

LEGION FAMILY MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

American Legion

You must have served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941, and have an honorable discharge or be currently serving honorably. This includes all U.S. military members who have served during a qualifying period, such as World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam, or current campaigns. The LEGION Act of 2019 expanded eligibility to include anyone who served since December 7, 1941, not just during designated war eras.

Eligible military branches:

- U.S. Army
- U.S. Navy
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Marine Corps
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Merchant Marine (eligible only from December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946)
- National Guard/Reserves (all basic training and occupational training schools were considered federal active-duty service)

Eligibility for membership is open to individuals who have served at least one day of federal active duty since December 7, 1941, and were honorably discharged or are still serving honorably.

Sons of The American Legion

All male descendants adopted sons, and stepsons *of members of The American Legion*, and such male descendants of veterans *who died in service* during the period of April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918, or any time from December 7, 1941, to date, who served honorably, as set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

American Legion Auxiliary

Membership in The American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the:

- (1) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion; and
- (2) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who served in either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918 and any time after December 7, 1941 who, being a citizen of the United States at the time of their entry therein served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge;
- (3) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941 who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States during either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge; and
- (4) to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion. *

* A woman who is eligible for American Legion membership is eligible to join the American Legion Auxiliary regardless of whether or not she is a member of The American Legion. However, eligibility of her female relatives (sister, mother, direct descendants) and/or spouse depends upon her membership in The American Legion.