Incarcerated Membership Information Guide

Membership Eligibility
Veterans incarcerated may be eligible to join Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) or Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (AVVA). Veterans incarcerated who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between November 1, 1955 and May 7, 1975, or in any duty location between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975 are eligible to join VVA. Veterans incarcerated who served during other periods are eligible to join AVVA. NOTE: All AVVA annual dues are $7 as of August 1, 2012. In cooperation with each state and territory, VVA has established reduced dues prices for veterans incarcerated:

Category A:  VVA annual dues: $0 (membership category IVI)
             AVVA annual dues: $7 (membership category IVA)

These annual dues prices are effective in the following states:

Alabama    Alaska    Arizona    Arkansas    California
Colorado   Connecticut Delaware Dist. of Columbia Florida
Georgia    Idaho      Iowa       Indiana      Kansas
Kentucky   Louisiana  Maine      Maryland     Massachusetts
Michigan   Minnesota  Mississippi Montana Nebraska
Nevada     New Hampshire New Jersey Oregon New Mexico North Carolina
North Dakota Oklahoma South Carolina South Dakota Pennsylvania North Carolina
Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Virgin Islands Tennessee Texas
Utah       Vermont    Virgin Islands Washington West Virginia
Wyoming

Category B:  VVA annual dues: $1 (membership category IVI)
             AVVA annual dues: $7 (membership category IVA)

These annual dues prices are effective in the following states:

Illinois    Missouri    New York    Ohio    Wisconsin    Virginia

Category C:  VVA annual dues: $0 (membership category IVI)
             AVVA annual dues $0 (membership category IVA)

These annual dues prices are effective in the following Florida Chapters:

VVA Chapter #195  VVA Chapter #1080  VVA Chapter #1114  VVA Chapter #1097
**Membership Eligibility** (continued)

These reduced dues prices are for one-year memberships only. Eligible VVA members may apply for VVA life membership for $50.

Eligible AVVA life membership costs are:
- $175 (59 years of age and below)
- $100 (60 years of age and above) Proof of age is required
- $50 VVA Member becoming a Dual AVVA Lifetime member

Each application for VVA or AVVA incarcerated membership must include a DD Form-214 to verify the applicant’s status as a veteran. This requirement applies to new memberships submitted on a chapter transmittal, as well as to individual applications sent directly to VVA or AVVA.

**Membership Administration**

Incarcerated VVA and AVVA members are encouraged to affiliate with a VVA chapter. Members may affiliate with a chapter located in their institution, or a nearby outside chapter, if such affiliation is allowed by the state or federal prison system. The institution usually appoints an employee as a staff advisor to the chapter. As a liaison between the chapter and VVA & AVVA, the staff advisor can help the chapter with membership questions or problems.

We do not send a membership ID card to veteran incarcerated members because some institutions do not allow inmates to possess these cards. In place of an “ID card”, we send a letter to each member acknowledging the membership.

Veteran incarcerated members in Categories B and C must renew their membership each year. For veteran incarcerated members in Category A, the term of membership is “DOC” (Duration of Confinement) and the membership continues as long as the veteran remains incarcerated. Because inmates are frequently transferred to other institutions, we depend on the chapters to provide us change of address information when an inmate transfers.

Chapters may pay the dues on behalf of members who cannot afford to do so. This is done on a case-by-case basis, at the chapter’s discretion.

**Contact Information**

VVA and AVVA membership questions can be directed to the VVA national office at 301-585-4000, or 1-800-882-1316. Our fax number is 301-585-3019. Our web address is http://www.vva.org. Membership questions can be sent via email to membership@vva.org.

Membership applications and chapter transmittals must be sent to:
VVA
PO Box 49030
Baltimore, MD 21297-4930

AVVA Sandy Spring Bank
PO Box 49029
Baltimore, MD 21297-4929

Other correspondence may be sent to VVA at:
8719 Colesville Road, Suite 100
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3710