Press Release  
For Immediate Dissemination

Applications for the 2020 sessions of American Legion New Hampshire Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Granite Girls State are now available. Copies of the application forms and program information have been mailed to every New Hampshire high school and home school association, as well as local American Legion posts, today. Additional copies are available online at www.nhboysstate.org and https://alagrantegirlsstate.wordpress.com/.

The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary encourage all who have finished their junior year of high school and who will be seniors in the Fall to apply.

Boys State and Girls State are non-partisan programs that are now in their eighth decade of providing classroom and practical instruction in civics to New Hampshire’s high school students. Boys State and Girls State present practical applications of the duties, responsibilities and privileges of American citizenship. Their purpose is to awaken within the youth of New Hampshire a sincere conviction that a well-informed, intelligent and participating citizenry is most vitally needed to protect and preserve the American tradition of democratic self-government. Boys State and Girls State are strictly non-partisan: representatives of all major political parties are invited and are represented throughout the week. Students are encouraged to share their own views on issues of public importance.

Each year, over one hundred fifty young people from across the state who have just finished their junior year assemble to learn about New Hampshire’s system of self-government. In the process, they interact with municipal officials, lawmakers, elected office-holders, law-enforcement personnel, veterans, and their high-performing peers. Four of the students who attend the New Hampshire programs will be among the 196 national-level finalists – selected from the more than 30,000 Boys State and Girls State delegates nationwide – who will travel to Boys Nation and Girls Nation in July and represent New Hampshire in Washington, DC, all at the sole expense of the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. Program attendees are also eligible to apply for more than $10,000 in scholarship funds.

Our 2020 programs will take place on the campus of Saint Anselm College in Manchester. Boys State is scheduled for Sunday, June 21, through Friday, June 26; Girls State is scheduled for Friday, June 19, through Wednesday, June 24. Much more information about the program, as well as the application materials, are available on our websites. The only costs to a student accepted to American Legion Boys State are his $25 non-refundable application fee, his transportation to and from Saint Anselm College, and incidentals during the week. Community sponsors and local American Legion posts pay the remaining costs of room, board, instruction,
and in-program transportation. Please contact your local American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary post, or see our websites, for more details.