



**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
21 South Fruit Street – Suite 266
Concord, NH 03301
(603) 856-8951**

The American Legion – Department of New Hampshire is proud to announce the 77th annual session of **Boys State**, the week that shapes a lifetime! Our 2021 program will take place from **Sunday, June 23, through Friday, June 28**, on the campus of **Saint Anselm College** in **Manchester**.

Boys State is a **six-day training course in study and practical application of problems of self-government**. It is not meant to take the place of a course in Civics or Government as taught in high schools across the state, but it is planned so students may put into practice the theories of American government as taught in the classroom, through operation of the city, town and state offices as organized under the plans of Boys State. **We welcome you to join us!**

**77th American Legion New Hampshire Boys State
June 23-38, 2024
Saint Anselm College
Manchester
www.nhboysstate.org**

BOYS STATE PURPOSES: American Legion Boys State is a practical application of the duties, responsibilities and privileges of American citizenship. Its purpose is to awaken within the youth of our nation a sincere conviction that a well-informed, intelligent, participating citizenry is most vitally needed to protect and preserve our American traditions.

Boys State grows out of the American Legion's faith in our young people, and its firm belief that the future leaders of our country should be given the tools necessary to keep it: a deep appreciation of active citizenship, an understanding of democracy, a familiarity with our American form of government, and the discernment to select – and to be – productive leaders.

American citizenship is a priceless possession. America is a free land, and believing in the principles of democracy as guaranteed by our constitution have made us a great and powerful nation. The American Legion hopes to assure this freedom to our citizens of future generations. In order to accomplish this purpose, youth must be trained not only in theory of government, but in its actual practice and operation. We believe that a prepared and trained youth will more effectively preserve and perpetuate this precious heritage and be ready to assume the trust and responsibilities that go with American citizenship.

All participants will be tested at the conclusion of the program to evaluate the quality of the material presented and the effectiveness of the program. **All students will be eligible to apply for American Legion New Hampshire Boys State scholarships, totaling over \$7,000.**

THE PROGRAM: "LEARN BY DOING" - When the students arrive on campus, they will be assigned to a city or town, to the House or Senate, to an Executive Council District, and to a mythical political party. Conduct of the program will function under the basic laws of the State of New Hampshire using the existing constitution and existing laws as a guide. The citizens of Boys State have their own legislature, introduce and argue their own bills and conduct their own elections. Each student has a chance to learn for himself that government is just what he makes_it.

ESSENTIAL DETAILS

TIME AND PLACE: American Legion New Hampshire Boys State will be held on the campus of Saint Anselm College in Manchester beginning on the afternoon of Sunday, June 23, and ending after graduation on the evening of Friday, June 28, 2024. All students will be housed on campus, and meals will be provided by the college dining service.

ELIGIBILITY: BOYS WHO WILL HAVE COMPLETED EITHER THEIR JUNIOR YEAR in 2024 will be accepted if they meet the following requirements: 1) maintain a scholastic average of 80 or better; 2) must be of good character and health; 3) should have outstanding qualities of leadership, good citizenship and courage; 4) submit a draft bill or resolution (instructions enclosed); and 5) submit a nonrefundable student application fee of \$25.00.

PLEASE NOTE: Post Commanders and High School Principals: In making final selections, please pick the boys who are the leaders. By selecting the best available students, a high quality program is maintained and the consensus is not that anyone can attend Boys State. It should be an HONOR to attend Boys State as the representative of your school and community. To be clear, however, there is **NO LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF QUALIFYING STUDENTS** that can be sent from any school.

FEES/SPONSORSHIPS: The only cost to the student is a nonrefundable application fee of \$25.00. The tuition fee of \$375.00 for each student attending Boys State will be borne by the American Legion Sponsor. The sponsor can be an American Legion Post, individuals, or civic, school or community organizations. These fees cover the cost of instruction material, board, room, recreation, and expenses incidental to Boys State, with the exception of transportation to and from Saint Anselm College and personal expenses. All checks should be made out to: THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NH, and transmitted to Department Headquarters together with an Application Form and Draft Bill properly completed. If unsure of which Legion Post to contact locally, please call headquarters at (603) 856-8951 or refer to the American Legion website listings of local Posts at www.legionnh.org.

At the conclusion of Boys State, each boy attending will be expected to fulfill his obligation to report to his sponsor telling of his impression of Boys State.

HEALTH - MEDICAL: DELEGATES TO BOYS STATE will be protected by a supplementary group health and accident policy. This policy is NOT intended to replace any primary coverage already carried by the boy or his parents; it is additional coverage. Every care will be taken to avoid accidents or illness, but Boys State will not be responsible for either injuries or sickness should they occur. Each boy **must bring** with him on the first day of the program a medical certificate (form enclosed), showing that he has been examined by a medical practitioner and is in good health. A copy of the required forms will be placed on the website.

STAFF: ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AND COUNSELORS are trained and experienced leaders of young men who have passed a background check. Experienced counselors of excellent character and an ability to deal with young men are selected for staff. All are Boys State Graduates. Junior counselors are recent Boys State Graduates who have shown maturity and an interest in the purposes of Boys State. Instructors and lecturers will be some of the most outstanding personalities available. They include political incumbents, former elected officials, Senators, Representatives, Mayors, Selectmen, Attorneys, Judges and other officials.

VISITORS: MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, SCHOOL OFFICIALS, SPONSORS AND PARENTS are invited and urged to visit Boys State at some time during the session. Visitors are requested to make their presence known to a staff member upon arrival. Visitors are especially invited to the graduation ceremonies on the final day of the session.

For additional information or applications, see your guidance counselor, visit the Boys State website at www.nhboysstate.org or contact Department Headquarters at (603) 856-8591.

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TO AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
IN CONCORD OR SUBMITTED ONLINE BY MAY 31, 2024**