



VFW Website Solution Program Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I am ready to sign up for the new VFW Website Solution Program, where do I begin?

A: Go to vfw.org and login. Click on My VFW and select VFW Website Solution Program, located under the Member Resources header. On that page, it will explain the grant program and provide the link, <https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/websolutionapp>, to apply. (Applications are only accepted online.)

Q: I understand that VFW National Headquarters will pay for the first year, but what happens after that?

A: You will receive an invoice from DrivePath (the host provider) 30 days prior to the date your site went live. The invoice is due on the anniversary date that your site went live.

Q: The VFW pays for the first year. How much do I have to pay after the first year?

A: It is the responsibility of the Posts and Departments to fund the annual domain management and hosting fee of \$360. That's less than \$1 per day!

Q: Our Post does not have a lot of money. Even the cost of hosting will be an issue for us. What options do we have for the second year if we cannot afford it?

A: Don't worry. DrivePath has created a Site Sponsor program, where you can get local businesses in your community to sponsor your website. If you don't know how to do this or have trouble asking, DrivePath is happy to help with that process.

Q: After we apply, how soon will my site go live?

A: That depends on what's needed. After your grant is approved, DrivePath will contact you within two weeks to assess your needs and begin development. Most sites go live within one month.

Q: What software do I use to manage my site?

A: DrivePath is the user interface. It's accessed online so there's no need to subscribe to or download a third party management tool.

Q: Are we locked into this?

A: No. There is no contract and you can cancel any time. Please note however, there is no pro-rated refund as the server is paid for the year.

Q: We already have a website, why would we sign up for the VFW Website Solution Program?

A: The best value of participating in the VFW Website Solution Program is that news, articles and events can be disseminated down from National – Department – Post in real time. This means when VFW National Headquarters or your VFW Department makes an update to their news or events, that information automatically appears on your Post's website. You can only get that by being part of the system.

Q: We already have a domain. Why would we need a new one?

A: You may not need a new one if your domain is in the schema of [vfw\(post number\).org](http://vfw(post number).org), for example: vfw1234.org. In the interest of keeping things consistent, we concluded it would be best to have all the sites share in the same naming schema. If your current domain does not match this schema, then DrivePath will register the domain for you, which is included in your yearly hosting fee. Then they will help you point the current domain to your new site. This way both domains point to the same website. The new domain, however will be the one you will want to publish and market.

Q: Our domain is managed by a third party (i.e., our old website company) what should we do?

A: It is best to transfer your current domain to the VFW National account. This way, domains are less likely to be lost due to issues with renewal, and cannot be held hostage by a third party.

Q: I can get the hosting cheaper somewhere else. Can I transfer your website program to that hosting company?

A: No, We have spent years building this system and it is important that we protect our code. In addition, because the site is database driven, your site simply will not function if hosted by a different host provider.

Q: Can you take the current website that we already have and add your system to it?

A: No, the sites that we created are specifically coded for the system. Any site you currently have is not.

Q: Do we get emails with our website?

A: Yes, you get 5 email accounts automatically with the system. Those email are:

CMD@<domain>

SVC@<domain>

JVC@<domain>

QM@<domain>

ADJ@<domain>

Q: How do I learn how to manage my site? What if I have no experience in site management?

A: DrivePath offers an extremely easy to use platform designed for beginners. Further, DrivePath will provide you with training and support as needed at no charge.