

The American Legion invites high school students to compete in speech contest

Winners will earn scholarship money and a chance to compete in national finals

High school students of **(community or name the school)** have been invited by **(name of post, District or Area)** Post No. _____ of The American Legion to compete in the Annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program. The invitation to enter the competition was extended today by Post Commander **(or Post Oratorical Chair)** **(full name)**.

The contest for **(community or name the school)** students has been arranged with the full cooperation of local school officials and **(full name and title)** of the **(school name)** faculty who will assist with the contest arrangements.

This is a multi-level contest where students first compete at the Post level, then progress to the District, Area and then State level. The winner of the State contest advances to the National Contest held in Hillsdale, MI in May 14-16, 2027.

The contest is open to any student in grades 9 through 12, including home schooled students.

The subject in the prepared oration portion of the contest must be about some phase of the Constitution of the United States, emphasizing the duties and obligations of a citizen to the U. S. government. The prepared oration must be the original effort of each contestant and must be 8-10 minutes in length.

In addition to the awards by winners of the various elimination rounds of competition, college scholarships of \$25,000, \$22,500, and \$20,000 will be awarded to the first through third places in the national finals. Each state winner who competes in the first round of the national contest will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Participants in the second round who do not advance to the national final round will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship. The top three youth orators who have won all previous elimination rounds of the contest will vie for top honors in the national contest in May in Michigan.

The American Legion will pay the expenses of state winners at the national contest.

High school students in **(community)** who are interested in entering the competition will find complete rules and contest information at _____

For more information, please visit <https://www.floridalegion.org/programs-services/oratorical-competition/about/>

Contact (list name of contacts, email addresses and phone numbers)