



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Department of New Hampshire
21 South Fruit Street (Suite 266)
Concord, NH 03301

01/15/2025

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION TO:

New Hampshire American Legion Department Office
New Hampshire American Legion Post Commanders
New Hampshire American Legion Post Adjutants
New Hampshire American Legion District Commanders
New Hampshire Public High School Principals
New Hampshire Private High School Principals
New Hampshire Public High School Guidance Counselors
New Hampshire Private High School Guidance Counselors
New Hampshire Homeschool Association
New Hampshire Junior ROTC Units
New Hampshire Homeschooling Coalition
New Hampshire Guard Units

2025 American Legion New Hampshire Boys State Application Materials

This packet may be duplicated freely. Additional copies are available at

www.nhboysstate.org

Dear New Hampshire Educator:

Thank you for your continued interest in, and support of, The American Legion -- Department of New Hampshire and the Boys State program! We are excited to work with young men from around the state, introducing them to lawmakers, elected officials, law enforcement personnel, veterans, and other high-performing students.

Boys State is now in its eighth decade of providing classroom and practical instruction in Civics to New Hampshire's high school students, and we are proud of our history. Each year, more than forty high school juniors participate in the New Hampshire program. Two of these students will be among the 98 students who are selected from the 20,000 Boy State delegates nationwide to travel to Washington, D.C. and to participate in the National Boys Nation Program, all at the expense of The American Legion.

Boys State, which is a "learn-by-doing" experience in the American way of Government, creates a forum for discussion by tomorrow's leaders about the issues of today and the challenges of the future. Our **non-partisan program** is a superior means of imparting the lessons of democratic government and individual participation to students, and we would like to extend ourselves to maximize the availability of this fine program to as many high school juniors and seniors as possible. Although we are always interested in quality over quantity of students, we feel there are many quality students out there who could learn and benefit from this program, and all are welcome to participate. Let's do it for America's youth and for the future of the American way of government: **we encourage you to send multiple students to Boys State – we're confident you have several qualified students.** No qualified student has ever been turned away from the program, and depending on the size of the school, we have welcomed as many as 10 students from a single school in the past. The only cost to the student is the \$25.00 application fee, which is not refundable. The American Legion is responsible for the balance of the costs, not the student or the school.

We have an outstanding program planned for 2025, and in addition to forming their own government, the participants will be exposed to superior guest speakers. In past years, these speakers have included the Governor, members of the New Hampshire General Court (both House and Senate), sitting Judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys, members of Congress, campaign managers and candidates, state party Chairs, and a host of others.

THANK YOU for your past cooperation and interest in sending us those boys whom you consider best qualified to maintain the high standards of New Hampshire American Legion Boys State. Please coordinate efforts with local American Legion officials so that all applications are processed and received at our Concord office by the deadline. If unable to contact the local Post, please contact the Department headquarters at (603) 856-8951 or nhsect@legionnh.org. Please refer to the enclosed program flyer for all pertinent information or visit the Boys State website at www.nhboysstate.org.

Respectfully,

Cody G. Aubin
Chairman
New Hampshire Boys State Committee

2025 Boys State Application

Section 1

Program Information

Program Dates:	June 22 – June 27, 2025*
Program Location:	Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive Manchester, NH 03102
Meals:	Provided through the university (Dietary requirements may be accommodated)
Housing:	On the campus of St. Anselm College <i>The specific dormitory will be noted in the acceptance materials</i>
Cost:	Application Fee - \$25.00 (Paid by the Student) Program Fee - \$395.00 (Paid by The American Legion)

*The full schedule (drop-off/pickup times, graduation, etc.) is provided in the acceptance documents.

Program Purpose

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 – the program - is strictly non-partisan**, and representatives of both major parties are invited and represented throughout the week. In addition, students are encouraged to share their own views on the issues.

The American Legion New Hampshire Boys State is a six-day training course in study and practical application of self-government. It is not meant to take the place of a course in Civics or Government as taught in high schools of the state, but 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.

American citizenship is a priceless possession. America is a free land, and believing that 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.

Academic Evaluation & Scholarship Opportunities

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 The American Legion New Hampshire Boys State scholarships of up to \$1,000.00 each. Each year, The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion award up to \$7,000.00 in scholarships to Boys State students.

Program Methodology/Philosophy

"LEARN BY DOING" - When the students arrive on campus, they will be assigned to a city or town, to the model 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 caucus and convention method will be used for nominating candidates to city and town offices. Primary elections will determine the party's nominees for state offices. There are many opportunities to serve in an elective or appointed office at Boys State. The petition method is used in determining how a candidate's name is placed on the ballot. Mock municipal meetings, political party meetings and a court trial will be held.

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. Staff members are not participants, and will not promote their own views during these sessions.

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.

Staff

Administrators and Counselors are trained and experienced leaders of young men, each of whom has passed a background check and completed appropriate training. 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.

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.

Fees

The only fee charged to any student who wishes to attend is a \$25.00 non-refundable application fee.

The entire balance of the tuition (\$395) is paid on behalf of the student by a New Hampshire American Legion post, an individual, a local business, or some other local organization. Together, these fees cover the entire cost of room, board, costs of instruction, recreation, and expenses incidental to Boys State. The sole exceptions are transportation to and from Saint Anselm College and personal expenses, which are the student's responsibility.

Checks should be made payable to THE AMERICAN LEGION – DEPARTMENT OF NH and transmitted to Department Headquarters together with properly-completed application and draft bill forms.

Applicants: If you are unsure of which American Legion post to contact locally, please call (603) 856-8951 or refer to the American Legion website for a listing of local posts in the state: www.legionnh.org.

Section 2

Selection Criteria

Selection and sponsorship of one or more candidates from the Junior or Senior Classes should be made in cooperation with the local American Legion Post. **We encourage high schools to nominate multiple eligible students.** Final approval remains with the Legion Post. In the case of Regional or Cooperative Schools covering more than one town, candidates should be selected for the approval of The American Legion Post officials in each town. If unsure who to contact, please call (603) 856-8951 or refer to the American Legion website for a listing of local posts in the state: www.legionnh.org.

Eligibility

Boys who will have completed either their JUNIOR year in School Year 2024-2025 and will be accepted if they meet the following criteria:

- Scholastic average should be 80 or better.
- Must be of good character and health.
- Should have outstanding qualities of leadership, character and good citizenship.
- Submit draft bill or resolution with application (see enclosed instructions).
- Homeschool students may attend, provided they meet eligibility requirements.

Note 1: Our program is fun, but requires good participation and attention. Students must pass an examination to graduate from the program, so students attending will be expected to handle the academic nature of the program as well.

Note 2: There is **NO LIMIT** to the number of qualified students that a school may send. In the event that the Legion post you are working with has difficulty supporting multiple candidates, please contact Department Headquarters and we will work with you to support your applicants. In the past, we have accommodated as many as 10 students from the same school, and it is common for large schools to send 4-6 students. So long as they are qualified, they will be welcomed.

Note 3: 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.

Application Count/Additional Applications

Three copies of application materials are enclosed to each High School Principal, Guidance Counselor and Social Studies Teacher. American Legion Posts also have the same information. If more applications or program flyers are needed they may be photocopied locally or you may contact: THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, 21 South Fruit Street (Suite 266), Concord, NH 03301, TEL: 856-8951. **An electronic copy is also available at www.nhboysstate.org.**

Application Deadline

All applications must be received at Department Headquarters by **May 31, 2025**. Post officials are reminded that the Post's tuition payment of \$395.00 as well as the student's nonrefundable application

fee of \$25.00 must accompany each application. Checks should be made payable to THE AMERICAN LEGION – DEPARTMENT OF NH.

Post Program Follow-Up

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.

Scholarships

A number of scholarships are offered this year. In a typical year, approximately 10% of program attendees receive scholarships. This includes a student selected for Samsung Scholarship of \$1,000.00, who is automatically eligible to be selected for a further national scholarship of \$10,000. **Please note that program regulations limit eligibility to compete for the Samsung Scholarship to members of the Junior Class only.**

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TO DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS BY MAY 31, 2025**

Prominent Alumni of The American Legion Boys State

David B. Barlow, United States Attorney, District of Utah
Max Baucus, United States Ambassador and Senator, Montana
Beau Biden, Attorney General of Delaware
Tom Brokaw, Former NBC anchorman
Steve Bullock, Former Governor of Montana
Aneesh Chopra, United States Chief Technology Officer
Chris Christie, Former Governor of New Jersey
Bill Clinton, 42nd President of the United States
Tom Cotton, United States Senator, Arkansas
Mitch Daniels, Former Governor of Indiana, Current President, Purdue University
Lawrence DiCara, Attorney, Politician, former Boston City Council President
H. Alston Johnson III, Former federal judicial nominee to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
Michael Jordan, professional NBA player
John Neely Kennedy, United States Senator, Louisiana
Alan Keyes, politician
Michael S. Lee, United States Senator, Utah
Joe Lieberman, Former United States Senator, Connecticut and VP Candidate
Donal Logue, Noted Hollywood actor
Gray H. Miller, U.S. District Court Judge
Nate Morris, Co-Founder and CEO, Rubicon Global
Eric Motley, Former State Department Official
Scott Murphy, United States Representative, New York
Andre Quintero, Mayor, El Monte, California
Ben Sasse, Former United States Senator, Nebraska
Jonathan Shapiro (writer), Emmy Award winning Producer/Writer
Gaddi Vasquez, Former Director of the Peace Corps
Scott Walker, Former Governor of Wisconsin
T. Charles Pierson, Former CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Department of New Hampshire

01/15/2025

2025 Boys State Application

INSTRUCTIONS: **Parts 1-3** of the application must be submitted to Department Headquarters not later than May 31, 2025. Those pages must be accompanied by the draft bill (see provided form), the student's \$25.00 nonrefundable application fee and The American Legion Sponsor tuition check of \$395.00 (made out to THE AMERICAN LEGION – DEPARTMENT OF NH with Boys State written on the check memo). **Parts 4-6** of the application should be brought with the student and handed in at registration at Saint Anselm College on June 22, 2025. Additional copies are at www.nhboysstate.org.

Part 1 – Student Information

Name: _____ Age: _____
Last First Middle

Home Mailing Address: _____
Street Town/City State

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

T-shirt size: S M L XL XXL

Is any family member currently serving in the military? If so, who? _____
Relationship to Applicant: _____

Are you the direct descendant of a veteran? YES NO
Name and relationship: _____

Have you been informed of the general idea and purpose of The American Legion New Hampshire Boys State, read the program flyer and understand that your admission depends on your school record for grades, character and leadership?
YES NO

I pledge myself to fully cooperate in the entire program of NH Boys State from June 22 to June 27, 2025 if my application is accepted.
YES NO

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Part 2 – School Principal

As Principal of _____ School, I recommend the above named student of the 11th grade (Junior Class) as eligible for citizenship in New Hampshire Boys State as a result of his **AVERAGE GRADE** of 80 or better and his standing in **CHARACTER & LEADERSHIP** in school and community activities.

Principal Signature: _____

Date: _____

Part 3 – American Legion Post

Post Number: _____

Approved: _____
Post Commander or Adjutant Signature

Date: _____

* Checks should be made out to: THE AMERICAN LEGION – DEPARTMENT OF NH with “Boys State” written on the check memo.

STOP!

YOUR APPLICATION IS COMPLETE UPON SUBMISSION OF PARTS 1-3 TOGETHER WITH YOUR DRAFT BILL.

THE ACCEPTANCE PACKET WILL HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT APPLYING FOR THE SAMSUNG AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIP, DETAILS OF WHICH ARE AVAILABLE AT WWW.LEGION.ORG. NOTE THAT APPLICATIONS FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP REQUIRE THE SUBMISSION OF CERTAIN PROOFS OF A QUALIFYING RELATIVE'S MILITARY SERVICE AS WELL AS INFORMATION FROM THE STUDENT'S HIGH SCHOOL. THE ONLINE APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 1, 2025 – NO EXCEPTIONS. THE APPLICATION IS AVAILABLE AT [HTTP://WWW.LEGION.ORG/SAMSUNG-SCHOLARSHIP-APPLICATION](http://WWW.LEGION.ORG/SAMSUNG-SCHOLARSHIP-APPLICATION).

ACCEPTANCE PACKAGES ARE EXPECTED TO BE MAILED BY JUNE 3, 2025, AND WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT WWW.NHBOYSSTATE.ORG. THAT PACKAGE WILL HAVE ANOTHER COPY OF THE PAGES WITH PARTS 4-6 OF THE APPLICATION, WHICH MUST BE SIGNED BY YOUR PHYSICIAN. BRING THE COMPLETED PARTS 4-6 WITH YOU TO REGISTRATION ON JUNE 22, 2025.

Part 5 – Parental Confirmation

Part 1: I GIVE/DO NOT GIVE (circle appropriate choice) permission to medical personnel, in the case of an emergency, to administer Anesthetic and/or Emergency treatment as required.

Part 2: I understand that the insurance provided by The American Legion is supplemental and will in no way replace any existing insurance maintained by the applicant or his Parents/Guardians. This insurance will cover only those incidents directly related to Boys State which The American Legion shall be liable for.

Part 3: I understand that, during the week, The American Legion has arranged for transportation to Concord to visit with state legislators at the capitol building. I grant permission to The American Legion to transport my son.

Part 4: I understand that, as part of The American Legion New Hampshire Boys State program, persons associated with the program and the news media may photograph, videotape, or record my son engaged in program activities. I hereby GRANT/DECLINE TO GRANT (circle appropriate choice) permission for The American Legion New Hampshire Boys State to use my son’s likeness in promotional materials for the program.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Part 6 – Health Status Certification

This is to certify that I have examined _____ of _____ and find him physically fit to participate in The American Legion Boys State Program. He does not have any communicable diseases.

Signature of Examining Physician / Physician’s Assistant

Date

(A copy of the applicant's physical for school activities is acceptable in lieu of a physician’s certificate in this Part 6 if completed within the past year)

**BRING PARTS 4-6 WITH YOU TO
BOYS STATE ON JUNE 22, 2025**