



April 2025

It's time to mark your calendar for the Veterans Day Parade at the Iowa State Fair, which will be on **Monday, August 11th**, beginning at 11:00 a.m. This year's route and staging area will remain the same from last year.

(See attached map.)

This year's theme will be the 50th Anniversary of Vietnam Commemoration, which concludes nationally on Veterans Day this year.

The entrance is at Gate #2 only, which is on E. University at E. 33rd St (stop light). You will only be able to turn right to enter Gate #2. This means you can only enter going east and making a right hand turn into the gate. If you come from the east going west (which means you would be taking a left turn at the gate) you will not be allowed to turn left. Please be sure to enter at Gate #2 going to the east with your parking permit hanging from your rearview mirror. You will be directed to the staging area by staging personnel. Please adhere to their instructions and directions.

Also attached with this cover letter is the Entry Application. Regular entries are limited to no more than 20 participants per entry. Carpooling is the norm, so expect about one parking pass per four participants unless a specific reason is provided. IDVA office needs to receive your entry application no later than **Friday August 1st** by Noon. Please do not delay in getting your entry submitted before the deadline.

The parking permits and the wristbands will be sent in the mail to the designated person on the Entry Application in the order they are received; on a first-come, first-served basis. This means even though your entry application is in our office on time, we still may not have enough parking permits and wristbands to distribute. The parking permits are only for the entry application participants and not for family and friends attending the Fair. The wristbands are only for the participants in the parade entry. The wristbands and parking permits will be sent in the mail together.

The recipient that receives the parking permits and wristbands will need to distribute them to the members of your entry before staging takes place. The staging area is only for people with wristbands and are a part of the entry.

This parade honors our veterans of every background. This is NOT a political campaign event, as this can distract from the spirit of the parade's intent. Elected officials and dignitaries will be invited to participate, recognizing their current official offices and positions of leadership. However, no overt campaigning will be allowed, and no entrants will be accepted from individual campaigns, or overtly party-affiliated groups such as partisan floats or political ads. Party-affiliated groups and individuals are encouraged to work through the State Fair who arrange appropriate designated venues for campaigning activities.

If you have any questions, refer them to the contact information on the application form attached.

**Iowa State Fair Veterans Day Parade Entry
Application**

Parade date is Monday, August 11th, 2025

Entry Deadline is Friday August 1st, 2025

**Staging will begin 7:00 – 10:00 a.m. - Parade begins at 11:00 a.m.
Must be present for lineup no later than 10:00 a.m.**

**Any political or partisan entries will be disqualified from
participating in the Parade**

Entry Name: Group/Unit/Post Name _____

Entry Contact Person _____

Required E-mail Address _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

Entry Type: (examples: float, truck, car, etc.) Extra large walking entries are discouraged due to the limited amount of wrist bands available.

Entry Description: _____

How would you like this entry to be announced from the reviewing stand?

Wristbands are only for parade participants and are limited. Not to be considered as free admission to the Fairgrounds. Total of participants with entry that will need a wristband for entry into the parade lineup. _____

Number of vehicle "Parking Permits" requested per vehicle in this entry: _____

(We are unable to provide unlimited numbers of parking permits; please consider car-pooling)

Parking permits are limited to parade participants only!!!

Name and Address to send parking permits and wrist bands:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Send Parade Application to:

Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs
Attn: State Fair Veterans Day Parade
7105 – NW 70th Avenue, Camp Dodge, Bldg. #3465
Johnston, Iowa 50131-1824
Email to iowafairvetsparade@iowa.gov

THERE WILL BE NO DISTRIBUTION OF CANDY, FLIERS, HANDOUTS, ETC. DURING PARADE.

Contact Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs for additional information or clarifications. 515-252-4698 or 1-800-838-4692

Iowa State Fair

STAGING

ENTER

EXIT

PARADE ROUTE

- KEY:
- Restrooms
 - Restrooms for disabled
 - Family Theater
 - First aid
 - Lost children/adults
 - Stop/first aid/lost
 - Information
 - ATA
 - Gates

