

TO: POST BOYS STATE CHAIRMEN
COUNTY BOYS STATE CHAIRMEN

**AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE
JUNE 17-22, 2018 – Our 73rd ANNUAL SESSION**

It is hard to believe but it is Boys State time again. The sooner you get started finding sponsorship money for your delegates, the easier it will be. After finding your sponsorships, you should concentrate on contacting your local schools to get your potential delegates.

Our staff is already planning next year's session. Last year's session went very well thanks to many new ideas from you and your work in sending us the best possible delegates in New Jersey.

Our hope is that this year, you will make a big effort to include all high schools (public, private and parochial and home schooled students) in your sponsorships. With our ever-changing cities and counties, there are new schools being built all the time. Please reach out to them!!!

The fee this year is \$250.00 per delegate. The **deadline** for submitting the sponsorship money and cards is **MAY 1, 2018**. By getting the sponsorships money earlier, we can invest it before we have to pay Rider University. This helps us to keep the fee low.

Included with this letter is a copy of the blue booklet and one sponsorship card. You may also go to **aljbs.org** for all the most current information on the Program.

The following procedures should be followed concerning the sponsorships and the sponsorship cards:

1. Arrange for your Post and/or other organization(s) in your town or area to sponsor the delegates. There are many groups and individuals who would gladly sponsor in full or in part, the cost to send a delegate to this year's session. Many potential sponsors attended ALJBS. Just ask!!!

2. Complete the 3" x 5" sponsorship card and send it in with the full fee of **\$250.00** per delegate to the following address: American Legion Jersey Boys State, **Building #5, 2nd Floor, 171 Jersey Street**, Trenton, NJ 08611. After the card and check(s) are received, the applications for the boys will be sent to you. Make checks payable to: "American Legion Jersey Boys State".

3. As a guideline, delegates should be high school juniors, be no older than 17 years old, have at least a "B" average, be involved in extracurricular activities, and have some interest in politics and current events. **A non-resident of New Jersey must attend school in New Jersey to be eligible for Boys State. Non U.S. citizens may attend Boys State.**

4. After interviewing and selecting the delegates and alternates, have them complete the applications and return them to you as Chairman. **All applications must be in to Department no later than JUNE 1, 2018.**

5. Delegates must complete the medical form, which will be sent directly to them (approximately 3 weeks prior to Boys State). The form must be completed based on a doctor's visit within the last 6 months. **NO** applicant will be allowed to register if he does not have this completed. Form will be turned in at **Registration**.

6. Applications will not be accepted unless properly filled out. **PLEASE** make sure applications are turned into the local Boys State Post Chairman. Regardless of sponsorship (by The American Legion alone or co-sponsoring Service Club) the application, with the correct address, must be approved by the Boys State Chairman and/or Post Commander of the local Legion Post. The co-sponsor's name and address, as well as the Legion's, must be on the application when sent to us. Applications are to be filled in by applicant only. **DO NOT SIGN UNTIL YOU CHECK OVER THE APPLICATION AND HAVE MET THE DELEGATE.**

7. Alternates who show up at Boys State for registration at the 2018 session without having an application in the Boys State file will not be admitted. Therefore, additional alternate blanks and registration cards will be sent to you when needed and requested. The alternate must know the name of the boy for whom he is an alternate and Post number in order to register. We will not process an application unless we have the correct information. **This is your responsibility.**

8. Approximately three weeks before the 2018 session, each applicant will receive his individual instructions, with medical form (can also be accessed on www.aljbs.org) and registration card. He needs this filled out properly since the roster is made from these cards. Each delegate registering on Sunday, June 18th must have his medical form filled in and signed by his physician and signed by his parents and/or guardian or he will not be allowed to register. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND MEDICAL FORM TO HQ! REGISTRATION IS 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM.** We suggest arriving at 7:30am. **PLEASE CHECK THE ABOVE CAREFULLY.** Since you are also responsible for the delegate's transportation home, make sure they know the Program will end at about 4:00 PM Friday.

9. The Director reserves the right to send a Delegate home without graduating if he does not meet the qualifications stated and does not obey the rules and regulations of Boys State. The Director will follow this procedure only when necessary. If a Delegate is sent home under such condition, a letter will be sent to his parents, his principal and the sponsoring organization; notifying them of this action.

DO NOT ASSUME the authority to say that a Delegate will be permitted to leave the campus for any period of time while Boys State is in session. **That authority rests solely with the Director.**

County orientations are meant to be informative for the delegates, alternates and their parents. They should not be political or encourage delegates to run for any particular office. Every delegate and alternate should be required to attend County orientation. Boys State staff members are available to help if you wish. Once again, use ALJBS.org as a tool to help you and your applicants/delegates.

If you have any questions please feel free to call Legion Headquarters at **(609) 695-5418** and **speak with Tammie.**

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