



American Legion Auxiliary

In the Spirit of Service Not Self for Veterans, God and Country

October 11, 2019

National Executive Committee Members and Department Secretaries:

The IRS regulation concerning auxiliaries to veteran service organizations states in part:

"At least 75 percent of its members are veterans, spouses of veterans, or related to a veteran within two degrees of consanguinity (i.e., grandparent, brother, sister, grandchild represent the most distant allowable relationships)."

This has been a regulation for many years, and with the recent review of the Auxiliary eligibility criteria, the issue was evaluated, and the decision was to ensure the organization was compliant.

This means that no great or great-great-granddaughters can join the Auxiliary. Current members whose eligibility relationship is great-granddaughter, great-great-granddaughter or direct descendent can continue being a member, as long as their dues are kept current.

In order to align with IRS regulations, the most distant allowable will be granddaughter. Great-granddaughter, great-great-granddaughter and direct descendent will no longer be available for selection on the relationship tab in ALAMIS.

Membership applications available for download off the website have already been updated. Print applications in the form of our *ALA at a Glance* and *TAL Family* brochure will be updated as stock is depleted.

Currently we have:

- 8,649 members designated as direct descendants
- 5,901 members designated as great-granddaughters
- 311 members designated as great-great-granddaughters

Total of 14,861 = 2.5% of total membership

Linda Boone
National Secretary