

*Established in 1940*



*The American Legion Evergreen Boys State*

# Evergreen Boys State

## Post Chairman's and Recruiters Handbook

[www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org)

# The American Legion Department of Washington Evergreen Boys State Incorporated

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# The History of The American Legion Boys State

## What is Boys State (Nationally)

As a program of The American Legion, Boys State developed from the concept that our youth should be offered a better perspective of the practical operation of government; that the individual is an integral part and commensurately responsible for the character and success of his government. As such, it is an activity of high educational value, born out of a need for youth training in practical citizenship.

American Legion Boys State is easily classified as a leadership action program where qualified male high school juniors take part in a practical government course designed to develop in the young citizens a working knowledge of the structure of government and to impress upon them the fact that government is just what they make it.

## How and Why Boys State Started

Boys State was born of a desire to counter the Fascist inspired Young Pioneer Camps of the 1930s, where boys of high school age were being taught that democracy had outworn its usefulness and should be replaced by a new form of government, namely Fascism.

The Boys State program was formulated in the minds of Legionnaires Hayes Kennedy and Harold Card, both educators and both members of The American Legion of Illinois. It was their desire to start a counter movement within the ranks of American youth that would develop a better understanding of our system of government, and to instill in our youth a desire to preserve it. The format for Boys State was laid out by Harold Card and fashioned from a method employed by him in earlier years to properly police and organize a Boy Scout camp. Shorthanded on staff, he permitted the boys to govern themselves, hold an election and elect a mayor and a city council. Appointments were made to cover positions like police, fire, health and sanitation officials. Harold Card quickly found that the boys became so enthused in carrying out their 'city' duties, they almost neglected their Scout assignments. The boys were learning by doing.

The first Boys State was conducted at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, Springfield, Illinois, in June 1935. Now, many years later, the program is still providing that opportunity to young men . . . to learn by doing, and through this time well over one million young men have experienced American Legion Boys State. Though Fascism no longer poses a threat in today's world, our way of life is still threatened by forms of government alien to our democratic ideals, and by apathy among our own citizens. The American Legion continues to sponsor and to conduct Boys State in the belief that young citizens who are familiar with the operation of our system of government will be better prepared to uphold its ideals and maintain it for future generations

## Definitions and Terms

**The American Legion** - The American Legion is the world's largest Veterans organization. It started in 1919 at the end of World War One, and now has over 2,800,000 members Nationwide.

**The Department of Washington** - The Washington State organization of The American Legion at [www.walegion.org](http://www.walegion.org)

**The American Legion Post** - The local group in the organization known as The American Legion

**The American Legion Evergreen Boys State Incorporated** - An Americanism program of the American Legion Department of Washington

**The American Legion Evergreen Boys State Foundation** - A non-profit public foundation for the sole purpose of the solicitation and management of trust funds for the Evergreen Boys State program

**The American Legion Evergreen Boys State Alumni Association** - An association of Past Citizens, parents of Past Citizens, and Support Staff joined to support The American Legion Evergreen Boys State program through the Evergreen Boys State Foundation

**Student - Candidate** - A young man interested in attending The American Legion Evergreen Boys State program

**Nominations** - Usually made by a staff member of a high school or an organization with an interest in a young man attending the American Legion Evergreen Boys State.

**Selections** - Are made **only** by a local American Legion Post, or the Evergreen Boys State Director.

**Sponsor - Contributor** - The American Legion Post, a group, organization or someone providing funds to **pay the Tuition Fee** for a student to attend The American Legion Evergreen Boys State

**Student's Tuition Fee** - \$275.00, usually paid by a sponsoring organization. **MUST** accompany the completed registration form (Only funds refundable see text)

**Application** – Hard copy from Post Chairmen, or downloaded on line, also application may be submitted on line and will be forwarded to a chairman for processing.

**Registration Fee** - In addition to the Tuition Fee, a \$125 Registration Fee will be **paid by the Citizens at program registration in Ellensburg at Central Washington University.** (Non-refundable)

**Citizen of Evergreen Boys State** is a student that has been sworn as a citizen of the **State of Evergreen.**

**Citizen Pre-Program Instructions** - Students Instruction on the web page, available when the selection process is completed by the local American Legion Post, at [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org)

**Evergreen Boys State Registration** form will be available from Post Chairmen and Recruiters as well as on the web site.

**Scholarship Information** - Samsung American Legion Scholarship information as well as all other scholarship applications will be provided in the on line information at [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org)

**Medical Insurance** - Information will be outlined in the **Students Instructions**

**Visitor** - Anyone, not a member of the Staff or a Citizen of Evergreen Boys State, who wishes to attend The American Legion Evergreen Boys State. (**Visitors Welcome**, see text)

# Evergreen Boys State Program Goals and Objectives

A program of this scope encompasses many important objectives. Those which we, The American Legion, feel are most important and those we strive the hardest are:

To develop civic leadership and pride in young American citizenship.

It is our earnest hope that each young man attending Evergreen Boys State will return to his community a better citizen. We desire to arouse in him, a personal desire to demonstrate this fact by his willingness to make civic contributions that will help to make his community a better place in which all may live.

To arouse a keen interest in the detailed study of our government.

Here we desire to create more than just a passive interest in the actual study of government; we strive to create an interest that will be born of the desire for knowledge.

To develop an understanding of American traditions and belief in the United States of America.

Here we desire to impress upon the young men the glorious traditions which have made this country what it is today. To demonstrate freedom is maintained by the labors of those who believe in building a better Country.

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

This we attempt to accomplish in many ways but primarily by bringing them into the full realization of how wonderful it is to be an American!

The final two objectives are taken 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."

# The American Legion Evergreen Boys State

## PROGRAM PURPOSES

The American Legion Evergreen Boys State is a plan for training young men in the functional aspects of citizenship. It is a program of education conducted by The American Legion, Department of Washington. Its purpose is to teach the youth of today constructive attitudes toward the American form of government. The American Legion Evergreen Boys State shows that our scheme of government has not outworn its usefulness; all a republic needs is an intelligent citizenry, and an honest and impartial administration responsive to the will of the people.

It is a practical school of government, a program of education by participation - showing the part each person can play within our system of government.

## PROGRAM

The American Legion Evergreen Boys State is conducted on a "**learn by doing**" basis whereby the selected Citizens practice the procedures and operations of the various branches of city, county and state government, political parties, and a state legislature. The program is aimed at developing a more active and intelligent interest in the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of citizenship. It is a workshop of democracy in action.

The method of teaching at The American Legion Evergreen Boys State is to have the youthful citizens form and operate twelve fictitious cities, four counties, and one state; form and operate two fictitious political parties; conduct all local and state law enforcement as well as the judicial systems; form and conduct a bicameral state legislature. The constitution, statutes and codes of the State of Washington are used as the pattern for building the structure of Evergreen Boys State.

Citizens of The American Legion Evergreen Boys State will use knowledge already acquired regarding political machinery, parliamentary procedure, law enforcement systems, courts and legislative operation, etc., and will gain additional knowledge from the Staff while performing the actual functions of office holders. Each Citizen also is provided with text materials that will be used both during and after The American Legion Evergreen Boys State to explain the various branches and procedures.

As he registers, each Citizen is **assigned** to an Evergreen Boys State "**city**" and to a "**political party**". Such assignments are made to insure equal participation in all branches of government and political parties requiring each Citizen to stand on his own by meeting and working with Citizens from all areas of Washington State. Evergreen Boys State cities are named after Washington trees; counties after mountain ranges or water bodies, the state is named "**Evergreen**"; the parties are the "**Federalists**" and "**Nationalists**".

The curriculum calls for city governments to be formed first. Political parties are then formed, county and state conventions are convened, and each student becomes a Citizen. Aspirants to city, county and state political office's file and campaign individually, through their respective political parties. Primary and general elections are held; inaugural ceremonies are conducted, then following the installation of all officers, all branches of the city, county and state government function.

Instructors, who by experience know the functions and procedures of state government and its political subdivisions, guide and coach the youthful citizens. They are careful, however, to allow the Citizens to function by themselves. The aim and purpose of The American Legion Evergreen Boys State is thus attained - to let the Citizens live the process.

From this practical school of government, the young citizen has the opportunity to learn for himself that his government is just what he makes it. He learns the part each must play under our system of government, each can run for office, each can vote for the candidate of his choice, also each has a voice and a part in shaping the policies of his government.

## **EVERY CITIZEN HAS A DEFINITE AND INTEGRAL PART IN THE PROGRAM.**

### **NON-PARTISAN**

The American Legion Evergreen Boys State is **non-partisan, non-sectarian and non-military**. Problems will be considered without reference to any existing political party, and will be free from propaganda. The sole purpose is to enable the populace to grasp the meaning of some of the responsibilities he will be called upon to assume, when he becomes an adult.

It should be clearly understood that selection and assignment of the Citizens to parties is in no way connected with existing political parties in Washington. They are purely mythical and none of the principles typifying any of the existing parties will be assigned to the parties in Evergreen Boys State.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

**Citizens must be JUNIORS IN HIGH SCHOOL**. Citizens must be (male) 15 to 18 years of age and must **not** have attended any previous Boys State. Candidates who have attended college or who have not completed the 11th grade will not be accepted. Running Start is considered a High School program for eligibility purposes. It is felt that the greatest good can be obtained from High School Juniors, since they will return home to offer leadership in their school and community during their senior year.

**APPLICATIONS FOR CANDIDATES THAT DO NOT MEET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS WILL BE RETURNED TO THE SPONSOR.**

**Selection of all CITIZENS is the responsibility of the local American Legion Post.** The method used should be based on fairness to every eligible candidate, the concept being the selection of the most representative Citizens available. The program is aimed at developing citizenship; therefore emphasis should be made to secure an all-around citizen leader. Selection should be based on the following five-point criteria: **CITIZENSHIP, LEADERSHIP, CHARACTER, SCHOLARSHIP, and SERVICE**. NOTE: Race or creed can have NO bearing on eligibility or selection.

**Select only Citizens who can stay for the full time.** The local American Legion Post must approve all Citizens.

**THE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY APPLICATION TO THE AMERICAN LEGION EVERGREEN BOYS STATE.** Once The American Legion Evergreen Boys State is in progress, the right is reserved for the Director or his designate to dismiss any Citizen for violation of rules of The American Legion Evergreen Boys State, regardless of sponsorship.

### **TIME AND PLACE**

The 2012 American Legion Evergreen Boys State program will be held on the campus of **Central Washington University** in Ellensburg, Washington, from **NOON, June 17<sup>th</sup> until NOON June 23<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Both dates and times are inclusive with NO EXCEPTIONS. THE FIRST MEAL WILL BE DINNER, SERVED SUNDAY EVENING, June 17<sup>th</sup>. Citizens should not arrive prior to noon June 17<sup>th</sup>, Registration will begin at Noon and ends at 2:00 PM on June 17<sup>th</sup> and the final session will close at Noon on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Housing and meals will not be provided prior to registration, or following the closing time.

### **TUITION and REGISTRATION FEES**

The **Tuition Fee of \$275.00** is to be paid by The American Legion. Individual, parent or guardians may make donations to the sponsoring local or State organizations for tuition scholarship fees. The fee covers all program costs, with the exception of a **\$125.00 REGISTRATION FEE to be paid in cash, at registration in Ellensburg, by each Citizen.**

## TRANSPORTATION:

**Transportation is NOT the responsibility of Evergreen Boys State Incorporated.**

**TRANSPORTATION**, to and from Evergreen Boys State is a local function. The local American Legion Post Recruiter's may arrange transportation for sponsored Citizens. It is a local responsibility to make transportation arrangements. It is suggested that arranged transportation be used and each Citizen and his parents be responsible for the cost of their own transportation. Information about local transportation arrangements may appear on the website.

## SPONSORSHIP

Early enrollment is imperative in order to assure qualified candidates of a reservation at The 2012 American Legion Evergreen Boys State session. Due to the advanced preparation that must be made, it is urgently requested that the **TUITION FEE** be filed with the: **American Legion Department of Washington, P. O. Box 3917, Lacey, WA 98509-3917, C/O Tom Conner, as soon as possible.** Fees submitted after May 1, 2012 will be accepted provided space is available. Make checks for sponsorship payable to: **The American Legion Evergreen Boys State Inc.**

The American Legion Department of Washington wishes to invite local civic, fraternal, educational, religious, labor and other compatible organizations to fund tuition scholarships for properly qualified young men. **All citizen selections must be made by an American Legion Post, or if a local American Legion Post can not be located, application may be made directly to the Evergreen Boys State Directors Office.** Emphasis should be made on filing the tuition attendance fees at once - **through the local American Legion Post** - in order to ensure a reservation. Experience has proven that the privilege of sponsorship is one that will be eagerly assumed as soon as the program is properly explained. The sponsor may be an individual, but an organization is preferred.

Reservations are accepted on first come - first serve basis and will not be held unless attendance fees are paid in full. **Upon his return home, every Citizen will be obligated to appear before his sponsoring organization and make a report to its members on his impressions of The American Legion Evergreen Boys State.**

## PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

A physical examination by a physician is NOT required. Applicants must meet normal health standards and complete the application questionnaire. Special needs Citizenship are accepted. However, any special considerations for these Citizens will be at the expense of the sponsoring organization or the citizen.

## STUDENT'S ATTENTION

**Any Citizen of The American Legion Evergreen Boys State, found to be using or in possession of intoxicants, tobacco products, illegal drugs, firearms, other weapons or explosives; gambling, destroying property, leaving the Evergreen Boys State Campus area without permission from the Director, or his designate, will be subject to immediate dismissal. He will be without recourse or refund and barred from further participation in the program.**

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR FREE TIME

Although there will be designated times for rest and relaxation, The American Legion Evergreen Boys State is **NOT A RECREATIONAL CAMP**. Citizens of Evergreen Boys State are not provided with time to participate in recreational activities. (No football, baseball, swimming or use of any University sports or recreational facilities). **The emphasis for FREE time is rest and relaxation.** Sponsoring groups are requested to note that The American Legion Evergreen Boys State **is in no sense a rehabilitative, disciplinary, or recreational camp.**

Evergreen Boys State is a scholastic Leadership program. Only candidates with outstanding qualifications in citizenship, leadership, character, scholarship and service, having a serious attitude toward an intensive citizenship-training program, should be selected.

## **HEALTH AND MEDICAL**

During Evergreen Boys State, first aid and or medical attention, if required, will be available. Every care will be taken to avoid accidents and prevent illness, but The American Legion Evergreen Boys State Inc. will not be responsible for either injuries or sickness should they occur. Local health care is available as required or requested.

## **INSTRUCTIONS for BOYS STATE Citizens**

**Citizen Instructions** - Complete Citizen Instructions will be on the web page [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org) (after May 1, 2012). Instructions will be mailed to each Citizen on how to access the web site information.

**The Registration form MUST be returned to the Evergreen Boys State Office with the \$275.00 Tuition fee. Return to address is on the form.**

## **SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION**

Applications and instructions for all scholarships will be provided on this **ONLY**. All scholarship applications **should be typed or word-processed** on the provided scholarship form.

The **Samsung American Legion Scholarship** requires certified information from high schools and family military records for eligibility. This scholarship is \$1000.00 awarded at Evergreen Boys State, with an additional chance for several Scholarships based on National American Legion Selection Committee. Dollar amount and total number of scholarships is based on **Samsung** endowment earnings.

**The Samsung Scholarship Application DEADLINE is the first (1<sup>st</sup>) City Meeting at Evergreen Boys State, in Ellensburg on June 17<sup>th</sup>.** No exceptions will be made for any reason, mailed or faxed applications are not accepted. Any further questions about scholarship instructions should sent to the Director's Office at: [director@EvergreenBoysState.org](mailto:director@EvergreenBoysState.org)

**Heintz Memorial Boys Nation Scholarships** will be selected at Evergreen Boys State. Two \$1000 scholarships awarded to the two Evergreen Boys State Citizens selected and attending The American Legion Boys Nation program. Attendance and completion of the Boys Nation program required.

**The Evergreen Boys State Foundation Scholarship** of \$1000 is awarded to the Elected Governor of the State of Evergreen. These funds were donated to the Foundation and managed for such scholarships. For more information on the Evergreen Boys State Foundation and how to donate, Contact the Evergreen Boys State Director.

**In 2008 the Harry L Easley Citizenship Scholarship was established.** Given to the Evergreen Boys State Citizen that most distinguishes himself during the week as a citizen of the State of Evergreen.

**City Citizenship Awards**, made to the outstanding citizen of each Evergreen Boys State city.

Daily Recognition Certificates, valued résumé builders.

# General Information for attending The American Legion Evergreen Boys State

All Student Information will be delivered to the selected student via the Internet at [WWW.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://WWW.EvergreenBoysState.org) After the Evergreen Boys State Registration form is completed and funding is in the office, but not prior to April 15, 2012.

## What to Bring to Evergreen Boys state

**Required Personal items to bring to Evergreen Boys State** An Alarm Clock, Toiletry Articles: soap, deodorant, wash cloth, 2 bath towels, drinking cup, toothpaste, toothbrush, and shaving supplies. (Being clean-shaven or neatly trimmed is required). **Bring:** Clothes hangers, plastic bags for your soiled laundry and damp articles. **You may wish to bring:** Stationary, postage stamps, and an inexpensive camera, and sunglasses.

**NOTE - Bring Glasses,** if you are a contact lens wearer, you must know that the wind blows frequently in Ellensburg. Airborne particulate is a constant source of eye irritation. Bring extra cleaning solution. Please feel free to bring religious material for your own personal use.

**The American Legion Evergreen Boys State will not be responsible for your personal property.**

**Be prepared for temperatures from 40 to 95 degrees F, with wind and rain.**

Citizens will be living in a **college campus casual business setting**, and will be expected to dress appropriately at all times. During the program Citizens will aspire to become elected to high office within the State of Evergreen. You will be expected to dress in a manner as to which you would expect your public officials to dress in similar circumstances. In assuming your high office, you will assume the dress responsibilities of your position, as required by program circumstances.

## Dress Codes

Code "C" Casual clothing that will be worn to most program events. (80% of your time)

Code "D" Dress clothing that will be required for at least 3 program events. **(Opening, Banquet, and Closing Ceremonies or at any time you wish to be on stage and address your peers in the process of Evergreen Boys State.)**

Code "R" Rest and Relaxation clothing, (10% of your time)

## Definitions:

### **Code "C" Casual Clothing**

Bring casual attire. Evergreen Boys State casual attire is considered to be long pants, (jeans, Dockers type, slack style) Dress or semi dress shirts, and sweaters are fine.

**No** Tee shirts that advertise any of The American Legion Evergreen Boys State restricted products, no gang shirts or colors, no inappropriate comment shirts. No grubby clothing, no old military clothing. Dress walking shorts, (knee length with hem, not sports or athletic style shorts) and appropriate shirt will be allowed for casual warm weather dress. Sweatshirts in original purchase condition may be worn during appropriate casual dress time periods. Bring a casual jacket, and or sweaters for evening dress.

Bring an appropriate amount of underclothing, and extra socks.

Bring casual comfortable shoes you will be doing a great deal of walking.

**You must bring slippers or shower shoes. You will not be allowed to go barefoot at any time, inside or outside of the dorm rooms or buildings.**

### **Code "D" Dress Clothing Required for semi-formal situation.**

There are 3 meetings that will require dress clothing. **Any time you are on the stage with specific program duties**, dress clothing will be required. As you campaign for higher political office, dress

clothing required. Bring more than one dress shirt, slacks or dress pant, tie, sports coat or business suit, and dress shoes.

### **Code “R” Rest and Relaxation, Free time dress.**

This will be the **only time** that sweats, gym or sports clothes of all types will be allowed. Gym clothes, workout clothing, athletic clothing, are allowed during free activities time **ONLY**.

**Shirts must be worn outside of the building at all times.**

### **Citizen room keys and lost key fee**

Citizens will be issued a key for their room. All rooms will be shared with other Citizens and should NOT be considered secure at any time. If a Citizen should lose their room key, they **will pay a \$50 lost key fee**. Each Citizen **will be accountable for payment of the lost key fee before obtaining another key or before leaving the campus for home. Parents may be contacted for credit card information.**

### **Money**

Because of the registration fee arrangement, a Citizen has need for a small amount of cash money. The American Legion Evergreen Boys State tee shirts are provided to all Citizens. The Evergreen Boys State Store will be available to Citizens during week if they are interested sodas and snacks.

### **Electronic Equipment**

The American Legion Evergreen Boys State **will not be responsible** for any lost personal electronic equipment of any kind. Miniature music pods and similar devices will not be allowed outside of Citizen's personal rooms. It is suggested they are not brought. **Laptop computers** are useful for Citizens and will be allowed for word and data processing only. However the American Legion Evergreen Boys State will not be responsible for lost or stolen equipment. **Cell Phones will not be allowed in meetings during the week.** Evergreen Boys State will not be responsible for any lost or stolen cell phones. Cell Phones will only be allowed during meal and free time, morning and evenings. **Jewelry**, do not bring anything of value. The American Legion Evergreen Boys State **will not be responsible** for any lost personal articles, clothing, jewelry, or money. The American Legion Evergreen Boys State is not a banking service, **we will not check in, or hold any item for safe keeping.**

### **Insurance Information**

Every precaution is taken to avoid accident and sickness at The American Legion Evergreen Boys State. Participants who do not already have group accident / sickness / medical insurance coverage, are insured under a group policy underwritten by Sentry Insurance. The Sentry policy is in excess coverage, to any other valid and collectable group insurance plan. (This exclusion does not apply to individual accident and sickness policies.) Should an unforeseen need arise for this insurance program, more detailed information will be sent directly to you at that time by The American Legion Evergreen Boys State.

### **Emergency Citizen Contact during program week**

The telephone number of The Evergreen Boys State Office may be obtained through Central Washington University Conference Center at **1-509-963-1141** any time. Emergency messages will be forwarded to the Director, 24 hours a day. (The above number may change; consult the website for the numbers to use during the Evergreen Boys State week, [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org) .

### **Citizen Mailing Address**

C/O: The American Legion Evergreen Boys State  
Central Washington University Conference Center, Ellensburg, WA 98926

## **National High School Oratorical Programs**

### **“A Constitutional Speech Contest”**

Evergreen Boys State “A Constitutional Speech Contest” is a scaled down simulation of this Nation Scholarship Contest. The program is conducted to give those interested a chance to exercise their speaking talents.

### **Doing well at Evergreen Boys State requires some study and HOMEWORK**

The Citizen’s Manual will be available on the Web site for preview. It is strongly suggested each citizen do so.

Study parliamentary procedure.

You will have the opportunity to run for public office at the city, county and state levels of government, including the judicial system. You would be well advised to make personal contact with as many publicly elected officials as possible, find out how they do their jobs.

Study your local political party system. Contact the local members of political parties and ask them what they do and how the political party system works in your area.

Familiarize yourself with current political issues via television news, newsmagazines, and newspapers. Computer news services provide excellent political news.

### **Mandatory homework**

Know your Glossary of Terms. (Material provided)

Study how a bill becomes a law. (Online material provided)

**Write a Bill.** (Use the Bill form provided, remember to use proper bill enacting clauses)

Review the Citizens Manual prior to arrival. (Web site material provided)

### **Parents Day, College Fair and Closing Ceremonies**

The American Legion Evergreen Boys State Parent Day, College Fair and Closing Ceremonies will be at approximately 8:00 a.m. Saturday (**subject to revision**). The Parent Day is open to the families of Citizens, members of all sponsoring organizations, and the interested public. A breakfast meal will require an admittance fee including meal as charged by the university. Tickets for the public may be charged online for entrance.

**Citizens will have a City Meeting obligation following Closing Ceremonies.** Evergreen Boys State Certificates and Pins will not be awarded to those not attending the last City Meeting Saturday morning.

**Do not indicate to a Citizen's family or offer any expectations that a Citizen may be released early for any reason.**



# Evergreen Boys State Eligibility and Selection

The American Legion Department of Washington Evergreen Boys State Executive Board has established the below qualifications and eligibility guidelines for prospective Evergreen Boys State citizens.

- **Only males** who have successfully completed their junior year of high school and have at least one more semester of high school remaining are to be considered Qualified Students for Evergreen Boys State. Anyone who has previously attended a Boys State is not eligible to attend a second session. Only boys with outstanding qualities of leadership, character, scholarship, loyalty and service to their communities and schools should be considered for Evergreen Boys State.
- The selection process varies within the state of Washington, but generally the **school's junior class advisors** or other instructor make recommendations of qualified young men. The **sponsor pays for the program tuition**, the **local American Legion Post**, then **selects their representatives** from those recommendations. All applicants must be selected and approved by a local American Legion Post Chairman, Commander or a local American Legion Evergreen Boys State Post Chairman.
- All fees, or the 'tuition', are paid through the local American Legion Posts, and may be paid by other community-minded organizations and individuals as a scholarship to the Students.
- Selected young men or their parents will be responsible for a \$125 registration fee.
- In the actual selection of young men as Citizens of Evergreen Boys State, merit and ability alone are the basis for selection. No boys are permitted to attend because of either poverty or wealth. Boys State is not a program for underprivileged or troubled youth, nor is it a summer camp for recreation.
- The American Legion Evergreen Boys State is in compliance with federal handicap laws. Should a student have special needs, The American Legion Evergreen Boys State may require a medical/parental assistant and a consent certificate signed by a parent and a registered doctor. All extra expenses for any existing medical needs that may be incurred by The American Legion Evergreen Boys State will be the responsibility of the sponsor or the parents.

# Prospective Boys State Citizens Profile

The following characteristics should be used as a **guideline** for Post Chairmen when selecting students to attend Evergreen Boys State. Selection of delegates to the program is not a competitive process to compare students against each other. Rather each student should be evaluated on his own merit to determine if he would be a good fit for the program. There is no limit to the number of students a Post may select to attend.

## **Characteristic Profile of Prospective Evergreen Boys State Citizens**

- He must have an understanding of what the program is about and must have a “Desire to attend”, The American Legion Evergreen Boys State program.
- He should have a positive attitude about life, and must be a good citizen.
- He should have a 2.5 or higher Grade Point Average.
- He must have a positive recommendation from his High School Counselor, Advisor, Teacher or Principal.
- He must have completed the eleventh grade (junior year) of high school and be returning to his high school the following year as a senior.
- He must NOT have attended any previous Boys State Program.

## **Other General Characteristics (Optional)**

- He is patriotic. He has a positive attitude about participating in his Community, State and Nation.
- He has an involvement in community service and youth activities outside of school such as Scouting, YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, 4H, FFA, Church, and other service organization youth programs.
- He has involvement, and participation in school activities, such as student government, clubs, class projects, school annuals, newspapers and sports.
- He exhibits leadership or potential leadership skills. He has good moral and ethical standards. He is poised and presents himself well.
- He is motivated and has immediate as well as life goals. He is ready to take his ACT or SAT exams. He is planning for his higher education, and has started scholarship searches.
- He is or has been employed.
- If an individual has an American Legion affiliation, he should be given special consideration for selection.

# The American Legion Department of Washington Evergreen Boys State Selection Evaluation Guidelines

This evaluation tool is offered as guidance for the Recruiters. The evaluation process remains at the discretion of the individual Post Selection Committees. This is offered only as a guideline to assist in your selection process.

The Evergreen Boys State Director

Name of candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

It is recommended that scoring be on a 10-point basis. 1 being unacceptable, 5 being average, and 10 showing high understanding, each group should have one spokesman to ask the questions and give information about the program. All committeemen should score each applicant at the same time. **Selection Process** of 10 to 15 minutes for each candidate.

## Observations

1. The Registration Form itself can tell you a lot. Is the Registration Form properly filled out? Is it legible? Is it downloaded on to 4 pages and on appropriate paper? Are all appropriate signatures in the proper spaces and are they identifiable as the appropriate individuals? **(Score \_\_\_)**
2. Personal appearance - How is he dressed? Is he well groomed? *(Taking into consideration current fashion styles and fads)* Do they appear to fit into what should be considered as normal high school student dress? Are they respectful to you as an adult, and the adults around them? *(Have you created an atmosphere of respect for them to react to?)* **(Score \_\_\_)**
3. Are parents present at the selection process? **(Y/N)** *(Parents should be invited to student interviews.)*

## **Important Teaching Questions**

1. How did you find out about Evergreen Boys State? What do you think you do at Evergreen Boys State? Why do you think you should be selected and sponsored to attend Evergreen Boys State? **(Score \_\_\_)**
2. **Can you stay for the entire week if selected?** (June 17th, 2012 through June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012, noon till noon is required) If the answer to this question is **NO**, explain the requirements, and then end the interview.  
**The only answer is YES.**

## **Student General Information**

3. What school activities are you involved in? **(Score \_\_\_)**
4. What activities are you involved in outside of school? **(Score \_\_\_)**
5. What is your high school GPA? (Grade Point Average) **(Score \_\_\_)**
6. What have you considered doing after high school? College, Military, job, Etc. **(Score \_\_\_)**
7. Have you applied for any scholarships? (Most high school Juniors have not) **(Score \_\_\_)**
8. Are you going to apply for Evergreen Boys State Scholarships? **(Y/N)**
9. Define leadership? What leadership activities are you involved in? **(Score \_\_\_)**
10. Define Patriotism? Have you ever been involved in any patriotic activities? **(Score \_\_\_)**
11. Explain Citizenship? Are you a good Citizen? **(Score \_\_\_)**
12. Have you ever been involved in student government? **(Score \_\_\_)**
13. Are you a good representative of your school? **(Score \_\_\_)**
14. **Is the student capable of internet use and able to down load and print files from the Evergreen Boys State website [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org) ?**

## **Committee Scored Questions** (scored after interview)

15. Is this the kind of student that is representative of our local school district? **(Y/N)**
16. Is this student willing to be part of Boys State and work within the system of the program? **(Y/N)**
17. Is this the student that I want to represent me, his school, and the membership of our Post? **(Y/N)**
18. Is this student going to be disruptive and influence others to follow his disruptive characteristics? **(Y/N)**

**YES, I recommend we send this student to Evergreen Boys State.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Total Score \_\_\_\_\_

## **Getting College Credit**

Evergreen Boys State is now offering 4 transferable freshman elective credits for attending The American Legion Evergreen Boys State. The credits are at the expense of the student and are not included in the Evergreen Boys State program sponsor fee or the registration fee.

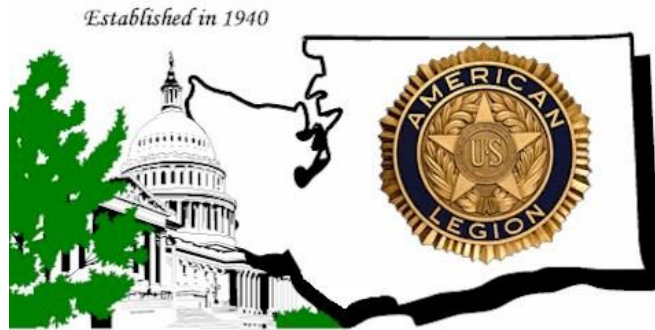
A complete course description and on-line registration instructions are available on the college credit website below.

**Boys & Girls State Summer Leadership Credits sponsored by the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, RTG & Associates, Inc. and the College Options Foundation**

### **Getting College Credit is the Students responsibility**

Evergreen Boys State provides the opportunity the student must apply, pay for and complete the course requirements in a timely manner.

**All information is posted on the [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org) website**



*The American Legion Evergreen Boys State*  
**DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON**  
Evergreen Boys State  
Personnel Duties and Responsibilities

**District Chairmen**

1. Prior to 1 February, ensure that Department Chairman has your correct contact information; Name, Address, Phone and/or Cell number, Email address.
2. Prior to 1 February contact each Post Commander and get contact information on each Post Boys State Chairman.
3. Ensure that Post Chairmen know and understand their duties
4. Attend District Conferences
5. Attend all Boys State related functions in District
6. Help funnel Boys State student applications to Post Chairmen
7. Assist Post Chairmen as required
8. Serve on Evergreen Boys State, Incorporated Board of Directors

**Post Chairmen**

1. During January/February, contact all High Schools in Post service area and ensure they are aware of Evergreen Boys State. Ensure that schools have flyers/materials and contact information.
2. Identify each High School contact person and inform District Chairman  
(May be Principal, Counselor, Teacher, Librarian, Coach, etc)
3. Arrange for someone to speak about Boys State at schools during fall or winter.
4. If necessary organize fund raiser to sponsor one or more students
5. Make delegate selection and submit forms and fees to Department no later than May 2
6. Promote/Share program information with other community organizations to build awareness and goodwill for the American Legion

# Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

## Frequently Asked Questions - By Teachers

### **What is Evergreen Boys State?**

Evergreen Boys State provides a relevant, interactive, problem-solving experience in leadership and teamwork that develops self-identity, promotes mutual respect and instills civic responsibility. We accomplish this through a mock-government built and led by the students in the program. Through the process, students can earn college-credit and scholarships, meet new friends, develop new skills and spend time on a college campus.

### **How can I get students from my school involved with the program?**

The easiest way is to simply have them come to the website and apply. You'll see on the right side of the top navigation bar a tab that says "Apply Now." All they have to do is fill out the easy form there and we'll help them from there. You can also send us the names, email address and phone numbers of students you think would be great for the program and we'll contact them. We are also more than happy to send a representative to your school to talk with a group of qualified students about the program and have them apply while we're there. If you would like to recommend students or have us visit your school you can email us from the website.

### **How many students from my school may attend?**

There is no limit to the number of students who may attend from a particular school. We have some schools that send as many as 15-20 students. Our goal is to accept and send as many students as are interested. As the American Legion and its community partners pay the tuition fees for all students attending, occasionally the number of students sent from a local community may be limited by the amount of funds available in a given year, but we work hard to send them all.

### **What are my responsibilities if students from my school attend?**

Really once your students apply and we begin the registration process with them, you don't need to do more. We mainly need your help in identifying students who are qualified and interested in the program and then helping us get them to apply. We may need your assistance identifying possible solutions in situations where your school may not be out for the summer by the time the program begins and students need special arrangements for things like testing. We may also call upon you to help us establish communication if we can't get in touch with the student for some reason.

### **What does it cost to attend?**

Program tuition fees are completely paid for by the American Legion and other supporting organizations. This covers all the meals and housing for the student for the week. Normally the only cost to students/parents is a \$125 registration fee. Students may sponsor their own tuition if selected by a Post. **See Page 5 of Registration Form.** Students can bring a small amount of money if they would like to buy snacks at the Boys State store (snacks and candy sold at cost rather than inflated vending machine prices) and there is traditionally a fun pizza party at the end of the week where students pool money to buy pizzas and soda in their city group. \$20 to \$25 should be more than enough for them to buy pizza, a couple snacks and have money left over. But again, they don't NEED to bring any money to the program. We take care of all meals and supplies while they are at the program.

### **I have a student who would be great for the program but his family cannot afford the \$125 registration fee. Are there options for this? See Page 5 of Registration Form.**

The simple answer is yes. We believe strongly that every qualified student who would like to attend

should have the opportunity regardless of his family's economic situation. Experience has also shown us, however, that students and parents are more committed to attending and participating if they have "buy in." So we won't guarantee a waiver of the fee, but we do have resources that we can direct students to for funding and we will work with these students on an individual basis to make sure this fee isn't the issue keeping them from participating. If this is a situation for one of our students, we would ask that you contact us, so we can begin working with him to find a solution.

### **How can students get college credit or earn a college scholarship?**

All information about college credits and scholarships is available on the Evergreen Boys State website. You can learn about the college credits by going to [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org). And you can learn about the college scholarships going to [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org). It should be noted that the Samsung Scholarship Application DEADLINE is the first (1st) City Meeting at Evergreen Boys State, in Ellensburg on June 17th. This is a very firm deadline and no exceptions will be made for any reason. Mailed or faxed applications are not accepted. Any further questions about scholarship instructions contact the program director's office at [Director@EvergreenBoysState.org](mailto:Director@EvergreenBoysState.org).

### **How can I get in touch with my local contact for the American Legion?**

One of the easiest ways is to contact the district program chairman and he will put you in contact with the appropriate person. You can find your district program chairman on the interactive map by going to [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org). Or you can also email the program director's office at [Director@EvergreenBoysState.org](mailto:Director@EvergreenBoysState.org).

### **Can I or other teachers visit and observe Evergreen Boys State?**

Sure. We welcome educators to see the program close up. We would only ask that you contact us and make arrangements ahead of time so we know you are coming. We know the more you understand about what happens here, the better equipped you are to promote the program to future classes of students.

## **Frequently Asked Questions - By Parents**

### **What is Evergreen Boys State?**

Evergreen Boys State provides a relevant, interactive, problem-solving experience in leadership and teamwork that develops self-identity, promotes mutual respect and instills civic responsibility. We accomplish this through a mock-government built and led by the students in the program. Through the process, students can earn college-credit and scholarships, meet new friends, develop new skills and spend time on a college campus.

### **If my son is not selected for program tuition fee sponsorship by a local post, may I pay for my son to attend the program?**

Participation in Evergreen Boys State is by invitation only through a selection and registration process. This process varies slightly throughout the state based on the needs of individual communities and the local American Legion Posts. Because the tuition fees are generally paid by the local American Legion Posts, or on occasion by another community organization, the number of students a local Post may invite to attend and pay for could be limited based on the amount of money available in a given year. **IF** your son is eligible to attend and otherwise meets all selection criteria of the local American Legion Post who has exhausted all other funds to send students, parents or grandparents may make a donation to the American Legion to cover the tuition fees for their son with the cooperation and agreement of the local Boys State Chairman or Recruiters. All donations by parents or Grandparents for a specific student are final and are not refundable. The tuition fees are \$275 in addition to the \$125 registration fee. Groups, organizations and other donors sponsoring

students through a local American Legion Post may **NOT** designate which student receives the funding.

### **What are the living arrangements?**

Students are housed in college dormitories. Rooms typically house two students, or sometimes three. On rare occasion you may end up in a single room, but we try to avoid that so students have an opportunity to have a "buddy" in the process. Rooms come with a closet/and dresser for each person and all the bed sheets and linen. Each floor of the building has multiple bathrooms and shower facilities that are shared by everyone on that floor.

### **What are the meals like?**

The food is generally very good. Meals are prepared by the **CWU** dining services and we eat in one of the dining halls on campus. All meals are cafeteria style and there are generally a couple of options of food at each meal, meals range from hamburgers and fries to chicken stir-fry to spaghetti with salads.

### **My son has special dietary needs. Can those be accommodated?**

Yes. CWU dining services is very good about working with students with special needs. On the Special needs section of the application please note requirements? (Top of page 2) At the start of the week during the first meal students with special needs will have an opportunity to check in with the head chef who will take note of the needs and make sure they are met. The student just needs to make sure to be clear about what he needs. This doesn't mean students who simply don't like something on the menu can request a special meal, but if there is a medical or dietary need for the student it can be taken care of. Special menu options are available to accommodate and should be noted on the medical form. Vegetarians, diabetics and those with allergies may be by prior arrangement on the medical form.

### **What kind of supervision does the program have for students?**

Part of our philosophy at Evergreen Boys State is to hold students accountable for their own actions in preparation for college or the next phase of their life, so we won't hand-hold or baby-sit students while they are at Evergreen Boys State. We do provide plenty of supervision for students during the program and we try to make our expectations of appropriate behavior very clear so ensure everyone has a good experience at the program. We have a staff of nearly 50 people and each staff member is assigned a small group to guide and supervise. Typically there are 2-3 staff members supervising around 25 students. The entire staff is also trained in emergency preparedness. We also work closely with CWU Police and security to ensure everyone's safety while on campus.

### **My son has a medical condition that you should know about, what should I do?**

You will fill out a 2 part medical information sections, as part of the registration process before your son arrives at the program. In part one (Page 2 of registration form) you should note any medical conditions there including special dietary needs. These may include things like asthma, allergies or prescription medications he is taking. Part 2 on page 3 of the Registration Form is for attending physicals that will need to keep that page as part of their records for permission to treat a condition or an emergency.

A physical examination by a physician is **NOT** required, but applicants must meet normal health standards and complete the application questionnaire. Special needs students are accepted, however, any special considerations for these students will be at the expense of the sponsoring organization or the Parents of the student.

### **Is medical care available while my son is at the program?**

Yes. We do not have a daily sick call; rather if your son is ill or injured he should notify his city

instructor. First aid and or medical attention, if required, will be available. Every care will be taken to avoid accidents and prevent illness, but The American Legion Evergreen Boys State Inc. will not be responsible for either injuries or sickness should they occur. Local health care is available as required or requested and in an emergency will be the first option.

### **Does the program carry insurance in case of injuries or accidents?**

Yes, we do have a supplemental insurance policy. This policy, however, is secondary to any personal medical insurance your family may have.

### **What is the policy towards drugs and alcohol?**

Quite simply they are not tolerated. Any student who is found using or in possession of drugs, alcohol or tobacco will be sent home immediately. Also, as CWU is covered by its own police department, we have in the past and are required to involve them, students may face criminal consequences. Students should also be aware that tobacco use of any kind is prohibited on CWU's campus and it is illegal to bring any weapons on campus.

### **How can my son get college credit or earn a college scholarship?**

All information about college credits and scholarships is available on the Evergreen Boys State website. You can learn about the college credits by clicking going on line to [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org) It should be noted that the Samsung Scholarship Application DEADLINE is the first (1st) City Meeting at Evergreen Boys State, in Ellensburg on June 19th. This is a very firm deadline and no exceptions will be made for any reason. Mailed or faxed applications are not accepted. Any further questions about scholarship instructions should to the Director's Office at: [director@EvergreenBoysState.org](mailto:director@EvergreenBoysState.org)

### **Can I come visit my son at Evergreen Boys State?**

Sure. There are just a couple rules, though. All visitors must check-in at the Boys State office prior to going to see students. Students must attend all assigned activities and functions. And, all visitors must stay in common areas of the assigned buildings - visitors are not allowed in dormitory bedrooms. The best option is for you to attend EBS Family Day.

### **How can I reach my son while he's at Evergreen Boys State**

Students may not be allowed to carry their cell phones with them to program functions, so during the day it may be hard to reach them on a cell phone. They can always call you back during their free time (typically breakfast, lunch, dinner or early morning and late at night). If it is an emergency you can always call the Boys State office. We will publish contact information for the office on our website once the program begins. If you would like to send a card or care package while your son is away we'll also publish the address once the program is running and we have that information.

### **When should I plan on picking my son up? (Parent Day, Education Fair)**

You can pick your son up at the end of the closing program on Saturday. The Parent Day, Education Fair and closing ceremonies are typically finished around 11 a.m. or slightly later. You are welcome all to attend the Parent Day, Education Fair and closing ceremonies. To attend this function you must make reservation on line and have tickets for breakfast. Citizens will not be allowed to leave until they are released by their city instructor and all business is finished. Please do not try to push them to leave early or they may loose all credit for the week.

### **What should my son bring with him to the program?**

He should plan on packing clothes for temperatures in the low 60's to the upper 90's. Early summer weather can be unpredictable and especially windy in Ellensburg. He'll want to make sure to have a comfortable pair of athletic shoes, as he'll be doing a lot of walking across the campus. Also make

sure to pack semi-formal business clothes, including a tie and possibly a sport coat, as there are several times through the week when he will be required to be in a shirt and tie. All bed sheets and linens are provided for the week, but he should plan on bringing a towel for the shower. It is also recommended that he bring some shower shoes/flip-flops. Make sure he brings toiletry items like toothpaste, shampoo, soap, shaving supplies, etc. If he would like to bring some snacks he can, but all meals will be provided and there is a small "**Boys State Store**" where he can buy candy, soda, cookies and other items at prices significantly below the dormitory vending machines.

## Frequently Asked Questions - **By Students**

### **When is Evergreen Boys State?**

Evergreen Boys State is held from Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, June 23<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington. Students attending are expected to be at the program from the time they check in between noon and 2 p.m. on Sunday, until dismissed on Saturday around 12 noon.

### **Can I arrive late to the program? Can I leave early?**

No. It is a very intense program and students must be committed to attending the entire time. You will be busy from the time you arrive until you leave and it is simply not fair to the other students who are there if they are having to carry an extra load because you didn't get all the information and materials you need because you were late or didn't complete the process by leaving early.

### **What should I bring with me to the program?**

You should plan on packing clothes for temperatures in the low 60's to the upper 90's. Early summer weather can be unpredictable and especially windy in Ellensburg. You'll want to make sure you have a comfortable pair of athletic shoes, as you'll be doing a lot of walking across the campus. Also make sure you pack semi-formal business clothes, including a tie and possibly a sport coat, as there are several times through the week when you will be required to be in a shirt and tie. All bed sheets and linens are provided for you while you for the week, but you should plan on bringing a towel for the shower. It is also recommended that you bring some shower shoes/flip-flops. Make sure you bring your toiletry items like toothpaste, shampoo, soap, shaving supplies, etc. If you would like to bring some snacks you can, but all meals will be provided for you and there is a small "Boys State Store" where you can buy candy, soda, cookies and other items at prices significantly below the dormitory vending machines.

### **Can I bring my laptop computer?**

Students have brought computers in the past to uses for various things. There are a few things you should know first, though. You will not have access to the internet while on campus. Also, you won't have access to a printer. We also want you to know that Evergreen Boys State can't take responsibility for your valuable items like a computer. The dorm rooms are very secure provided you follow the rules we've laid out to protect you, but it is a large campus with many different people who have access to the same buildings and spaces we use.

### **Can I bring my cell phone?**

Yes, BUT... You need to be aware of some basic rules for cell phones at Boys State that are strictly enforced. Cell phones are NOT to be brought to any program meeting/function/gathering. Cell phones may only be used in the student dormitories during student personal time (typically breakfast, lunch and dinner or early morning/late night). We understand that a cell phone is an easy way for you to stay in touch with your parents while you are away, but you need to understand that they are a huge distraction during the activity/function times of the program. SO only bring it if you are willing to follow

the rules. If you violate the rule and bring your phone to a session, it will be confiscated and held for you to claim in the Boys State office at the end of the week. The same rules also apply for things like I-Pods and personal video game devices.

### **Are there things I shouldn't bring?**

Yes, most definitely. DO NOT BRING drugs, alcohol or tobacco of any sort. If you are found with these items you will be sent home. Also, leave any item which may be construed as a weapon at home. This includes things like pocket knives, chains and teasers. Also, as mentioned above, don't bring any valuable items like jewelry, as we can not be responsible for their security 24/7.

### **Can I bring campaign materials from home or things I have made ahead of time?**

NO. We will supply you with all the materials you need for campaigning for whatever office you chose to run for. You'll understand a lot more about the process used at Boys State once you see it, and we want everyone to start on an even playing field. You may not even end up running for the office you think you will before you get there. Plus, one of the basic principles of Boys State is that the focus should always be on the learning the process rather than the end product. Leave pre-produced campaign materials at home.

### **How much money should I bring?**

You don't need to bring any money at all actually. We provide all meals and all the necessary supplies. You can bring a small amount of money if you would like to buy snacks at the Boys State store. Also, there is traditionally a fun pizza party at the end of the week where students pool money to buy pizzas and soda in their city group. \$20 to \$25 should be more than enough for you to buy pizza, a couple snacks and have money left over. But again, you don't NEED to bring any money.

### **Can I drive my car to Boys State?**

Yes, you can. You won't have access to it during the week, though. We will provide parking in a lot for you with a parking permit. Then during check-in you will turn in your car keys to the office after you've unloaded your luggage. You can pick up your keys at the end of the week after you've been dismissed to go home.

### **Can I leave campus during the week?**

No. As you can imagine it is a big enough task for the staff to keep track of security and safety for so many students, so you will not be allowed to leave the assigned campus area. You will have plenty of room to roam and wander on campus and students who like to jog in the morning can do that. And all your meals will be provided, so you won't have a need to go get food.

### **Will I have access to athletic facilities and the gym on campus?**

No. Costs of renting these facilities for our program and the associated insurance that is necessary makes it prohibitive. There are plenty of areas on campus that students can run or jog in the morning, if you would like to exercise.

### **What is the food like?**

The food is generally very good. Meals are prepared by the CWU dining services and we eat in one of the dining halls on campus. All meals are cafeteria style and there are generally a couple of options of food at each meal. You can have second and third helpings if you like; we just ask that you wait until everyone gets through the line at least once so that the folks at the end aren't waiting a long time to get food. Meals will range from hamburgers and fries to chicken stir-fry to spaghetti. Special menu options are available to accommodate vegetarians, diabetics and those with allergies.

## **How many students attend Evergreen Boys State**

The number varies from year to year, but typically 250-300 students attend from all across the state.

## **Are there girls there?**

Sorry to disappoint you, but no. Evergreen Girls State is held a week earlier than Evergreen Boys State. We absolutely believe that the focus of this program is on the educational process and you getting the most personal growth from this program as you can in such a short time. Quite bluntly, we don't have the time or resources to deal with many of the challenges that would come about from having both boys and girls at the same program.

## **Will I see other students from my high school?**

You probably will see them and even interact with them during the week. Realize that part of the program is for you to meet new and interesting people. We try hard to create situations where you can meet as many people as possible, so we would encourage you to branch out beyond your comfort zone.

## **What are the living arrangements?**

Students are housed in college dormitories. Rooms typically house two students, or sometimes three. On rare occasion you may end up in a single room, but we try to avoid that so you have an opportunity to have a "buddy" in the process. Rooms come with a closet/and dresser for each person and all the bed sheets and linen. Each floor of the building has multiple bathrooms and shower facilities that are shared by everyone on that floor.

## **Can I choose my roommate?**

No. Students are assigned rooms based on the "City" they are assigned to be part of. This process is actually randomized by a computer to help create situations where you meet new people.

## **Will I have email or internet access?**

No. As mentioned above, you are welcome to bring your laptop computer if you would like, but there is not internet access available to students at Boys State while we are on campus.

## **Can I have visitors at Boys State?**

Sure. There are just a couple rules, though, All visitors must check-in at the Boys State office prior to coming to see you. You must attend all assigned activities and functions. And, all visitors must stay in common areas of the assigned buildings - visitors are not allowed in dormitory bedrooms.

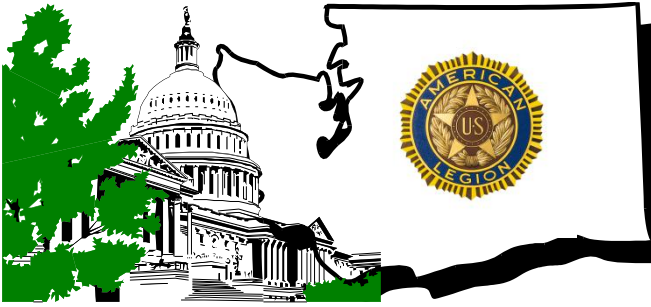
## **What is the political structure of Boys State? What do the political parties stand for?**

Political Parties at Boys State are based completely on fictional parties that we use to teach the process. We do not designate a conservative or liberal party. The political positions of the two parties will be determined by you and your fellow students. Students are randomly assigned to a political party by a computer and the two parties have equal membership. Just like in real life you probably won't agree 100% with one party or the other. Again, it is much more about you learning the process than the final product.

## **Do I have to participate in all activities?**

Yes, that is our expectation. We recognize that it's an intense week and you will get tired, but you can't afford to miss parts of the program and still be able to succeed. You'll have plenty of time to lounge and sleep when you get home, and then you'll look back on the week and be thankful that you were successful in completing the program, the future is up to you.

Established in 1940



The American Legion Department of Washington

## Evergreen Boys State

P.O. Box 3917 Lacey, WA 98509-3917

[www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org)

Mr. Larry Sperry, Director

Dear Evergreen Boys State Citizen and Parents,

Congratulations to you and your family on behalf of The American Legion Department of Washington Commander, Mr. Jake Cabuag and the Evergreen Boys State Board of Directors. You have been nominated, selected, sponsored and **YOU are now REGISTERED as a 2012 CITIZEN** for this most prestigious “**Citizenship Development**” and “**Leadership Training Program**”. Boys State programs throughout the United States, similar in purpose and design have produced many national leaders in the fields of Education, Community Service, Media, Politics, and Business; you now have this opportunity to attend. In the 72 year history of Evergreen Boys State, more than 27,000 young men have attended this American Legion Program. **YOU ARE SCHEDULED to be part of this prestigious and elite group of citizens and attend Evergreen Boys State.**

You need to prepare yourself for the program. First, you need to go to [www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org) and download all the material. You and your parents must review and understand the **Citizen’s and the Parental** obligations including the application contract you have already signed.

Your obligation is to know the rules and requirements; you must make a conscious choice to fulfill all prerequisites and obligations. The 2012 session of The American Legion Evergreen Boys State will be held on the Campus of Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington, **starting at Noon on June 17<sup>th</sup>, through Noon on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012.** You must arrive on time and stay through the entire program week.

**Each Delegate is required to pay a \$125 Registration Fee upon arrival and registration at Central Washington University, with NO EXCEPTION** each delegate will be required to pay the fee upon arrival on campus in Ellensburg, WA.

Please take time to apply for the **Samsung American Legion Scholarship**. The Samsung State winner will receive a \$1000 award and have a chance for a National Scholarship Award. Remember that approximately one in fifteen students attending Evergreen Boys State will receive a scholarship this year from the program. We look forward to greeting you in June, as we know you will enjoy the experience of becoming one of a very elite group of Washington citizens, known as The American Legion Evergreen Boys State Alumni.

“For God and Country”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Larry Sperry'.

Mr. Larry Sperry, Director  
The American Legion Evergreen Boys State  
The American Legion Department of Washington

# Family and College Fair Day At Evergreen Boys State

## Please Join us for Family Day

Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

8 a.m. -- College/Career Fair

9 a.m. – **Breakfast Awards and Graduation Ceremonies**

10 a.m. till Noon -- College/Career Fair Continues

Citizen & City Fellowship and Wrap-up Dismissal

All major Washington Universities scheduled to be there.

ROTC scholarships will be offered.

## Evergreen Boys State Final Breakfast

**All guests MUST have pre-paid breakfast tickets to enter.**

**Cost:** \$12 per person

**Must** pre-register by June 20<sup>th</sup> Register online below or

Register in person at EBS Student Registration on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Join us for Family Day at Evergreen Boys State. Activities include a College/Career Fair, EBS Graduation Ceremonies and Breakfast.

Tickets are \$12 per person (to cover the cost of breakfast). Tickets may be purchased in advance online (Below) until Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, or in person at EBS registration on June 17<sup>th</sup>. All tickets must be purchased in advanced. Tickets bought online will be held at the door for pick-up on Family Day.

[www.EvergreenBoysState.org](http://www.EvergreenBoysState.org)