VFW Community Service Reporting

Training Presentation

Introduction

- Purpose of Community Service Reporting

- Importance of following updated guidance

- Reference: Community Service Best Practices Guide

Reporting Period

Current Reporting Period: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Reports outside this period will not be accepted

What Counts as Community Service?

Must be done as a VFW representative

Activities for other organizations do NOT count

Examples: Mowing church lawn = Not Community Service

Building a ramp for a veteran = Community Service

Legislative Advocacy

Must advocate for Veterans

Networking or attending meetings does NOT count

Advocacy means speaking to officials about Veterans' issues

Veterans Assistance

Refer — Claims & Benefits: Refer to Accredited Service Officers

MAP — MAP Grants: Only activities with MAP grants and adopted units count

Use — If not, use a different category

Youth Development & Scouting

Youth Development: Use description box to verify activities

Include names and grade levels for essays/teachers

Scouting: Leadership roles do NOT count as Community Service

Non-leadership help (ceremonies, Pinewood Derby) DOES count

Reporting Details

Cumulative Hours: Total hours per member

Miles: Fuel costs auto-calculated—do not add manually

Members: Only report Post Members

Auxiliary Members: Report only your Post Auxiliary Members

Veterans Helped & Dollars Donated

Number of Veterans Helped: Estimate if unsure, but accurate

Dollars Spent/Donated: Do NOT include fuel or blood donation costs

Hall donations: Only monetary amount, not hours or members

Donations by individual members will be rejected

Why Accurate Reporting Matters

Ensures compliance and protects Non-Profit Status

Avoid frivolous reporting or adding extra fuel costs

Accurate reports prevent rejection and save time

Description Box Tips

Explain	Clearly explain all details of your activity
Well	Well-written descriptions increase approval chances
Be	If unclear, reports will be rejected

Summary & Resources

Follow	Use	Ask
Follow the Best Practices Guide	Use the description box wisely	When in doubt, ask for clarification or refer to official guidance