

Florida's Premier Youth Leadership Program

2026-2027
CHAIR'S MANUAL

Table of Contents

Forward	3
Boys State Director Letter	4
Boys State Chair List	5
What is Boys State	6
Overview of Chair Responsibilities	7
Important Dates to Remember	9
Delegate Fee	11
Quotas and Over-Quotas	12
Submitting Post Checks	12
Selection Process	13
Characteristics of a Boys State Delegate	14
Interview Application	15
Interviews	17
Suggested Interview Questions	18
District Activities	20
Registration Packet	20
Scholarships	21

Forward

The purpose of this manual is to provide procedures and criteria for the selection of the highest quality Boys State Delegates to represent your Post and continue the 82-year tradition of excellence at Florida American Legion Boys State.

Cooperation and communication with your District Chair and the Posts within the District will make your job easier and ensure an excellent program for 2026-2027.

Selecting the best students from your communities ensures a successful Boys State session and helps to shape the next generation of our nation's leaders. This manual is an effort to answer all your questions. *Please read and use the information in this manual.* By using this manual and selecting the highest quality young men, we will bring a greater understanding of Americanism to the young people of our communities and continue to make Florida American Legion Boys State "Florida's Premier Youth Leadership Program."

Dear Post Boys State Chair:

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for accepting the chairmanship for your Post. Your responsibility is essential to ensure that the program has the most capable Boys Staters.

The success of Florida American Legion Boys State is directly related to how you operate in your position. Cooperation and communication make sure the program runs smoothly. You will need to communicate with your District Chair, schools, parents, and selected Delegates and Alternates to make sure everyone has the correct information and is on the same page. If any questions or concerns arise, contact your District Chair or the Department Programs Director to get clarification or assistance. Let me encourage you to reach out to all schools in your area.

Meeting all deadlines is critical! It seems that every year there are a few who assume they will be called directly as reminder to either send their money or have their delegates complete their online registration. Know the deadlines, meet the deadlines, and ensure that your Post's Delegates and Alternates are meeting their deadlines. Do not assume your inattention to detail will be considered an emergency.

Please emphasize the Samsung Scholarship, sponsored by The American Legion. The Samsung Scholarship is only for those whose parent(s), grandparent(s), or great-grandparent(s) were veterans who served during a war period. Please assist your Delegates in determining if they are eligible and encourage them to complete the online application if they are. The Samsung Scholarship is completely online on National's website:
https://www.legion.org/scholarships/samsung

I'm also proud to tell you that Florida State University continues to honor Lance Cpl. Andrew J. Aviles with a significant scholarship. Details will be provided to the Delegates and Alternates in their registration packets.

This year's program will run 20-26 June 2027. We look forward to seeing all your Delegates in Tallahassee for Florida's Premier Youth Leadership Program. Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Andrew Satterlee
Director

2026-2027
District Boys State Chairs

Department Chair	Darcy	Sisson	308-520-5959	boysstate@legionmail.org
1st District Chair	Bill	Trainor	850-936-2029	trainorw65@gmail.com
2nd District Chair	Mark	Shields	301-4234-8439	mshields@hotmail.com
3rd District Chair	Shelley	Jefferson	352-418-7008	district3@legionmail.org
4th District Chair	Darcy	Sisson	308-520-5959	boysstate@legionmail.org
5th District Chair	Michael	Flanagan	386-562-4787	michaelflanagan360@gmail.com
6th District Chair	Andy	Smith	540-205-5115	asmith29us@gmail.com
7th District Chair	William	Jones	901-864-9516	vfw11333@yahoo.com
8th District Chair	Clayton	Sutherland	331-245-4407	clsusn@gmail.com
9th District Chair	Richard	Maggiore	954-326-0800	richardmaggiore524@gmail.com
11th District Chair	Gregory	Hall	561-309-3389	usafmontyh@bellsouth.net
12th District Chair	Steve	Vilgats	321-720-6583	stevevilgats@gmail.com
13th District Chair	Vicky	Dean	239-737-0640	halfdiamond15@gmail.com
14th District Chair	Jason	Nimark	702-277-9034	fbama@ix.netcom.com
15th District Chair	Philip	Hilinski	813-839-6740	post139commander@outlook.com
16th District Chair	Bill	Daniels	963-205-1977	danrecon5@aol.co
17th District Chair	David	Bowling	614-554-6662	dbtiledave@gmail.com
Central Area	Jeff	Grant	863-206-0023	jtsgrant@gmail.com
Eastern Area	Andy	Smith	540-205-5115	asmith29us@gmail.com
Northern Area	Darcy	Sisson	305-520-5959	boysstate@legionmail.org
Southern Area	Richard	Maggiore	954-326-0800	richardmaggiore524@gmail.com
Southwestern Area	Jessica	Moore	239-839-0602	ANEC@floridalegion.org
Western Area	Bill	Trainor	850-936-2029	trainorw65@gmail.com

What Is Boys State

American Legion Boys State is among the most respected and selective educational programs for U.S. high school students. A participatory program in which students become part of the operation of the local, county, and state government, Boys State was founded in 1935 to instill in youth the ideals of The American Legion. The program was the idea of two Illinois Legionnaires, Hayes Kennedy and Harold Card, who organized the first Boys State at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield.

American Legion Auxiliary sponsors a separate but similar program for young women called Girls State.

At Boys State, participants learn the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of franchised citizens. The training is objective and centers on the structure of city, county, and state government operated by students elected to various offices. Instruction will also be presented on law and court system, the legislature and parliamentary procedure, Florida history, the executive branch, and how to write a bill.

At Florida American Legion Boys State, citizens will gain hands-on experience on leadership by taking part in the political process through role-play civic exercises.

Citizens of Florida American Legion Boys State not only will be required to review knowledge already acquired concerning the political machinery of the state of Florida, but they will find themselves running for office as real candidates do in the everyday world. Citizens will be organized into mythical cities, counties, and a state from where they choose their own officials in accordance with regular election procedures. From there, they learn the duties of the various city, county, and state officers, and they introduce and argue their own bills in the Legislature.

The entire program is non-partisan. Problems will be considered without reference to any existing political party and will enable the Delegates to understand some of the responsibilities they will encounter when they become adults. The selection and assignment of the students to the political parties is in no way connected with the existing political parties in Florida. Florida American Legion Boys State uses mythical parties called “Nationalists” and “Federalists.” Feel free to reach out to a successful past Boys Stater to assist you and your Delegates and Alternates with understanding the Boys State program and activities.

Florida American Legion Boys State is NOT:

1. A boot camp or preparation for the military.
2. An ideal environment suited for those with social anxiety.
3. Able to provide access to outside religious services once the program begins.

Overview of Chair Responsibilities

1. **Decide on the number of delegates your Post will send.**
    - This decision is partially based on the amount the Post can fundraise to pay the $550.00 per delegate registration fee.

2. **Contact the high schools in your area.**
    - Make sure to go to multiple schools. Try to reach out to schools that you have not been to before, this should include private, charter, magnet, and home school organizations.
    - Get the name of a specific contact person (principal, guidance counselor, etc.) – do not rely solely on your contacts with the local JROTC units.
    - Set up an appointment to explain Boys State and the school's role in the selection process.
    - Utilize the Boys State marketing videos to enhance understanding of the program: https://www.youtube.com/@floridaamericanlegionboysstate
    - Give your high schools' contact people copies of the Boys State brochures, links to the videos, and applications.

      School counselors, teachers, ROTC instructors DO NOT interview the students – interviews and selection of Delegates and Alternates is the responsibility of the Post.

3. **Interviewing, screening, and selecting your delegates.**
    - Select a committee.
    - Make sure the students know what the program is all about. Candidates who do not know what the program is about often end up changing their mind and will not attend.
    - Ensure that they will be able to attend the entire week of the program – any Delegate who leaves before the Friday night award ceremony IS NOT considered Boys State alumni.
    - **Should your Post choose a student with disabilities, it is the responsibility of the Post to notify Department Headquarters and to provide the necessary help the Delegate will need during the Boys State program.**

4. **Explain the registration process.**
    - Make time to sit down will all Delegates, Alternates, and their parents at the same time. If you do not have a Post home, the school will often allow you space to use.
    - Registration is a multi-step process:

        - The student signs up on the FALBS website. They will need the registration packet sent to you via email that explains the process.
        - After this initial registration is reviewed, the parent is emailed the electronic forms.
        - Notarized medical waiver must be mailed to Department HQ.
    - Brief the parents and the students on the program and what is expected of them. Explain travel arrangements and that the District Orientation will be held sometime in April-May. This is a good time to establish a rapport with the students and their parents.
    - Delegate and Alternate online registration and all required documents must be submitted to Department HQ by 19 March 2027. **REGISTRATION IS NOT APPROVED UNTIL ALL FORMS/DOCUMENTS ARE SUBMITTED.**

5. **Keep in touch with your District chair.**
    - Call your District Chair (see list in this manual) and introduce yourself.
    - The District Chair makes transportation and Orientation arrangements.
    - Make sure you know when the District Orientation is so you can inform your Delegates and Alternate. DO NOT RELY ON SOMEONE ELSE TO INFORM YOUR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES OF THE ORIENTATION DATE & LOCATION.

6. **Stay in contact with your Delegates and Alternates.**
    - Be sure they follow through on:
        - Completing the registration (initial online registration, parent electronic forms, and notarized medical waiver).
        - Completing Lance Cpl. Aviles and Samsung scholarship applications (if eligible).
        - Reading through the Citizen Manual - available on the FALBS website in May.
        - Watching all the Florida History videos and doing the related quiz - available on the FALBS website in May.
        - Attend the District Orientation. There are too many 'no shows' for the program because they did not attend. Alternates must attend so they receive the same information and can be ready to become a Delegate if space becomes available.
        - Are ready for the bus. Double check in case of cancellations.

7. **Handle substitutions quickly and accurately.**
    - When a Delegate cancels, email the Alternate name to Department Headquarters as soon as possible. Send to bboarman@floridalegion.org.

Important Dates to Remember

83rd Boys State Session – 20-26 June 2027

DO NOT select students until you have sent in your registration fee!

- September
  - **14 September** - Start sending in registration money of $550.00 per delegate. Only Post checks will be accepted. Personal checks cannot be used.
    Make checks out to: Florida American Legion Boys State Inc.
  - Mail checks to: Florida American Legion Boys State
    P.O. Box 547859 Orlando, FL 32854-7859
  - Registration checks must be mailed in with the Boys State Post Registration Form (enclosed in the Boys State packet).

- November
  - Start contacting ALL high schools (public, private, charter, magnet, and home schools) in your area to get names and set up interviews. Remember – Post members should conduct interviews and select their delegates and NOT rely on the recommendations of school counselors or JROTC instructors.
  - The school can recommend a pool of students, but Post members are responsible for interviewing and choosing who will attend Boys State.
  - Give the principal, guidance counselor, or other school contact copies of the application for the recommended pool of students (application found on page 15-16).

- December
  - Begin interviewing (only if you have sent in your registration fees!!) and select your Delegates and Alternates. Be sure they can attend and participate for the full week.

- January
  - **05 January** – Delegate and Alternate registration packets EMAILED to Post chairs who have sent in their registration fees.
    - All Boys State session forms are in the Delegate and Alternate registration packets. Once they register, their parent will be emailed the necessary electronic forms. The medical waiver is the only form that must be mailed to Department.
  - **06 January** – Online registration opens for Delegates and Alternates.
  - **15 January** – All registration checks must be received by Department Headquarters

- March
  - Contact your District Chair and ask for your District Orientation date, time and location. Also ask about the transportation plans and expected costs.
  - **19 March** – Online registration closes for Delegates and Alternates. Medical Waivers and Parent Electronic forms MUST be received by Department Headquarters by this date.

- April – May
  - Pass on the District Orientation information with your Delegates, Alternates, and their parents. Attendance is mandatory for Delegates and Alternates.
  - Attend the District Orientation.
  - The Citizen Manual will be available on the FALBS website in May. Delegates will be given a hard copy when they arrive in Tallahassee.
  - Delegates and Alternates will be emailed links to view the Florida History videos and complete short quizzes.
  - Delegates will find out which Boys State City and political party they have been assigned to in May.

- June
  - Double check that your Delegates are still able to attend. If not, notify Department Headquarters immediately to let them know who is replacing the Delegate.

- **20 June 2027** – Busses arrive in Tallahassee in front of the assigned dormitories on the FSU campus by 7:30 AM.

- **26 June 2027** – Busses depart Tallahassee in front of the assigned dormitories on the FSU campus by 7:00 AM.

Delegate Fee

The Delegate fee for the 2027 Boys State session is **$550.00** per Delegate. Here is an explanation of where your funds are going to support the young men who attend the Boys State session (the chart below is based on 2025 actual costs).

Expenses Paid by Post	Cost Per Boy
3 Square Meals a Day for 6 Days	$319.51
Housing for 6 Nights	$248.78
Meeting Space (Civic Center)	$76.22
Audio/ Visual	$58.14
2 Boys State Polo Shirts	$33.39
Counselor Shirts & Supplies	$3.70
Counselor Banquet	$11.15
Session Office Expense	$1.34
Boys State Pins	$2.26
Background Checks	$1.83
Guest Speaker Gifts	$2.97
Miscellaneous Session Expenses	$2.07
Counselor Lunch Saturday	$1.62
Keys & Permits	$2.68
Awards	$1.46
Campaign Supplies	$0.63
Caps	$0.38
Medical Supplies	$0.41
Total	$768.54

We realize that the cost of $550.00 per Delegate plus expenses and transportation costs, can bring the total for each delegate to more than $750.00. A little pre-planning can solve the financial problems for the future. You may find that this year the Post is willing, but the bank account is low. How do you get the necessary funds for this year? Here is a list of successful ideas used by other Posts to raise funds:

Post Funds: Boys State should be a budget item. Make it a practice to include it in program expenditures.

SAL & 40/8 Funds: Contact them to obtain sponsorship for a delegate or partial delegate. If you don't ask, they won't volunteer.

Special fund-raising events: Dinners, a fish fry, dances, golf or fishing tournaments, bowl-a-thon, bingo games earmarked for Boys State, card parties, white elephant auctions, bake sales, garage sales, etc. The possibilities are limited only by the imagination and the willingness to work.

Booster Club: Donations by individuals in return for names posted in your Post Home or Post Newsletter.

Outside Donors: Moose, Elks, Rotary, Optimist, Lions, Knights of Columbus, etc. Many of our Posts enlist the help of community service organizations. Remember, all monies must be deposited in a Post account and then a check can be written to Boys State on the Post account. We cannot accept checks from any other organization.

Appeal for donations in the Post: Set up a donation jar in the lounge or game room. Circulate the donation jar at all Post functions.

Quotas and Over-Quotas

Florida American Legion Boys State will no longer rely on the quota and over-quota system to limit the number of Delegates a Post can sponsor. The number of Delegates will only be limited to the number of students a Post is willing and able to sponsor.

Posts *cannot* sponsor more than eight (8) Delegates from any one high school. Posts are encouraged to interview candidates from as many area high schools as practicable.

Delegate spots will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.
Get your registration fee checks in early!

Submitting Post Checks

Florida American Legion Boys State prides itself for being Florida's Premier Youth Leadership program and making sure that any student who applies themselves can attend the program at no cost to them or their family.

The Delegate fee must be paid by a sponsoring American Legion Post NOT by the Delegate and/or his parents.

Please make Post checks or money orders out to: Florida American Legion Boys State, Inc.

Mail checks to: Florida American Legion Boys State
P.O. Box 547859
Orlando, FL 32854-7859

Deadline to submit checks: **15 January 2027**
(Transportation and other costs are handled through the District, not Department Headquarters. You will need to contact the District Chair to get this information.)

THERE ARE NO REFUNDS. It is your responsibility to fill your delegate spots.

Selection Process

Any student that you interview must currently be a Junior in a Florida public school, private school, or home school.

Role of the School/Guidance Counselor:
In November, set up an appointment with your local school contacts (guidance counselors, activities director, principal, etc.). Make sure you explain what Florida American Legin Boys Sate is and its purpose. Take enough brochures and applications so each interested student can have one to read and take home to share with his parents. Be prepared to answer any questions that may arise.

If your high school is new to the program, try to put the counselor in touch with a school that has participated for some years.

After explaining Florida American Legion Boys State and its purpose, explain to the representative at the high school that you'd like a list of students that meet the following criteria:

- Students who have successfully completed their junior year of high school and have at least one year of high school remaining. Any student that you interview must be a Junior in a Florida high school, private school, or home school.
- Any student who has previously attended Boys State in Florida or any other state is not eligible.
- Outstanding qualities of leadership, character, scholarship, loyalty and service to their school and community should be considered.
- An interest in government or the judicial process.
- The prospective Delegate and their parents must be residents of the state of Florida or have residency of record in Florida (military families).
- Willing to abide by the rules and traditions of Florida American Legion Boys State.

Make sure you inform the school of the following:

- Posts will interview students and make their selections based on the interview and other criteria such as resume or written assignment.

- Those that are selected are Delegates for the Post, and those not selected as primary Delegate become Alternates. The registration process for both is the same.

Remember: The Application is to help schools and you choose the quality of student we want for the program. The number of students to be interviewed should be more than the number of delegate spots paid for by the Post – 2-3 nominees per delegate spot is a good ratio.

- Example. If the Post paid for two delegate spots, interview 4-6 students. This will allow you to fill your two Delegate spots and two Alternate spots.

Characteristics of a Boys State Delegate

Qualities to look for when interviewing students.

1. Honorable: They are sincere, ethical, honest, respectful, and willing to defend others, regardless of the situation or peer pressure.
2. Strong Academic Performance: Delegates are quick learners who thrive in the program's fast-paced environment.
3. Solid Oratorical Skills: They are persuasive speakers and show confidence in group settings of various sizes.
4. Excellent Interpersonal Skills: They get along well with others from diverse backgrounds.
5. Effective Communication Skills: They can express their ideas clearly and persuasively.
    a. They have knowledge and understanding of current events.
    b. They are open to consider and rationally debate varying viewpoints.
6. Leadership Abilities: Delegates demonstrate leadership qualities and can lead others effectively
7. Adaptability: Delegates thrive in dynamic situations and can adjust to changing circumstances.
8. Collaboration: They work well in teams, valuing diverse perspectives and contributing constructively.
9. Perseverance: They are able to deal with the loss of positions, elections, or alliances and recover to participate in the next level of the program.
10. Analytical: They are able to analyze different perspectives, break down complex problems, brainstorm multiple solutions, and evaluate pros and cons to arrive at innovative and effective compromises.
11. Creative: They are able to approach situations from various perspectives to develop the best, most practical solution.

Florida American Legion
Boys State
Interview Application

Florida American Legion Boys State, June 20-26, 2027

To be considered for Florida American Legion Boys State, fill out this form and attach a recommendation letter from a Teacher, Guidance Counselor, or Principal. You will need to present these documents before the selection interview with Legionnaires. Selected applicants will be awarded an all-expense paid trip to Tallahassee, participate in events in the State Capitol and on the Florida State University Campus.

To be eligible, you must have completed 11th grade by the end of May/June 2027, have a GPA in good standing and have at least one full semester remaining in your senior year of high school. Boys State is the Premier Youth Leadership Program in Florida, so please give careful thought to your answers. Feel free to attach your resume or use an additional sheet of paper for your responses. This application will be used by your local American Legion Post for your interview.

Full Name _____ Preferred Name _____

Residence Address _____

Email Address _____ Cell Phone _____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) _____

Parent Cell Phone _____ Parent Email Address _____

Unweighted GPA _____

List leadership activities in your school and community along with positions you have held in each activity, e.g., VP of student government, secretary of honor society, first chair in horn section, captain of soccer team, assistant editor of newspaper/yearbook, assistant patrol leader in Scouts, etc.:

_____

_____

_____

_____

List all community projects you have participated in at your school and community, e.g., built home for Habitat for Humanity, cleared trash from roadway, provided music program in retirement center, community food drive, etc.:

_____

_____

_____

_____

What are your plans following high school graduation, i.e., college, work, military, etc.?

_____

_____

_____

_____

If you were Governor of Florida for a day, what is one thing you would do to improve your state?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

I CERTIFY that I am currently a Junior enrolled in a Florida High School, Homeschool, or Private School and that the above information is correct. If selected I will be able to attend the full week of Florida American Legion Boys State June 20-26, 2027.

Student Signature: _____

This application has my approval: _____

[Signature of Parent or Guardian]

Interviews

After the school has submitted its recommendations, with the applications filled out for each student, set up an interview date. You should have a committee of at least 3 people to help with this process. **Remember, you, NOT THE SCHOOLS, need to select your Delegates and Alternates.**

The face-to-face interview, along with the application, should help you determine if this is the kind of young man who has the necessary qualities and qualifications to represent his school, community, and your Post at Boys State.

With interviewing young adults, we must be careful on what is said and asked during the interviews. Here are some Do's and Don'ts to how the interview should be conducted.

Dos

- You should let them know there are NO religious requirements, but the Legion tradition of God and Country will be followed.
- Let them know that they will be learning more about their government in a "learning by doing" environment. This is not a military or athletic camp.
- Tell them that they may have the opportunity to meet leaders of state government, law enforcement agencies, the military, and political parties, and will hold sessions in the House and Senate Chambers and the Supreme Court.

Don'ts

It is the Director's policy that the following line of questioning is inappropriate and SHOULD NOT be used to determine consideration for Boys State:

- Religion
- Political Party Affiliation
- Race
- Color
- National Origin
- Birthplace
- Disabilities/Health
- Economic Status
- Any/All of the Above for their Parents

Suggested Interview Questions

These questions aim to elicit thoughtful responses that provide insights into a candidate's character, leadership potential, and understanding of civic responsibility.

Welcome and Congratulations on being nominated to go to Florida American Legion Boys State. Post #_____ will be selected _____ number of Delegates to attend and _____ number of Alternates who will be able to attend if a Delegate spot opens up. Please answer all questions honestly.

1. What accomplishments are you most proud of and why?

2. What are you interested in learning more about government and the judicial process?

3. If selected, you may have the opportunity to meet the Governor of Florida and other leaders of our state government, and hold sessions in the House and Senate Chambers at the Capitol. Why is this something you would like to do?

4. Can you share a specific example of a time when you demonstrated leadership in your school or community?

5. Who is the Mayor of our city? _____

6. Have you: Visited City Hall _____ Observed a Court in session _____
   Observed a City Hall Meeting _____

7. What is the name of:
   The County School Superintendent? _____
   The County Commission Chairman? _____
   Your two Senators? _____
   Your Congressman? _____

8. As a delegate, you represent The American Legion and the youth of your state and will be living and working with people you may have never encountered before. Will you conduct yourself respectfully to other Delegates and Boys State Counselors?

9. After returning from Boys State, will you agree to speak before our Post and assist with finding other young men in your school to participate in the program?

10. When did you hear about Boys State and what interested you in it?

11. Tell me about a time when you did not get along with a team or project member – how did you deal with the situation and what was the end result of the project?

12. What do you hope to get out of your experience at Boys State?

13. How do you define civic responsibility and why is it important for young people to be actively engaged in their community?

14. If you were elected to a leadership position at Boys State, what specific goals would you set for yourself and your fellow citizens during your term?

15. What role do you believe young people play in shaping the future of our country and how can programs like Boys State contribute to that development?

16. How do you stay informed about current events and political issues, and why do you think it's important for young people to be well-informed citizens?

17. In your opinion, what qualities make an effective leader and how do you embody or strive to embody these qualities?

18. How do you envision applying the knowledge and experiences gained at Boys State to your future academic and career pursuits?

19. If you have to address a group of peers on an important issue, what topic would you choose and what message would you convey?

District Activities

- Transportation AND Orientations are arranged by the Boys State District Chair. Make sure you get this information from your District Chair and pass it along to your Delegates and Alternates!
- Transportation is arranged on a District-wide basis. Putting together transportation for the District requires a lot of effort on the part of the District Chair and a lot of communication and cooperation on the part of the Post Chairs.
- Posts that sponsor Delegates to Boys State MUST also pay for that Delegate's transportation fee, even if you cannot find a Delegate, your Post sponsors an Alternate from another District, or your Delegate does not attend at the last minute.
- Attend all District Boys State Meetings.
- Inform your District Chair of the number of students your Post is sponsoring.
- Orientation: Be sure you, your Delegates, your Alternates, and their parents attend – this is where they will learn more about the program and get the transportation information. If for some reason, they are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to pass along all information and ensure they are aware of the pick-up/drop-off times and locations!

Registration Packet

Delegate and Alternate registration packets will be emailed to you in January. Your email will have the following attachments:

- Delegate and Alternate registration packets (one for each of your Delegates and Alternates). Packets include:
    - Welcome Letter with *individualized Delegate and Alternate registration numbers*.
    - Registration Process/Instructions.
    - Program Information.
    - Citizen Questionnaire.
    - Lance Cpl. Aviles Scholarship Form.
    - Samsung Scholarship Form.
    - Packing List.
    - Medical Waiver. This form must be notarized and IS THE ONLY PHYSICAL FORM THAT MUST BE SUBMITTED.
- Post Chair Instructions and Information Sheet – READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS.

Registration is ONLINE. It is the responsibility of the Delegate and Alternate to register themselves for Florida American Legion Boys State. To make this process easier, make an appointment with the Delegate/Alternate and their parents to come to the Post and complete the online registration.

After they complete the initial registration, they and their parent will receive an email confirming their registration and giving them instructions on the next step of the process. The parent/guardian will receive a separate email containing the electronic forms once their child's initial registration has been reviewed. These electronic forms are necessary to their registration and include:

- Certificate of Eligibility.
- Transportation Form.
- Release of Claims and Liability.
- Media Release Form.
- Packing List.
- Photo Package Information.
- Medication Policy.

The medical waiver must be notarized and mailed to:

Florida American Legion Boys State
P.O. Box 547859
Orlando, FL 32854-7859

PLEASE DO NO WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE! There are several steps in the registration process and of course a number of events in spring that may interfere if you or the Delegate/Alternate wait too long. Delegates and Alternates WILL be dropped from the program if they do not complete the registration by the 18 March deadline. Too many other arrangements of the program depend on getting the registration completed in time.

The deadline for completed Delegate & Alternate Registration is March 19, 2027

Scholarships

****this list is not exhaustive – many others are added throughout the year***

Samsung Scholarship

- Scholarships are awarded based on academic record, involvement in school and community activities, and financial need. Applicants are eligible if they are high school juniors, are selected to attend Boys State or Girls State, and are direct decedents (e.g., child, grandchild, great-grandchild etc. Stepchildren and legally adopted children are considered a direct

descendant) of a U.S. veteran who served during a period of war.
For those who are eligible, please make sure you assist them in properly filling out the application or acquiring necessary paperwork to attach to this application. It is a time-consuming process, so express to them the need to start early and get the required documents from their school before it closes for the summer break.

Lance Corporal Andrew J. Aviles Scholarship

- Boys State Delegates must submit the scholarship coversheet (included in their registration packet) and a written essay to their City Counselor upon arriving at Boys State. Selected individuals will then interview before the scholarship committee. Two Delegates will be selected by Florida State University to receive the scholarship which covers the full cost for tuition for four years at FSU.

Bob & Gail Knight Scholarship

- Through the generosity of Bob and Gail Knight, a scholarship of $500.00 is awarded to the runner-up of the Samsung Scholarship using the same criteria required by the Samsung Scholarship.

Northern Area Scholarship

- This $1,000.00 scholarship is awarded to one Delegate from either the Samsung Scholarship or Lance Cpl. Aviles Scholarship group of applicants who does not win either of those scholarships.

Rick Davison Scholarship

- Through the generosity of Rick Davison, a scholarship of $500.00 is awarded to one Delegate from either the Samsung Scholarship or Lance Cpl. Aviles Scholarship group of applicants who does not win either of those scholarships.

Ryan & Kylene Gay Scholarship

- Through the generosity of Ryan & Kylene Gay, a scholarship of $500.00 is awarded to an outstanding citizen who serves in the Boys State Press Corps.

Mrs. Darcy Scholarship

- Through the generosity of Darcy Sisson, a scholarship of $500.00 is awarded to one Delegate from either the Samsung Scholarship or Lance Cpl. Aviles Scholarship group of applicants who does not win either of those scholarships.