



Junior Activities Patch Program **GOLD LEVEL: 5th – 8th Grades**

American Legion Auxiliary Junior members and Sons of The American Legion youth members can be active participants of the organization with the Patch Program. Regardless of where one lives, and whether she/he belongs to an active Junior group or squadron, Junior Auxiliary members and SAL youth members can serve their communities and veterans, and learn about patriotism, health, fitness, and leadership through this program.

Each sheet explains the criteria and what must be accomplished to earn a specific patch. When the activities are completed, an adult or Senior member must sign the form to verify that the Junior or SAL youth has met the patch criteria.

There are four levels of patch criteria:

- Purple Level: Pre-School Age 3 through Kindergarten
- Red Level: Kindergarten through 4th grade
- **Gold Level: 5th grade through 8th grade**
- Blue Level: 9th grade through 12th grade (or 18 years old)

Patches may be ordered online at:

<https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Junior-Patch-Program-Order-Form>

Additional Patch Sheets are available at:

www.ALforVeterans.org

For questions and comments, please contact the National Junior Activities Committee at

junioractivities@ALforVeterans.org or 317-569-4500



SPIRIT OF YOUTH FUND PATCH

The Spirit of Youth Fund provides scholarship opportunities for participants in American Legion Auxiliary programs. One is for American Legion Auxiliary Junior members, another for the Junior Members of the Year, and one is for participants in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation program.

A special Junior patch has been created for our Junior members and Sons of The American Legion youth to be involved in raising money for the Spirit of Youth Fund. Help get the word out to all our members! We hope every Junior and SAL youth will be involved in some activity to raise money for the Spirit of Youth Fund.

Any Junior or SAL youth can earn this patch if they raise at least \$5 for each year old. For example, a 17-year-old would raise a minimum of \$85 (17 x \$5 = \$85.)

Donations can be raised a variety of ways. Juniors and SAL youth can solicit donations from family, friends, American Legion Family members, or contribute themselves. Fundraising activities can be coordinated, such as bake sales or other sales, etc. Funds can be raised individually or as a group, but each Junior or SAL youth receiving this patch needs to have raised the required minimum funds for their age. The goal is for the youth of our ALA and SAL organizations to be involved and aware of the scholarship project. Checks should be made out to *National Treasurer, American Legion Auxiliary with SOY Fund* in the memo line.

Get involved today!

To receive the patch, complete the following and send it with the donation to:

American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters
Attn: Development
3450 Founders Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Name of Junior/SAL: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ Unit/Squadron: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Amount raised: \$ _____ (\$5/year of age) Department of: _____

Optional: Tell us about how you raised the money (you may use the back of the page if needed):



AMERICANISM PATCH

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

Educate yourself about the rights and responsibilities of an American citizen.

Level 2: Ten (10) possibilities; Two* (2) activities are required; Four (4) activities are your choice. A total of Six (6) must be completed from the Ten (10) choices.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Participate in a patriotic program in your school, community, Auxiliary unit or SAL squadron. Write a short paragraph to explain your activity and attach to this patch sheet.		
2	Learn to sign the Pledge of Allegiance and teach it to someone else (at school, in your unit or church group).		
3	Research the early history of the American flag and share the story with two adults.		
4	Enter the Americanism Essay Contest for your age group.		
5	Be an active member of another youth group in your community.		
*6	Write a short essay on what it means to be an American citizen and attach it to this form.		
7	Learn how to properly fold and advance the American flag and Auxiliary banner.		
*8	Study the history of The Constitution of the United States of America and answer the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When and where was the Constitution signed?• Who signed the Constitution?		
9	Learn when and how women obtained the right to vote and report your findings to a Senior member or adult mentor.		
10	Organize and/or participate in a patriotic parade in your neighborhood, community, school or American Legion Post home. (Ex: Have a patriotic holiday parade)		

Name of Junior/SAL Member: _____

Grade: _____ Unit/Squadron # _____

Department _____



COMMUNITY & FAMILY SAFETY PATCH

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

Educate yourself about Emergency Preparedness.

Level 2: Ten (10) possibilities; Two* (2) activities are required; Four (4) activities are your choice. A total of Six (6) must be completed from the Ten (10) choices.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
*1	Prepare a list of emergency numbers and put in a convenient place in your home.		
*2	With the help of an adult, draw a home fire escape plan and conduct a home fire drill.		
3	Organize a canned food drive for your local food pantry.		
4	Research blood donation. Write a 100-word essay on why it is important and attach it to this form.		
5	Organize a pet food drive for your local animal rescue shelter.		
6	Locate the closest CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) and report to an adult your findings.		
7	Visit www.stopbullying.gov with an adult. Learn about cyberbullying and make a poster to display at your school with permission.		
8	Participate in a Yellow Ribbon event with your Unit or squadron.		
9	With the help of an adult, make and send cards to our servicemembers stationed overseas (for example: Valentine's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas).		
10	With the help of an adult, research neighborhood watch programs and list 4 benefits to a community.		

Name of Junior/SAL Member: _____

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COMMUNITY SERVICE PATCH

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

Enhance the quality of life in your community through caring and sharing.

Level 2: Ten (10) possibilities; Two* (2) activities are required; Four (4) activities are your choice. A total of Six (6) must be completed from the Ten (10) choices.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	With the help of an adult, get a library card, check out and read a minimum of six (6) books. Volunteer at least 6 hours at your local library.		
2	Answer the following question: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does it mean to be a tutor? Volunteer to tutor for a friend or classmate for eight (8) hours. Keep a log of your time and accomplishments.		
*3	Volunteer to help at school, your church, your unit or squadron or in the community at least 15 hours. Keep a log of your volunteer hours, what you did and for whom.		
4	Visit a local senior citizens' home or nursing home and interview at least three (3) residents.		
*5	Write an emergency fire escape plan for your home or school and share it with your family and friends.		
6	Organize a group of your friends to help clean up a park, school area or elderly neighbor's yard.		
7	Learn about recycling in your community and create a plan for your family; recycle for at least three (3) months.		
8	Organize and facilitate a canned food drive and donate the collected items to a homeless shelter or local food pantry.		
9	With the help of an adult, pack a disaster kit for your family and pets.		
10	Participate in or help organize a fire safety course through your local fire department.		

Name of Junior/SAL Member: _____

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EDUCATION PATCH

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

Educate yourself about the rights and responsibilities of an American citizen.

Level 2: Nine (9) possibilities; Two* (2) activities are required; Four (4) activities are your choice. A total of Six (6) must be completed from the Nine (9) choices.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Participate in the "Give 10 to Education" program by collecting at least twenty school supplies for your school.		
2	Teach The Pledge of Allegiance to a younger child.		
3	Research an event in the early history of the United States and share the story with two (2) adults or younger children.		
4	Read a minimum of ten books to younger children.		
5	Raise a minimum of \$15 for the National Presidents' Scholarship. Monies raised should be mailed directly to National Headquarters c/o Development. Submit a copy of the check with this form.		
6	Write an essay on the importance of education in your life and attach to this form.		
*7	Interview a veteran and write a summary. Attach to this form a summary of what you discussed.		
*8	Read a minimum of ten books and write a book report on one of the books to share with an adult. Attach a written log of the books you have read to this form.		
9	Interview a teacher (past or present) and find out why s/he chose teaching as a career. Is this something you would like to do, and why or why not? Discuss the results of the interview and your answers to the questions with an adult.		

Name of Junior/SAL Member: _____

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LEADERSHIP PATCH

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

Learning to be a leader...you are the future of our organization.

Level 2: Ten (10) possibilities; Two (2) activities are required; Four (4) activities are your choice. A total of Six (6) must be completed from the Ten (10) choices.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
*1	Attend a Junior workshop or squadron or Junior meeting and actively participate by volunteering to serve on a committee, or take an office.		
2	List at least five (5) people from you Senior unit or squadron, school or church and list the qualities you admire in each of them. Share your list with an adult.		
3	With the help of an adult, write and send a letter to a government official regarding a veteran's issue that you feel passionate.		
4	Learn the basic skills of dealing with strangers, walking alone and emergencies. Share the information with other Junior members or Sons.		
5	Create a plan to introduce a family member, unit member or friend to a computer or other technology. Share your plan with an adult, then enact your plan.		
6	Plan a campaign and run for an office in your Junior group, squadron or school.		
7	Take the ALA Juniors E-Learning Course in the ALA Academy online or the SAL's 5 Star or Ten Ideals training.		
8	Learn proper protocol for getting recognized to speak or making a motion during an Auxiliary or SAL meeting.		
9	Participate in a speech class or contest, essay contest or play.		
*10	Learn and recite the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary or Preamble to the SAL National Constitution.		

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MEMBERSHIP PATCH

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

Your eligibility for membership is a gift from a veteran.

Level 2: Ten (10) possibilities; Two* (2) activities are required; Four (4) activities are your choice. A total of Six (6) must be completed from the Ten (10) choices.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
*1	Learn the criteria for becoming a member of the American Legion Auxiliary or the Sons of The American Legion.		
*2	Invite three (3) friends to join the American Legion Auxiliary or the Sons of The American Legion.		
3	Learn ten interesting facts about the ALA or SAL and share them with two (2) adults.		
4	Help your unit, squadron or post with a membership drive and hand out membership brochures, available through your department headquarters.		
5	Find a way to celebrate your membership and answer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What have you learned as a member? • How can you show your pride? 		
6	Learn the symbolic meaning of the ALA or SAL emblem and explain it to an adult.		
7	Attend your Junior unit meeting or Senior unit or squadron meeting at least six (6) times during the year.		
8	Tell a short history of the ALA or SAL to your church group or other service group.		
9	Learn what benefits are available to members of the ALA or SAL.		
10	Wear your Auxiliary membership pin or SAL hat to at least three (3) public or school functions. Be prepared to explain its meaning and purpose.		

Name of Junior/SAL Member: _____

Grade: _____ Unit/Squadron # _____

Department _____



PHYSICAL FITNESS PATCH

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

Taking care of our bodies and minds.

Level 2: Nine (9) possibilities; Two* (2) activities are required; Four (4) activities are your choice. A total of Six (6) must be completed from the Nine (9) choices.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Get involved in school sports, band, junior shooting sports or other activities. Participate in your chosen activities for at least three (3) months.		
2	Participate in outdoor family activities, such as hiking, camping, softball, etc.		
3	Participate in physical education at your school.		
4	Give up soft drinks for one (1) month.		
5	Eat a well-balanced meal at least once a day using the food pyramid for guidance.		
*6	With the help of an adult, do yard work for a neighbor who needs assistance.		
7	Encourage other Junior members or SAL youth to participate in some type of physical activity.		
8	Work with your school, unit, squadron or church to plan a health fair. In addition, contact your local health department and share your plans.		
*9	Learn about Endurance, Flexibility, Strength, and Balance exercises and complete one (1) of each every day for two weeks.		

Name of Junior/SAL Member: _____

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POPPY PATCH

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

The symbol of sacrifices our veterans have made.

Level 2: Ten (10) possibilities; Two* (2) activities are required; Four (4) activities are your choice. A total of Six (6) must be completed from the Ten (10) choices.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	To better understand the sacrifices of our veterans, research how poppies are made and by whom.		
2	Tell the story of the poppy to your Junior unit, squadron, friends or family members.		
3	Find two ways to educate members about the Poppy program and inform them.		
*4	Read the Poppy Story and "In Flanders Fields" and write a short story about your feelings. Attach it to this form.		
5	With a family member or advisor, make poppy tray favors and distribute them to a VA Hospital, VA Home or nursing home.		
6	Create a poppy window display for your unit, squadron or Post.		
7	Wear a poppy for five (5) days during Poppy Week. When asked, tell the story of the poppy.		
*8	Learn five (5) facts about the poppy and share them with an adult.		
9	With a family member or Junior advisor, distribute poppies and explain what they symbolize.		
10	Mail or deliver a poppy to your elected city officials, along with a letter explaining its meaning. Ask them to wear it during Poppy Week to honor our veterans.		

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STAR SPANGLED KIDS

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

Educate yourself about patriotism, Americanism and the US Constitution.

Level 2: Eight (8) possibilities; a total of Four (4) activities must be completed; Activity Number 5 is required.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Work with a senior member to create a simple game about the US Constitution to play with friends.		
2	Obtain a copy of the US Constitution, either via internet or by mail, and distribute copies to your class, unit or squadron.		
3	Create Good Citizenship cards to hand out to friends who demonstrate patriotism and Americanism.		
4	Create a poster depicting the 5 Purposes found in the Preamble of the US Constitution.		
5*	Study the history of the US Constitution and answer the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When and where was the Constitution signed? • Who signed the constitution? • Why are the words “We the People” important and where will you find them? • How many amendments are there? • What is the Bill of Rights and how does it affect your life today? 		
6	Give a presentation to your class, unit or squadron on what it means to be a citizen of the United States.		
7	Choose a section of the Declaration of Independence and rewrite it in language that kids today would understand. Share it with your class, unit or squadron.		
8	Run for a class/school election or for honorary Junior officer.		

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VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION PATCH

GOLD LEVEL

(Grade 5th-8th)

We assist and enhance the lives of those who have served our country.

Level 2: Thirteen (13) possibilities; Two* (2) activities are required; Four (4) are your choice. A total of Six (6) must be completed from the Nine (9) choices.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Research the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival and explain to your Junior group, unit or squadron what it does for veterans.		
2	With an adult, visit a VA Hospital, VA home or nursing home. Ask the veterans to tell you about places they have traveled.		
3	Write a report on "What is a Veteran" and share it with your unit, school or church.		
*4	Send eight (8) greeting cards to hospitalized or ill veterans.		
5	Participate in National Salute to Hospitalized Veteran Patients (week of February 14) to help honor and thank veterans.		
6	Volunteer to help a veteran or their family with yard work or chores.		
*7	Research three (3) other organizations that help veterans.		
8	Write a letter to the ALA National President or the SAL National Commander and tell them why you appreciate our veterans.		
9	Participate in a stand down for homeless veterans in your community.		
10	Adopt a veteran or veterans' home in your community for a period of no less than three (3) months. Visit, send them cards, gifts, etc.		
11	Participate in a special holiday program for veterans through your school, unit or church.		
12	Participate in Make a Difference Day and plan your activity around veterans.		
13	With help from your family, unit, squadron, church or school, start a group to adopt deployed service members and send them letters and presents.		

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