

Applications

Applications can be obtained from any American Legion Post in Nebraska or downloaded from www.nebraskalegion.net. Click on Programs and then Boys State.

All applications, along with the required application fee, must be submitted to Department of Nebraska Headquarters by March 15, 2018.

Application Fee

The required application fee to attend Cornhusker Boys' State is \$375.00. This fee must accompany the application and is paid, in full, by the sponsor.

Transportation Fee

Because of the distance from Lincoln, some Districts in western Nebraska require Boys' State delegates to use mandatory transportation provided by a contract carrier. This cost will vary and applies to delegates residing in Districts 1, 4, 5 and 9. More information can be obtained from those District Commanders.

Refunds

There are no refunds. If a boy does not attend Boys' State and no written prior notice was given to the sponsoring individual or organization, the sponsoring individual or organization can ask the parents for reimbursement.

Instructions to Boys

A packet of instructions is sent to each boy explaining the rules and regulations of Boys' State. Additionally, these instructions let each boy know what he needs to bring with him for the week.

Several forms are also included in the instruction packet. These forms must be filled out completely and returned to Department Headquarters by May 1, 2018.

Boys will report to the University of Nebraska - Lincoln campus on Sunday, June 3 at 12:30 p.m. for registration. Exact location will be included in the instruction packets. Late arrivals and early departures are seldom approved. The Program Director is the only individual that can approve these requests. Exemptions for funerals and illness are typically granted but family vacations, sports camps, ACT/SAT exams, and such are not valid reasons for late arrival or early departures. Boys need to plan accordingly.

Once the program is in session, any boy who is unable to follow the rules and regulations will be immediately dismissed.

Boys that do not attend the full week will not graduate nor receive their Boys' State pin and graduation certificate.

**Cornhusker Boys' State
Program Director Dave Salak
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78th Annual Session June 3 - 9, 2018



Informational Brochure

**Sponsored by
The American Legion
Department of Nebraska**

The American Legion Cornhusker Boys' State

History and Purpose

Boys' State began in Illinois in 1935 and was later adopted nationally by The American Legion. Since becoming a national program, the Department of Nebraska has been proud to offer young men throughout the state an opportunity to attend Cornhusker Boys' State at the University of Nebraska campus in Lincoln.

The purpose of the program is to educate youth in the duties, privileges, rights, and responsibilities of American citizenship. This is accomplished through the creation of an imaginary 51st state which is then governed by the citizens of Boys' State.

Throughout the course of the week-long program, Boys' State citizens organize their own city, county, and state governments and choose their own elected officials through the election process. They introduce and argue their own bills in a legislature, and justice is administered by law enforcement agencies and the courts.

Non-Partisan

The program is non-partisan and is not military in any sense. The political parties in Boys' State are the "Federalists" and the "Nationalists."

Activities

Morning and afternoon sessions are set aside for educational and government training. Afterwards, boys have the opportunity to participate in either band, chorus, newsletter staff, or sporting activities.

Special Lectures

Highly respected public servants and community leaders present lectures on subjects pertinent to the program. Evening sessions with motivational speakers are also held throughout the week.

Camp Staff

Counselors and chaperones of the Cornhusker Boys' State program are well-trained and experienced leaders. They are American Legion members and/or past Boys' State delegates and have also passed background checks.

Health and Medical

During registration and check-in, medical staff review each boy's medical forms for accuracy before they are admitted to the dormitory. Every care will be taken to avoid accidents and illnesses, but Boys' State will not be responsible or held liable for injuries or sickness if they occur.

Eligibility and Selection

Any boy who has been a member of the junior class for the 2017-2018 year and attends a Nebraska school, or is home-schooled, is eligible for Boys' State.

A letter has been sent to every high school principal in the state to request they explain the Boys' State program to all eligible boys and secure a list of those who are interested. Traits to be considered when recommending a student include scholastic performance, leadership qualities, citizenship and health.

Every sponsoring American Legion Post should ask the principal for the list of interested boys and then make its selection.

The completed application and application fee will reserve a seat for the Post's candidate. The Cornhusker Boys' State Board has the right to accept or reject any application. No publicity about a student's selection should be made until official notification is received from the Board which is usually by April 1.

Endorsement vs Sponsorship

Every boy must be endorsed by a local American Legion Post. Other individuals and businesses, besides a Post, can sponsor the registration fee but the application must be endorsed by a Post. There is no limit to the number of boys that each Post can endorse and/or sponsor.

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