

All-State Alibi Plan

Comrades,

While reviewing the All-American Dashboard recently I noticed there are only 3 qualifying Posts with barely six weeks left in the VFW year. A few are close, just needing to hit their membership numbers. However, there are quite a few other Posts that have already “beat” the membership challenge by exceeding 102%. What’s holding these Posts back from All-American status are missing programs (VOD, PP, Teacher).

When I created the All-State criteria, I modeled it after the All-American Program. I also believe, truly, that a Post’s recipe for success is to engage in the core programs. Apparently, that is not a one size solution that fits all Posts.

Therefore, to incentivize Posts to continue pushing membership beyond 102% I am offering alibis on the All-State qualifications. Just like in the old days, when Posts could pay a fee to meet the VOD, Patriot’s Pen, and Teacher of the Year criteria for All-American I am offering to trade one program for every percentage in membership a Post achieves over 102. For example:

- Post 123 is missing a VOD entry but submitted a PP and Teacher. If Post 1234 finishes the year with over 103% in membership, that extra 1% will make up for the missing VOD.
- Post 999 did not complete any of the programs, yet their membership is over 105% at the end of the year. Clearly, they were doing other good deeds and attracting new members, so the extra 3% will offset all three missing programs.

One caveat, however, is that for any Post to be considered for All-State a donation still needs to be made to the Service Office. If you have any questions on how to take advantage of these exceptions to the rule, please send me an email at john@vfwpost1.org (as the Commander email address will convert to Carol after her installation).

Semper Fi,

John