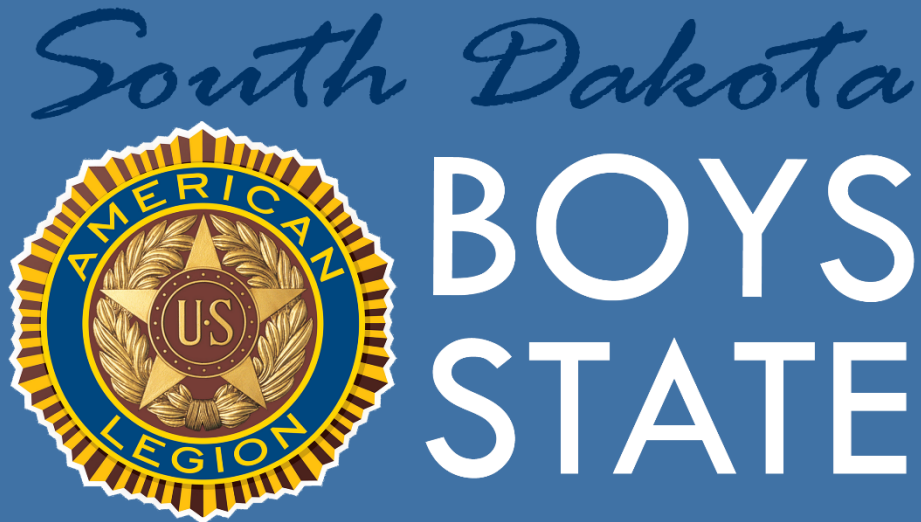


SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION

83RD ANNUAL

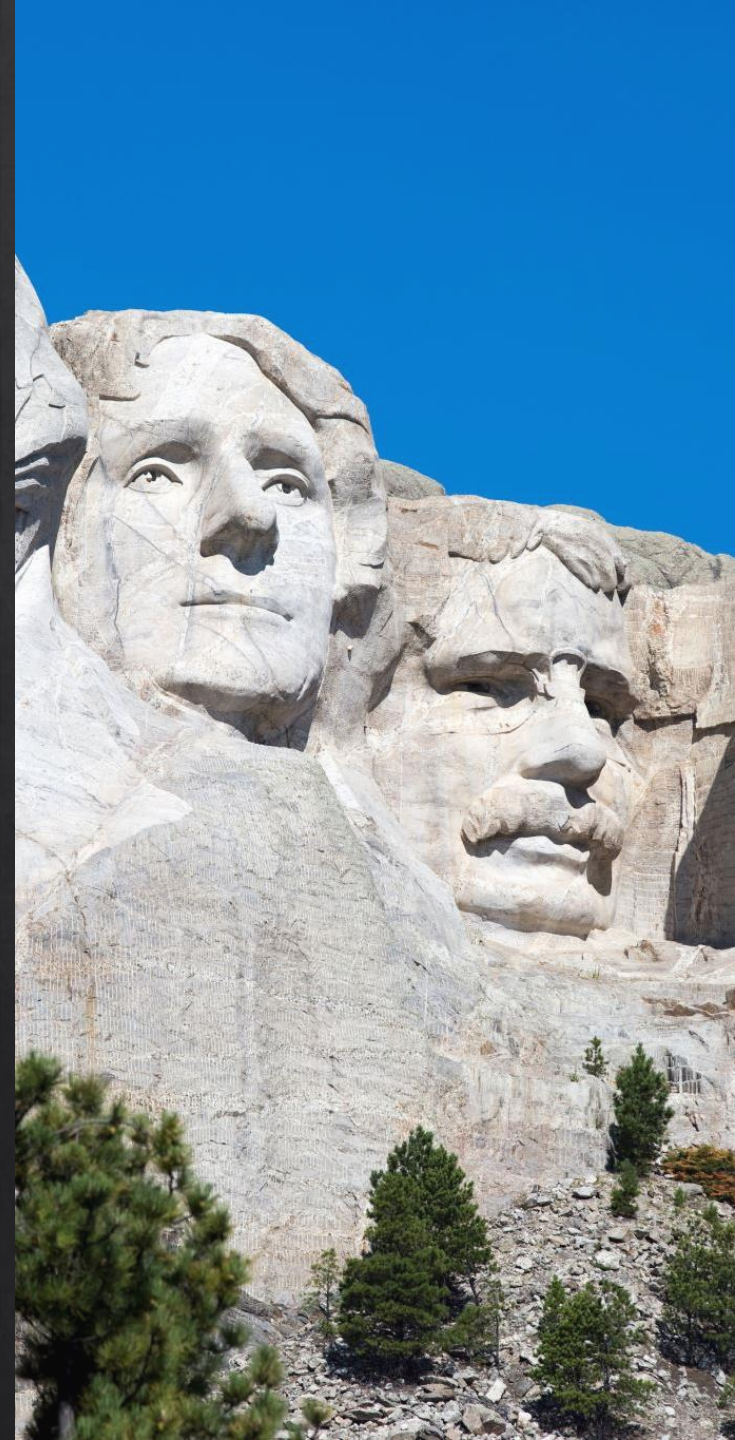
BOYS STATE





THE AMERICAN LEGION

- ◆ Founded in 1919
- ◆ Association of war-time veterans
- ◆ 2.2 million members in U.S.A.
- ◆ 16,000 members in South Dakota
- ◆ 240 Local American Legion Posts





AMERICANISM

- ◆ One of the 4 Pillars of the American Legion
- ◆ Citizenship
- ◆ Flag Education
- ◆ Furtherance of Our Democracy



WHAT IS BOYS STATE?

A program to better help America's youth understand and appreciate the American system of government and way of life, including the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and to give you better knowledge of the fundamental principles of South Dakota State government.

Use this link to see a video: <https://youtu.be/zgfPD3kja3c>



WHEN AND WHERE?

May 25 - 29, 2026



**Report between 12:30 pm and 2:00 pm
to the Johnson Fine Arts Center**



TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to and from Boys State is the responsibility of the sponsoring American Legion Post.



NSU FACILITIES

- ◆ Barnett Center and Athletic Fields
 - Rec time
- ◆ Wolves Den
 - Meals
- ◆ Student Union
 - Pool and Ping Pong available
- ◆ Book Store
 - NSU Apparel, Basic Office Supplies



BOYS STATE GOVERNMENT

- ◆ City/Municipal Government
- ◆ County Government
- ◆ State Government
 - ◆ Executive
 - ◆ Legislative
 - ◆ Judicial
 - ◆ Citizens Forum



DAILY ROUTINE

- ◇ Flag Ceremony
- ◇ Morning Exercise
- ◇ Breakfast
- ◇ Classes/Assemblies
- ◇ Noon Meal
- ◇ Classes/Assemblies
- ◇ Afternoon recreation period
- ◇ Evening Flag Ceremony
- ◇ Evening Meal
- ◇ Classes/Assemblies
- ◇ Evening recreation period
- ◇ Lights out 11:00 PM



BOYS STATE MUSIC

◆ CHORUS & BAND

- Citizens are encouraged to bring their instruments. Bass drums and Bass Horns are provided.

A Concert will be performed at the Thursday night general assembly



BOYS STATE MEDIA TEAM

- ◆ The Media Team is responsible for producing the daily newscast and creating social media content.
- ◆ The Media Team is led by a Media Professional.
- ◆ Opportunities available include journalists, videographers, production specialists, photographers, editors and influencers.
- ◆ Special recognition for the Outstanding Media Team Boys Stater.



BOYS STATE OLYMPICS

- ◆ Thursday evening following the Governor's Banquet
- ◆ Cities will compete to be named the Boys State Champions
- ◆ Use this link to see a video:
<https://youtu.be/KXiItwYV8Fs>



BOYS NATION

Two representatives from each Boys State represent their state at Boys Nation.

- ◆ Delegates acts as a senator from his Boys State.
- ◆ Senators learn the proper method of handling bills, according to U.S. Senate rules. The organization of party conventions and nominating and electing a president and vice president.
- ◆ The week of government training also includes lectures, and visits to federal agencies, memorials and historical sites.

Use this link to see a video: <https://youtu.be/7qj9v1SEMbM>



MEALS

All meals are provided at no cost to Boys Staters in the Wolves Den.

If you have allergies please alert your counselor as soon as you arrive.



LIVING AT BOYS STATE

- ◆ Two to a room in college residence halls.
- ◆ City counselor resides with city
- ◆ Respect the facilities and equipment of Northern State University





ATTENDANCE

Boys Staters are required to remain for the entire session and must report to Boys State no later than 2:00 PM, Monday and remain until 2:00 PM, Friday



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

- ◆ Each Citizen receives a certificate
- ◆ Special recognition for
 - ◆ Governor
 - ◆ Outstanding Citizen
 - ◆ Outstanding Speaker/Orator
 - ◆ Memorial Scholarships
- ◆ Most South Dakota Colleges and Universities offer scholarships to Boys Staters. Check with the school for availability.



SD SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- ◇ Governor
- ◇ Lt. Governor
- ◇ Secretary of State
- ◇ State Auditor
- ◇ State Treasurer
- ◇ Attorney General
- ◇ Public Utilities Commissioner (3)
- ◇ Commissioner of School and Public Land
- ◇ Citizens Forum Award of Merit
- ◇ Supreme Court Justices (7)
- ◇ Speaker of the House
- ◇ Outstanding Journalist
- ◇ Outstanding Speaker/Orator
- ◇ Outstanding Citizen
- ◇ Boys Nation Delegates (2)
- ◇ State Party Chairmen (2)
- ◇ Keynote Speakers (2)

Check with the school for availability.



SAMSUNG AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIP

- ◆ Samsung scholarships may be used for undergraduate studies.. Winners are selected according to academic record, involvement in school and community service.
- ◆ Ten National Scholars receive \$10,000 each
- ◆ Ten National Runners-Up receive \$5,000 each
- ◆ Remaining Department Finalists receive \$1,250 each guaranteed



OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

- ❖ The Aberdeen Scottish Rite of SD offers a \$1,000 scholarship to the boy chosen as the Outstanding Citizen.
- ❖ The Douglas D. Harris “I’m not dead yet” scholarships.
 - ❖ Two \$1,000 scholarships - Requirements not yet determined.

Please go to the following website for a complete listing of Scholarships:

<https://southdakotaboysstate.org/scholarships>



South Dakota Political Support



Senior Policy Advisor
to the Governor
Ryan Brunner



Former South Dakota
Speaker of The House
Spencer Gosch



South Dakota Treasurer
Josh Haeder



South Dakota Supreme Court
Justice Mark Salter



South Dakota Auditor
Rich Sattgast



SPECIAL GUESTS

Senate
Majority
Leader
John
Thune



SEN
Rounds



REP Johnson





SPECIAL GUESTS

Governor Rhoden



Governor Rhoden with
2025 Boys State
Governor Brody Tynan.





LEGION DAY AT THE CAPITOL





QUESTIONS?