

WHAT IS PREMIER BOYS STATE?

The American Legion Illinois Premier Boys State was founded in 1935 by three Legionnaires who insisted that we as veterans need to guide our youth on the correct path in light of the anti-Americanism sentiment that was growing at the time. The result was a mythical 51st state known as boys state, where the boys campaign for and make up all branches of government within the nationalist or federalist parties.

The program is designed to simulate the structure of Illinois' local, county and state governments, while allowing for training in citizenship, servant leadership and character development.

What makes this boys state program "Premier" is that Illinois was the first state in the nation to develop the program. Since then, every state, with exception of Hawaii, has a boys state program mirrored from ours.



ELIGIBILITY

All participants must meet the following criteria :

- All boys must have completed their junior year in high school and must have one or more semester in high school to complete after attending Boys State.
- It is ideal for all boys to be sponsored by an American Legion Post. In the event that this is not possible the sponsoring party could be a parent, individual adult, church, bank, union, civic organization, local business or any other organization
- All boys must attend all sessions and activities throughout the week.
- A boy may check in late on Saturday due to ACT or SAT testing with notification to the Boys State Administration.

DON'T MISS OUT, YOU ONLY HAVE ONE CHANCE TO ATTEND AND BECOME "A FEW AMONG MANY"



illinoisboysstate.org

To learn about the **national** American Legion Boys State program, visit:

legion.org/boysnation



COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The American Legion Illinois Premier Boys State is proud to award ten college scholarships totaling $17,250 to the citizens attending each year. During the Boys State session, winners are selected based upon participation in various aspects of the program. These scholarships include Model Citizen, Oration, Essay and Samsung Scholarships to name a few.

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Participation in the Boys State program serves as testimony to one's character and leadership. This is an experience recognized by employers, service academies and university admissions boards as an indicator of strong leadership and character traits.

Many colleges and universities offer their own scholarships as well to those who attended the Boys State program.





REGISTRATION AND COSTS

- The cost of $300 covers all program materials, as well as room and board. All costs of the program are the responsibility of the sponsor or sponsoring organization.
- Participants are responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from EIU. Although, participants may want to contact their local American Legion post for information on group transportation.
- A registration form and EIU liability waiver can be obtained at illinoisboysstate.org on the registration tab.
- Upon receipt of your registration and payment, participants will receive an acceptance letter by U.S. mail.





EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Charleston, IL

If you have specific questions that were not found on our website, please send an email to: info@illinoisboysstate.org or after you have registered utilize: registration@illinoisboysstate.org





ILLINOIS PREMIER BOYS STATE

"A WEEK THAT SHAPES A LIFETIME"



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