actual Points	Criteria
10		District President MUST report on the first of two reports to the Department Chairman of the District President's report by the deadline.

President Name_____ **District**_____