

# SD AMERICAN LEGION "BIG 3" AMERICANISM PROGRAMS

## ORATORICAL CONTEST

**What:** "Constitutional Speech Contest"

**When:** December—May as participants advance

- Local Level — Competition in December
- District Level — Competition in January
- State Level — February 16, 2025
- National Level — May 16—18, 2025

**Eligibility:** High School students

**When/Where:** Contact your local American Legion Post for information.

## AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS

**State Level:** 1st place: \$1,500; 2nd place: \$1,000; 3rd place: \$500

**National Level:** \$2,000 for 1st round, \$2,000 for 2nd round, and for final round:

1st place: \$25,000

2nd place: \$22,500

3rd place: \$20,000

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[www.sdlegion.org/oratorical-scholarship](http://www.sdlegion.org/oratorical-scholarship)

[www.legion.org/oratorical](http://www.legion.org/oratorical)

## BOYS STATE

**What:** "Premier program for teaching how government works while developing leadership skills and an appreciation for your rights as a citizen."

**When:** June 2-6, 2025

**Where:** Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD.

**Eligibility:** Following Junior and Senior year of High School.

**Application Deadline:** See weblink below.

## AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Samsung Scholarship:** Up to \$10,000.

- **SD Colleges and Universities offer scholarships to Boys State attendees.**

- **Chandler L. Beach Memorial "Spirit of Boys State" Award:** \$500

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[www.southdakotaboysstate.com](http://www.southdakotaboysstate.com)  
[www.sdlegion.org/boys-state/](http://www.sdlegion.org/boys-state/)



## YOUTH TROOPER ACADEMY

**What:** Residential learning experience for young adults to increase their understanding of the job of a state trooper and to develop better relationships between the youth of our state and the Highway Patrol.

**When:** June 23—27, 2025

**Where:** Pierre SD

**Eligibility:** Entering senior year of high school or have just graduated high school. **Only 24 chosen statewide each year.**

**Application Deadline:** Late March (see weblink below for exact dates).

## PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE:

**Invaluable training in:**

- 1) Firearms safety,
- 2) Defensive driving,
- 3) Defensive tactics,
- 4) Crash investigation,
- 5) Criminal law,
- 6) Traffic stops,
- 7) **LEADERSHIP** and
- 8) **Compete for two \$500 Scholarships**

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[www.sdlegion.org/sd-youth-trooper-academy/](http://www.sdlegion.org/sd-youth-trooper-academy/)