

2019 – 2020 Annual Supplement to the Programs Action Plan Americanism

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** For the most up-to-date contact information,
please visit the Americanism Committee page
at www.ALAforVeterans.org.

**What is this program, and why do we have it?**

The Americanism program promotes patriotism and responsible citizenship.

Americanism Awards Deadlines and Submission Requirements:

Taking the time to share a favorite story about the positive impact you or someone you know has had on our mission is worth doing! It helps us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter. Just two simple steps to add your part to our national success story:

1) Please follow instructions as you fill out the National Report and Awards Cover Sheet found in the awards section of the Annual Supplement to the Programs Action Plan. 2) Provide details/examples about the activity as outlined in the 2017-2022 Programs Action Plan.

National Report and Awards Cover Sheet, deadlines, and Americanism committee contact information may be found on the Americanism committee page on the national website, www.ALAforVeterans.org.

- A. **Unit Award:** Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program (per division)
 - Deadline: June 1, 2020
 - Send to national division chairman postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above.

- B. **Department Award:** Best Department Americanism Program (per division)
 - Deadline: June 1, 2020
 - Send to national division chairman postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above.

- C. **Americanism Essay Contest**
 - 2019 – 2020 Theme: “How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?”
 - All department entries must be sent by the department chairman to the national division chairman emailed or postmarked by April 15, 2020.

Americanism Reporting:

Mid-Year Reports

Mid-Year reports reflect the program work of units in the department and are intended as an opportunity for mid-year correction. Each department Americanism chairman is required to submit a narrative report by **January 5, 2020** to the division Americanism chairman, plus copy the national Americanism chairman.

(Americanism continued...)

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2019-2020 SUPPLEMENT TO THE PROGRAMS ACTION PLAN

Year-End Reports

Annual reports reflect the program work of units in the department and may result in a national award for participants if award requirements are met. Each department Americanism chairman is required to submit a narrative report by **May 15, 2020** to the division Americanism chairman, plus copy the national Americanism chairman. Members and units should follow their department's protocol and deadlines for report submissions at the department level.

Special 100th Anniversary History Program Facts:

Americanism: a term which became relevant in the late 19th century standing for allegiance to traditions. When the concept of Americanism was first used, nearly half of all Americans had not attended high school and many, being immigrants, did not speak English. Education came to the forefront to teach English, Americanism and Patriotism as well as to understand what our veterans had endured during the war. As the programs of The American Legion Family grew, so did the knowledge and feeling of Americanism and the U.S. Flag became our symbol of freedom and patriotism, known all over the world.



**AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST
2020 Cover Sheet**

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive

\$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund. National winners will be posted at www.ALAforVeterans.org after convention.

Essay Title: *"How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families"*

Essay Classes: _____

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade

Essay Checklist:

- Class competing in _____
- Sponsoring ALA unit _____
- Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- Word count of essay _____
- Due date for student to return to ALA unit _____

To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name: _____

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

School Name: _____

School City/State: _____

Teacher Name and Signature: _____

Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: _____

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: _____

Unit winner due to Department on: _____ Department: _____

Signature of Department Chairman: _____

Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2020