



Boys' State Leadership Program Fact Sheet

INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL DELEGATES, SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES, AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Connecticut Boys State Web-site

For additional information pertaining to The American Legion Boys State, Department of Connecticut, visit our website: ctlegion.org or www.ctboysstate.com

Program Site and Date

The American Legion, Department of Connecticut, will sponsor **2015** Boys State on the campus of Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic from **Saturday, June 20** to **Thursday, June 25, 2015**

Program Check-in

Dress is casual for check in. The boys will be told when to dress up. Delegate registration will be between **11:00 A.M. and 12:30 P.M. on Saturday, June 20th** at Luva Mead Hall (basement entrance), building #44 (see map) on Charter Oak Road. Please park in the parking garage on Charter Oak Road. You will be registered, given instructions and room assignments. You will be dismissed Thursday afternoon, June 25th, at approximately 3:30 P.M. You might want to check out: <http://www.easternct.edu/ecsu/map/>



Boys' State Leadership Program Objectives

To develop civic leadership and pride in American citizenship.

The American Legion hopes that each young man attending Boys State will return to his community a better citizen and display his willingness to make greater civic contributions.

To develop a keen interest in government.

To develop in the young citizens of Boys State a full understanding of our American traditions and belief in the United States of America.

The American Legion Boys State teaches citizens the glorious traditions of this country!

To develop in the young citizens a determination to maintain our form of government

The final two objectives come from the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion:

"To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation . . ."



"To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy . . ."



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Selection of Citizens

In the actual selection of Boys State citizens, merit and ability alone are the basis for selection. Boys State is not a program for underprivileged boys nor is it a summer camp for recreation. American Legion Posts or other community-minded organizations often pay fees, or "tuition," with little to no expense to the young men.

We wish to secure equal delegate representation from all areas of the State of Connecticut. Therefore, the Department Boys State Commission asks for **one or more boy(s) from each accredited high school** (public or private) to be nominated by the school to attend.

Characteristics of the "Ideal" Connecticut Boys Stater

To be selected for nomination or appointment as a Connecticut Boys State delegate, the candidate must demonstrate:

- Strong academic performance (e.g., a quick study) to thrive in this fast moving program
- Excellent Interpersonal skills (e.g., gets along very well with others from all backgrounds)
- Exhibited leadership (e.g., a leader of leaders) Solid Oratorical skills (e.g., a persuasive speaker and confidence shown in group settings)



Nominating A Delegate to the Program

The American Legion believes our American government can survive only with an educated populace. By teaching youth to understand and appreciate our democratic republic, America can remain strong and ensure our freedom for future generations.

High school officials (administrators, faculty members, coaches, fine arts teachers, and/or counselors) may nominate qualified students meeting the eligibility requirements and selection criteria.

Program Application

Application to the program can now be started online, Go to www.ctboysstate.com or ctlegion.org to find the application and checklist. It is quick and simple. If you have any questions or problems, you may contact Department Headquarters at 860-436-9986.



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BOYS STATE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

A program of this scope encompasses many important objectives. The American Legion feels the following are the most important

What do I bring to the program?

Please see the section "What to bring" on the website for more information regarding clothes, towels, and toiletries required. As it relates to the political process, all materials that will be needed will be provided.

Is There a Talent Show?

On Tuesday evening, we will have a Boys State Talent Show.....and it is always amazing to see the Talent that exists with this group! Bring your instruments and solo music to help you perform!

Can My Parents/ Family Attend the Commencement?

Yes, parents may attend the Boy's State commencement on Thursday at approximately 1:15 P.M., although please be aware it may be standing room only!

Can I Bring My Cell Phone or Other Electronic Devices?

In a word – yes; however, there will be times where we do not allow usage (such as during Flag lowering, visiting dignitaries, session speakers, etc.).

I will need to "come and go" from the program due to other priorities – is that allowed?

Generally we do not allow any Boys' State participants to leave the program. Boys State is a fast-paced program that requires your full attention and complete involvement for the week. Any unique circumstances requiring time away from the program must be cleared with the Chairman in advance of the program.





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Who Can I Contact If I Have Specific Questions?

Feel free to contact Dave Greenleaf, Boys State Chairman at DavidGreenleaf@hotmail.com

What Happens If There is an Emergency and I have to Leave Early?

Unfortunately things happen outside of the program that are beyond your control. That is ok, however you need to contact the Boys State Chairman in advance. He will help arrange the logistics of getting the delegate prepared to leave the program.



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✦Packing for Boys State

Checklist of Items to bring to Boys State:

Dress Code:

- Trousers (long pants, jeans, khakis, shorts etc.) –
- Belt
- Dress shoes
- Sneakers (non marking soles)
- Socks
- Slippers
- Light sweater or Jacket
- Suit/Sports Jacket (to be worn at opening ceremony and graduation)
- Swimming suit
- The American Legion Boys State t-shirt, provided after registration as a part of the registration fee
- Hats are **not** to be worn indoors.
- Laptop computers and tablet computers (e.g., iPads) are **not** allowed, **except** during recreation time, unless approved by instructors. Free WiFi access is **not** available. No cell phone use in classroom environments.

Additional Items:

- Towels (2)
- Bath soap and shampoo
- Other personal hygiene supplies
- Appropriate clothing and shoes if participating in team sports (shorts are allowed)
- Light athletic equipment (e.g. tennis racquet, gloves etc)
- Notebooks and pens/pencils for taking notes
- If participating in the talent show, bring your instrument, or music
- Bedding Required: Twin XL sheets, pillow case, blanket or sleeping bag and a pillow

Items provided:

- One Boys State t-shirt with registration
- All meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) during the program