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## 2026 Department of Oklahoma Education and Scholarship Program Engagement Plan

### Get Involved

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Education Committee is to promote quality education for children—especially for military children—and adults. *Standing Rule #6, Mission Outreach Programs.*

**Promote quality education for children, especially for military children, and adults.**

- Participate in ALA's Give 10 to Education.
  - Present a [Give 10 to Education certificate](#) to members who donate at least 10 items to schools.
- Participate in Teachers Appreciation Week.
  - Contact local Parent Teacher Organizations or schools to see what your unit could sponsor or donate (e.g., donating doughnuts to your local schools).
  - Show your appreciation to teachers by designing and presenting certificates of appreciation.
  - Provide Teacher Survival Kits with fun and helpful items such as candy and snacks, tea bags or coffee, restaurant gift cards, or items for the classroom.
- Participate in American Education Week, held every November.
  - Recognize school administrators and staff with special treats and an ALA America Education Week card, available for download at [https://member.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Programs/ALA\\_American\\_Education\\_Week\\_Card-f.pdf](https://member.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Programs/ALA_American_Education_Week_Card-f.pdf)
- Encourage schools to participate in Month of the Military Child and Purple Up! Day in April to honor their students who are military children.

- Sponsor a Purple Up! Day on April 15 in your school by providing purple items for students to wear.
  
- Present the Military Child Table at your school, unit meeting, or at your post.
- Sponsor a party for the military children in your school.

**Encourage schools to invite veterans to speak in their classrooms.**

- Work with your American Legion post to participate in [Veterans in Community Schools](#).
- Ask the teacher(s) to have their students make cards for the veteran.
- Work with the teacher(s) to prepare students to ask questions of the veteran.

**Support and promote the Education Program and scholarship opportunities of The American Legion Family.**

- Promote the American Legion Auxiliary's [scholarships](#).
- Promote The American Legion's scholarships by visiting <https://www.legion.org/scholarships> to learn more about the Legion's scholarship opportunities.

**Provide scholarships for students who desire a college education.**

- Work with your unit to create a scholarship.
- Ask schools to allow you to do a bulletin board about scholarship opportunities within The American Legion Family.
- Publish information in your local newspaper, libraries, and on your unit's social media.
- Host a "Scholarship Night" Zoom meeting to inform students and parents about Legion Family scholarship opportunities.
- Start a partnership with a local college to provide their students with scholarship information.
- Ask the local Board of Education to host a "Scholarship Workshop" in their schools.
  - Work with the schools to invite college administrators to speak.
  - Have volunteers assist students with scholarship applications.

**Support legislation that establishes new scholarship opportunities.**

- Support The American Legion's efforts by signing up for legislative alerts at <https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>.

- Contact your representatives and ask them to support scholarship opportunities, particularly those for veterans, military, and their families.

## Deadlines/Important Dates

- November 17-21, 2025: American Education Week
- March 1: National scholarship applications due to National
- April 15: Purple Up! Day for Military Children
- April 15: **Report to the Department Chair what your Unit did for this Program**
- May 3-9, 2026: Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 15: Department chairmen reports due to division chairmen; cc: national chairman
- June 1: Awards submissions due