

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families

July 2026

Issue #11

FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Give 10 to Education



School just got out for the summer, and now it is time for us to start thinking about getting ready for the new school

year. ALA Units and members can help support students with school supplies when parents cannot afford the items on the school's lists.

The Give 10 to Education program began in 2007, when the National Education Chairman, Coral May Grout, created it. "The program gives every single unit — no matter the size, age of its members, if it's an online Auxiliary unit, a unit that doesn't meet very often — everyone can do it," said Coral May Grout.

The ALA's Give 10 to Education program collects donated school supplies in multiples of 10 — think 10 pencils, 10 notebooks, 10 folders, etc. If you do not know what supplies are needed, call the school and ask the teachers, look for school supply lists posted on school websites, or find them in stores. Watch for Back-to-School sales and purchase items when they are on sale, so you can buy more. The items can be collected at Unit meetings and then dropped off at the schools.

Encourage participation from the American Legion Family and set up donation boxes at The American Legion post. Invite community members and other organizations to donate supplies. Donation boxes (with permission) could be put in grocery stores, banks, or other locations for community and ALA members to donate items. You could even offer to take cash donations or gift cards from members who prefer that you shop for them. Gift cards for classrooms are another terrific way to help teachers with school supplies.

Any number of items or any amount of money will make a difference for students across the country through the ALA's Give 10 to Education. Supporting students and their families shows communities that the ALA cares for children in many ways. Donating school supplies is a great and easy way.

As you collect items, please keep track of purchases on the American Legion Auxiliary Give 10 to Education Suggested Donation Items and Tracking Sheet. When completed, be sure to include this form in your annual reports.

Be watching soon for exciting news about Give 10 as it celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2027.

Mary Kuperus
Northwestern Division Education Chairman



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The Education Committee extends its thanks to all 52 departments that submitted their end-of-year narratives and to those who submitted entries for best unit and best department awards. Thank you for helping us achieve 100% reporting!! We loved reading the stories about how you are supporting the Education program's mission in your communities and departments. We received many wonderful pictures, some of which you will see during our Pre-Convention meeting, and on the big screen at National Convention. Our judges had a difficult time but have chosen winners, who will be revealed during our Pre-Convention meeting. Hoping you can join us. (More details below)

Please continue doing all that you are doing to support our youth and schools. It was truly amazing to read that over \$350,000 was donated toward Give 10 to Education, and over \$340,000 was awarded in scholarships. Great job!!

The Education Committee will hold its National Convention Pre-Convention meeting on **August 18th at 7 PM ET/6 PM CT**. Registration links and times for all Pre-Convention meetings are available at this link, with registration opening in mid-July.



<https://www.legion-aux.org/Virtual-Pre-Con-Meetings>



Looking for ways to promote kindness and character in the classroom? Visit Character Counts for free lessons and videos that show how teachers are incorporating it into their classrooms.

<https://charactercounts.org/>

