

**\_\_ NEWFANE AMERICAN LEGION POST 873  
BOYS' & GIRLS' STATE CANDIDATE APPLICATION: 2026**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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**PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S NAMES:**

MOTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER: \_\_\_\_\_

ARE EITHER OF YOUR PARENTS A VETERAN? No \_\_\_

Yes \_\_\_ ; which branch \_\_\_\_\_

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**PLEASE LIST ALL EXTRACURRICULAR/VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES THAT YOU ARE/  
HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN (inside and outside of school):**

grade 9: \_\_\_\_\_

grade 10: \_\_\_\_\_

grade 11: \_\_\_\_\_

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**PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL HONORS OR AWARDS YOU HAVE RECEIVED:**

grade 9: \_\_\_\_\_

grade 10: \_\_\_\_\_

grade 11: \_\_\_\_\_

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**COUNSELOR SECTION:**

Overall GPA (grades 9-current): \_\_\_\_\_

Current Class Rank (grades 9-current): \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Return completed application to Ms. Niles in the Student Counseling Office.

\*\*Application deadline: Monday, Feb. 23, 2026.

\*\*\*See attached informational pages regarding Boys' or Girls' State. Also check out the appropriate websites for additional information before the informal interview.

# WHAT IS BOYS' STATE?

**Boys' State** is a program of **The American Legion** developed from the concept that 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 of a need for youth training in practical citizenship.

To elaborate - Boys' State is easily classified as a Leadership Action Program wherein qualified male high school juniors participate 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 that their Government is just what THEY make it.

**\*\*\*Participants who excel at Boys State may be selected for a scholarship!\*\*\***

**Ten counties will be formed – making up a mythical 51<sup>st</sup> state.** Each county will contain 3 cities and each city will consist of approximately 36 boys. An adult counselor will be assigned to each city and is their duty to assist and guide the boys through their daily activities. In addition to government work, participants will attend informational assemblies with guest speakers. Softball, tennis, and basketball tournaments are also on the agenda. Students who play an instrument are encouraged to bring it in order to play in the band. A few of the larger instruments will be supplied (ie. tubas, bari-sax, bass clarinet, etc.). Students can get involved in the publication of a daily newspaper or a member of the 51<sup>st</sup> state police department and court system. Participants can also get involved in developing the yearbook, website, and video production.

Boys' State is not a summer camp! Although there will be designated recreation times, Boys' State is NOT a picnic -- NOT an outing--NOT a sports camp. Only young men with **outstanding qualifications** in leadership, character, scholarship, service and citizenship who will have a serious attitude toward an intensive citizenship training program will be selected. Appearance, neatness, and good grooming are expected of Boys' State participants. Attitude and appearance by candidates to Boys' State reflects upon the youth of America.

PHYSICAL FITNESS is an integral part of Boys' State. There will be time set aside for a physical program to include calisthenics and marching to meals and assemblies to prepare for the parade which is one of the high points of the program.

## What Are the Objectives of Boys' State?

Naturally, a program of this scope and magnitude encompasses many objectives, all of which are important, however, the objectives that are felt as most important and those for which are the hardest to attain are:

- A. To develop civic leadership and pride in American Citizenship. It is hoped that each Boys' Stater will return to their community a better citizen and will have a desire to demonstrate this by making civic contributions to help make their community a better place in which to live.
- B. To stimulate a keen interest in the detailed study of our government.
- C. To incite a determination to maintain our form of government.
- D. To develop a full understanding of our American traditions and a belief in the United States of America.

The goal of the American Legion is to develop a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation and charge them with the safeguarding of the principles of America – Democracy, Justice, and Freedom – the legacy of their forefathers.

Candidates for Boys' State must meet the following criteria:

- be at least 15 years of age at the time of application.
- have completed their junior year with **at least an 80% GPA or “B” average.**
- have at least one semester of high school remaining.
- be residents of New York State.

Candidates should possess the following qualifications:

- Leadership
- Ability to get along with others
- Mental alertness
- Physical cleanliness and neatness
- Honesty
- Good personality
- Vigorous attitude
- Enthusiasm
- Good citizenship

Each selected Boys' Stater will receive 2 free Boys' State shirts and a badge upon reporting in. Additional shirts may be purchased (\$5 each) at the Morrisville Boys' State Headquarters on Saturday.

**2026 Boys' State Program will be from Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> to Thursday July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 at Morrisville State College in Morrisville, NY. SUNY Morrisville is located in the Cherry Valley area of New York State on Route 20, 30 miles east of Syracuse.**

The orientation dinner/program will be scheduled for early June. More information to follow.

If you are interested in attending The Boys' State Program and meet the above criteria please complete the short application and return to the guidance office by the deadline date printed on the application.

If selected, you will be committing yourself to being available for the complete program.

**Website Info:** <https://nylegion.net/boys-state>

Any questions, email Mr. Chris Kankiewicz, American Legion Post Commander, at:  
[newfanelegion@yahoo.com](mailto:newfanelegion@yahoo.com); 716-408-3311 ext 1



# American Legion Auxiliary

## Department of New York

"The World's Largest Women's Patriotic Organization"

## Empire Girls' State

**To promote love of God and Country through the Empire Girls' State Program is an exciting venture.**

E.G.S. is a non-partisan, non-political Americanism program enabling hands-on experiences in the democratic process. Empire Girls' State prepares today's young women to be knowledgeable, active participants and future leaders in our society.

Girls' State Citizens, divided into 11 counties named for famous women, are divided into two political parties; Nationalists and Federalists. As they develop their mythical 51st state, they live together as self-governing citizens working to solve the concerns of their counties while running political campaigns, debating, and formulating legislation. They gain an understanding of and appreciation for what democracy really means as they cooperate in order to achieve their goals.

Through the expertise of the Department Americanism chairwoman, the 360 Juniors from across the state will learn proper flag etiquette. Each county will have an opportunity to participate in a flag raising or flag lowering ceremony. Some Citizens will be involved in a Flag Disposal Service and a POW/MIA Ceremony.

**\*\*\*Participants who excel at Girls State may be selected for a scholarship!\*\*\***

**The 2026 Empire Girls' State Program is scheduled for:**

**Monday June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026 through Sunday July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026 on the SUNY Brockport campus.**

**The Orientation dinner / program TBA.**

Girls State is a well-known, long standing, selective, and respected program. Being able to include participation of this program on a resume a very positive addition.

Please remember that final selection of all citizens is to be made by the American Legion Auxiliary, NOT a teacher, guidance counselor, principal, or any other person other than the Auxiliary! It is OUR responsibility to select the BEST possible candidates to represent our Unit.

**Website info:** <http://empiregirlsstate.org>

If you have any questions, please contact:

**Sheila Flanagan**

**Newfane Auxiliary Girls State Chairman**

Email: [flanster40@yahoo.com](mailto:flanster40@yahoo.com)

Cell: (716) 870-2686