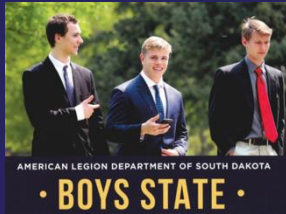




SD AMERICAN LEGION “BIG 4”

AMERICANISM PROGRAMS



BOYS STATE

What: Hands-on government, citizenship and leadership program.

When: May 31 – June 4, 2027

Where: Northern State University, Aberdeen, S.D.

Eligibility: Following junior or senior year; eligible one time only.

AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS

Samsung Scholarship up to \$10,000; Other scholarships available at southdakotaboysstate.org/scholarships

Program Experience: Campaigns, elections, lawmaking, public speaking and teamwork.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Boys State: southdakotaboysstate.org



ORATORICAL CONTEST

What: Constitutional Speech Contest

When: Local Post—December 2026 • District—January 2027 • State—February 21, 2027 • National—May, 2027

Where: Contact your local American Legion Post.

Eligibility: All high school students (9th-12th grade)

AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS

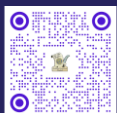
State: 1st \$1,500 • 2nd \$1,000 • 3rd \$500

National: \$2,000 for first and second rounds; finalists earn 1st \$25,000 / 2nd \$22,500 / 3rd \$20,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

SD: sdlegion.org/oratorical-scholarship

National: legion.org/oratorical





SD AMERICAN LEGION “BIG 4” AMERICANISM PROGRAMS



YOUTH TROOPER ACADEMY

What: Residential experience exploring state-trooper work and leadership.

When: June 21-25, 2027

Where: Pierre, South Dakota

Eligibility: Entering senior year or just graduated; 24 selected statewide.

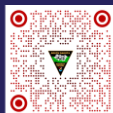
Application Deadline: Late March—see website.

PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE

Training in firearms safety, defensive driving & tactics, crash investigation, criminal law, traffic stops and leadership.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

sdlegion.org/sd-youth-trooper-academy



JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS

What: Air-rifle program teaching safety, marksmanship, discipline, responsibility, sportsmanship and leadership.

When: November-July; state and national competitions annually.

Where: Local American Legion Post or shooting club.

Eligibility: Youth ages 14–18, per local requirements.

AWARDS / OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarships: State - \$500 Senior Division, \$300 Junior Division, National - \$5,000 champions and \$1,000 runners-up.

Compete locally, statewide and nationally; develop leadership; qualify for the national championship.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

legion.org/shooting

<http://sdlegion.org/shooting-sports>

