High School Packet

The 88th Annual American Legion Mountaineer Boys State

June 6 – June 12

2027

The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State (ALMBS) program is the most respected educational program of government and leadership instruction for male high school students in West Virginia. For over nine decades, our program has continually adapted to empower young men to become leaders in their schools, communities, and beyond through the execution of our mission of "teaching good government through participation."

Requested Actions:

- **Identify and nominate outstanding junior male students** who demonstrate leadership, character, and a desire to serve.
- **Encourage all eligible students to apply** and help them see the lifelong value of this experience.



What opportunities does ALMBS offer?

- Networking with leadership-driven peers from across West Virginia.
- Engagement with elected officials and community leaders.
- Eligibility for leadership scholarships nationwide at top colleges and universities.
- Extra merit points toward admission to all U.S. Military Service Academy admissions.
- Exposure to college, university, and career representatives at an exclusive collegiate and career fair.
- Participation in career tracks led by professionals.
- Elections to mock political offices to lead and shape your own state and local governments.
- Participate in recreational, athletic, and musical opportunities.

Your involvement makes a difference! By supporting your students' participation, you help them unlock unique opportunities and enhance your school's reputation for cultivating future leaders.

Need help? Our staff is available and committed to ensuring every school and homeschool community is represented at ALMBS in 2027. Local sponsors cover most costs, so financial barriers are not a concern.

Let's work together to ensure your students don't miss out on this life-changing opportunity!

Response Requested by November 13th

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SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES – ACTION STEPS

Complete by November 13, 2026:

1. **Submit a School Point of Contact (POC):**
   - Email the POC's name, title, email address, and phone number to almbs@wvboysstate.org.
2. **Submit a List of Eligible Candidates:**
   - Export a list of all eligible junior male students from WVEIS or your school's data management system in Microsoft Excel or a comma delimited file (CSV).
   - Email the list of all eligible students (including full name, mailing address, and phone number) to almbs@wvboysstate.org. The list will only be used to provide information regarding ALMBS and the application process to eligible candidates.
3. **Contact Your Local ALMBS Representative:**
   - If you have questions, reach out to your local representative regarding the program. If you do not have a known local ALMBS Representative, a point of contact in your region is listed on the final page.

Complete by January 22, 2027:

4. **Direct Eligible Candidates to Apply:**
   - Instruct interested students to complete the online application at https://apply.wvboysstate.org.
   - Remind students applications must be printed and signed—they are not finished after hitting submit.
5. **Collect Applications:**
   - Gather completed applications from students for final review by the school POC.

Complete by February 12, 2027:

6. **Submit Completed Applications:**
   - Provide all completed applications to your local ALMBS Representative.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES – ACTION STEPS

Complete by January 22, 2027:

- Complete an application found online at https://apply.wvboysstate.org, and return it to school POC.

In March/April 2027:

- Selected attendees receive ALMBS informational packets explaining program details, required forms, and other relevant program information.

In May 2027:

- Attend a virtual or in-person orientation session. A schedule of virtual sessions will be provided in the distributed participant informational packets.

On June 6th through June 12th, 2027:

- Attend the 88th session of The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State program. **All Participants are expected to be present for the entirety of the program.**

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ALMBS OVERVIEW

ALMBS Participants Discover Their Leadership Potential!

ALMBS is a week-long, hands-on leadership and government program for high school junior males in West Virginia. Since 1936, ALMBS has helped thousands of students build confidence; make lifelong friends; and gain real-world experience in government, law, public service, and citizenship.

Why Should Students Attend?

- **Experience Government in Action:** Run for office, pass laws, and make decisions in a simulated state government. Witness the effects these laws and decisions have on the simulated community.
- **Build Their Network:** Meet motivated students from across West Virginia and connect with elected officials and professionals.
- **Boost Their College and Career Prospects:** Gain eligibility for scholarships, earn extra merit points for military academy admissions, and stand out on college applications.
- **Explore Careers:** Try out career tracks in law enforcement, journalism, homeland security, emergency services, business, and more. Attend a private collegiate and career fair to develop post high school plans.
- **Have Fun:** Enjoy sports, music, and recreational activities throughout the week.

ALMBS is nonpartisan and has no association with any real-world political parties or their platforms. All eligible students are welcome! If they want to challenge themself, grow as a leader, and make a difference, this is their opportunity!

QUALIFICATIONS

ALMBS is open to all those meeting the requirements below regardless of race, color, religion, disability, political affiliation, socioeconomic status, or national origin.

Individuals who possess the following qualifications are eligible to apply for admission to ALMBS:

1. Member of the male enrollment of the current junior class;
2. 2.75 grade point average (GPA) or higher on a four-point scale;
   (Note: Schools should use the most current cumulative GPA as of their response.)
3. Good personal character, ensuring he will effectively represent himself and uphold the esteem of his local school/community;
4. Never attended an American Legion Boys State program previously; and
5. Citizen of West Virginia OR attend a high school in West Virginia.

USEFUL LINKS:

The following websites are useful sources of additional information:

- The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State website: https://wvboysstate.org.
- The American Legion Department of West Virginia website: https://wvlegion.org.

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PROGRAM COST & SPONSORSHIP OVERVIEW:

Attendance Fee: $350 per participant.

Who Pays?

- The fee is typically covered by local American Legion Posts or community sponsors—not by the school or board of education.
- Some school districts may offer sponsorship based on prior positive experiences and return on their investments.
- Students may also seek their own sponsors or pay the fee themselves, provided they still meet the qualifications.

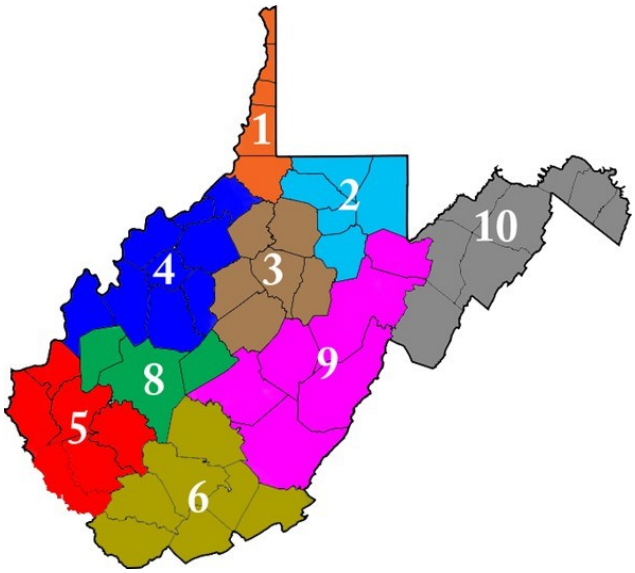
Financial Support:

- ALMBS welcomes sponsorships from civic groups, businesses, and individuals.
- For sponsorship opportunities or to help a student attend, contact your local American Legion Post or contact us directly at almbs@wvboysstate.org.

Tax Deductible:

- ALMBS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; all donations may be tax deductible.

All fees directly support program expenses. The Staff are volunteers and receive no financial compensation.



POINTS OF CONTACT

To submit completed applications or if you have any questions or concerns that your local ALMBS POC may not be able to answer, please contact the identified program representative assigned to your region. You may also contact the program directly at almbs@wvboysstate.org.

District	American Legion POC	POC Phone	ALMBS Staff POC	POC Phone
1	Keith Brown	(304) 780-2890	Jim Davis	(304) 481-4021
2	Matt Sampson	(304) 685-1584	Doug Robinson	(304) 641-4993
3	Clifford Shingleton	(304) 203-8988	Robin Shingleton	(304) 641-3443
4	Robbie Robinson	(304) 582-3210	Randall Kocsis	(304) 672-9991
5	Ed Walker	(915) 850-5556	Clifford Shingleton	(304) 203-8988
6	Bridget Larew	(412) 759-1908	Clifford Shingleton	(304) 203-8988
8	Tommy Wingo	(304) 590-7989	Bob Wines	(304) 266-8717
9	Donnie Lambert	(304) 621-0483	Robbie Robinson	(304) 582-3210
10	Bob Speaks	(304) 676-6593	Robbie Robinson	(304) 582-3210

THE AMERICAN LEGION

MOUNTAINEER BOYS STATE

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

88th Annual • June 6–12, 2027 • WVU Jackson's Mill, Weston, WV

★ *Founded 1936 • 2nd Oldest Boys State Charter in the Nation* ★

YOUR WEEK WILL CHALLENGE YOU TO

L — LEARN
Discover the foundations of American government

E — ENGAGE
Connect with West Virginia's best student leaders

A — ACHIEVE
Compete, campaign, and win elected office

D — DISCOVER
Unlock your leadership potential and future path

HOW TO APPLY

1. **Complete the Online Application**
   Scan the QR code to the right to complete the online application.
2. **Print Your Submitted Application**
   Print the submitted application that is emailed to you.
3. **Get Certified by Your Guidance Counselor**
   Bring the printed application to your guidance counselor for certification of your eligibility for American Legion Mountaineer Boys State (ALMBS).
4. **Submit to Your School's Point of Contact**
   Submit the certified application to your school's ALMBS point of contact (ask your guidance counselor) for collection by the American Legion or ALMBS staff member.
5. **Confirm Your Application Was Received**
   Confirm with your school's ALMBS point of contact that your application has been received by a program representative.

SCAN TO APPLY

apply.wvboysstate.org

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Current high school juniors (rising seniors)
- Male students from West Virginia
- Maintain a 3.0 or higher GPA on a 4.0 scale
- Recommended by an American Legion Post or school sponsor

Questions or need assistance? Contact us at **almbs@wvboysstate.org**

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Application Process

1. Complete the online application by scanning the QR code below.
2. Print the submitted application that is emailed to you.
3. Bring the printed application to your guidance counselor for certification of your eligibility for American Legion Mountaineer Boys State (ALMBS).
4. Submit the certified application to your school's ALMBS point of contact (ask your guidance counselor) for collection by the American Legion or ALMBS Staff member.
5. Confirm with your school's ALMBS point of contact that your application has been received by a program representative.

HTTPS://APPLY.WVBOYSSTATE.ORG

Reproduce and distribute this sheet as needed.
Intended to be utilized when meeting with eligible candidates.



June 6-12, 2027

https://apply.wvboysstate.org