

BOYS STATE

2026 CITIZEN HANDBOOK

ARIZONA BOYS STATE

A WEEK THAT SHAPES A LIFETIME

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

NORTH



THE AMERICAN LEGION
Veterans Strengthening America

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER

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Dear American Legion Boys State Citizen,

Congratulations, and welcome to American Legion Boys State! On behalf of The American Legion, I am honored to welcome you to one of the most respected and selective citizenship programs in the nation. Your decision to participate places you among a distinguished group of young leaders who have chosen to step forward, learn, and lead.

American Legion Boys State is more than a program it is an experience. Here, you will engage in a hands-on approach to government, gaining a deeper understanding of how it functions and, more importantly, how it depends on the involvement of its citizens. This is a leadership action program designed to challenge you, stretch you, and equip you with skills that will serve you for a lifetime

You will quickly discover that government is not something distant or abstract it is shaped by those who participate. This program will show you that leadership, responsibility, and service are not just ideals, but actions. While the experience may be demanding at times, it will also be rewarding, memorable, and impactful in ways you may not fully appreciate until years from now.

Since 1935, American Legion Boys State has developed generations of young men who have gone on to serve their communities and nation with distinction. Among Boys State alumni are leaders in government, business, education, medicine, technology, and beyond. As you begin this journey, understand that the same opportunity lies before you.

Whether your future leads you into public service or another path, the relationships you build here and the lessons you learn will stay with you long after the program concludes.

As National Commander, I extend my very best wishes for a meaningful, engaging, and life-changing 2026 American Legion Boys State experience.

Dan Wiley
National Commander

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Introduction

This Handbook outlines the program in which you will participate as a citizen of The American Legion Arizona Boys State. Each citizen should study the information to get the maximum benefit from our program. Read the electronic version of the Handbook before coming to Boys State; a printed copy will be provided to you upon arrival. You will find that the program provides for many opportunities, including:

- A review of city, county, and state government operations.
- Instruction in legal and legislative procedures of our government.
- Information about political party organization and operation.
- Becoming a political officeholder through petition, nomination, and election.
- Participation in the operation of a mock state government.
- Boys State Band and other extracurricular activities as time permits.
- The privilege to become acquainted with civic leaders and the outstanding boys of Arizona.

Each citizen should determine before the program starts the part of government in which he is most interested and resolve to learn as much as possible about it. This can be done through participating as a “good citizen” throughout the entire program. Boys State is a unique experience and opportunity to prepare for future leadership. The extent to which you (and through you, your community) will experience rewards and benefits from this program depends on the effort you put into your activities while a citizen of Boys State.

Former citizens can attest that you “get out what you put in,” and that the best way to enjoy Boys State is to take every opportunity possible. Don’t hesitate to talk to your counselors or other staff – they are here to help.

The laws of Arizona Boys State consist of a written constitution, a code of laws enacted by previous sessions of Boys State, and any new laws enacted during the current session. A copy of the Constitution of Arizona Boys State and the Boys State Statutory Code are included in this Handbook for reference. In addition, the Handbook includes information regarding the operation of Boys State, duties of elected and appointed officials, political parties, election procedures, etc. It is most

important that each citizen familiarizes himself with the entire contents of this Handbook.

About the Program

What is Arizona Boys State?

The American Legion Arizona Boys State is a flagship youth program of The American Legion Department of Arizona. This week-long leadership training and civics education experience is designed to teach students about how our government functions and to encourage them to become engaged citizens. Boys across the state who have completed their junior year of high school are eligible to attend Arizona Boys State.

When they arrive at Boys State, students become citizens of a fictional 51st state: Boys State. Over the next several days, students campaign and hold elections for political offices at the city, county, and state levels. Once these positions have been filled, the students learn by doing – they pass their own laws, operate their own courts, and generally govern themselves. Students also receive extensive instruction on court procedures, the legislative process, the criminal justice system, civil rights, and civic duties. Outside of these activities, the program also offers numerous recreational opportunities including athletic events, a band, a choir, and a daily student-run newspaper.

Arizona Boys State is one of 50 Boys State programs operated around the country by The American Legion.

Why Should I Care About Boys State?

Boys State is a historic program that boasts many notable alumni nationwide, including President Bill Clinton, astronaut Neil Armstrong, and basketball star Michael Jordan, just to name a few. Famous alumni of the Arizona program include former Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt, who also served as Secretary of the Interior under President Bill Clinton.

College admissions counselors and many job recruiters are familiar with Boys State, which can help students stand out in a competitive admissions or recruiting process.

Of course, the real value of Boys State is not as a résumé booster, but rather the lessons and experiences that students will carry with them for the rest of their lives. The official motto of Boys State is “A Week that Shapes a Lifetime.”

What is The American Legion?

The American Legion is a U.S. war veterans organization with nearly 2 million members worldwide. The organization was conceived and founded by a group of American soldiers at the end of World War I. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., has gone down in history as the father of The American Legion because he called a meeting of the original 20 founders and called them to order at a dinner at a French military club in Paris, France, on February 15, 1919. Later that same year, The American Legion was legally incorporated by Act of Congress.

The American Legion's mission is stated in the preamble to its Constitution, which reads as follows:

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

The American Legion is organized into 55 departments, with one department operating in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines. Within each department, most of the activities of The American Legion are carried out through local American Legion Posts. There are over 12,000 American Legion Posts across the globe.

Beyond The American Legion itself, several other organizations make up The American Legion Family, including the Sons of The American Legion (for male descendants of U.S. military veterans) and The American Legion Auxiliary (for spouses and female relatives of U.S. military veterans).

What is the Department of Arizona?

The American Legion Department of Arizona is the highest American Legion entity within Arizona. The Department supports and oversees the activities of American Legion Posts across the state and is the sponsor of Arizona Boys State.

The Department of Arizona was established in 1919 in Tucson, mainly by E. Power Conway. Andrew P. Martin of Tucson was the first Department Commander. At that time, Arizona had only six American Legion Posts; today, Arizona has over 100 active Posts and over 43,000 members.

The activities of The American Legion Department of Arizona are organized around four pillars: (1) Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation; (2) Children and Youth; (3) Americanism; and (4) National Security. Arizona Boys State falls under the Americanism pillar.

Preparing for Boys State

As you plan for Boys State, remember that this will be one of the busiest weeks of your life. The following is a list of what you need to bring to have a comfortable, successful experience.

- Comfortable clothes, t-shirts, and shorts (see Dress Code, below)
- Optional, but recommended: Dress clothes for speeches and at least two assemblies (see Dress Code, below)
- Gym clothes and shoes for volleyball and other athletic events during recreation period
- Bedding (a pillow, twin XL bed sheets, and blankets, and/or a sleeping bag)
- Toiletries and other hygiene-related necessities
- Any necessary medicines and medical supplies
- Towels and washcloths, including a hand towel
- For the shower, shower shoes and a bag or caddy for holding toiletries
- Notebooks, pens, and pencils
- Poster or butcher paper, markers, etc. for election campaign signs
- Blue painter's tape for hanging campaign signs
- A small amount of money (change and small bills) for mock court fines
- A reusable water bottle labeled with your name
- A small fan for your room, if desired
- Snacks for your room

Boys State Band

- The Boys State Band performs at assemblies, the talent show, and other opportunities. If you play an instrument and wish to participate, bring your instrument to Boys State. (A keyboard and drum set are provided. If you play guitar or bass, bring your amp.)

- Our success depends on you bringing your instrument. String players will have parts written for them.
- Questions about the Boys State Band? Email boysstate@azlegion.org.

Boys State Color Guard

- If you plan to participate in the Boys State Color Guard, please bring your uniform.
- Questions about the Boys State Color Guard? Email boysstate@azlegion.org.

Dress Code

Each year, students and parents ask for guidelines to help select appropriate attire for the program. The program's pride, morale, and image are influenced by the general appearance of citizens. Arizona Boys State is held in June on the campus of the University of Arizona in Tucson. It will be hot. A "smart casual" approach to dressing is recommended. Polo shirts, cotton t-shirts, khaki/chino shorts, and khaki/chino pants are all recommended for everyday use. Citizens may be on-stage to make speeches or perform other public duties during the week. Many students want to look their best during these times. They may choose to wear a button-up shirt and tie with dress slacks, although this is not required. It is also highly recommended, but not required, that delegates AVOID wearing athletic shorts and t-shirts outside of recreation period. Comfortable shoes, preferably close-toed, are suggested for the entire week.

Arizona Boys State wants to provide opportunities for citizens to express themselves within the set of parameters listed below. Citizens shall not wear:

- Sunglasses or hats indoors.
- Tank tops, unless worn as an undershirt or during recreation period.
- Visible undergarments.
- Sagging pants – pants must fasten at or above the waist.
- Flip flops or slide sandals (unless worn as shower shoes) – sandals must wrap around the back of the foot, as flip flops and slide sandals are a hazard on stairwells.
- Trench coats.
- Hooded clothing with the hood covering the head.

- Clothing with vulgar, offensive, obscene, or libelous messages, especially messages that demean others on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, or disability; messages that promote alcohol or drug use or violence; or messages that are otherwise contrary to the program's educational mission.

A Note About Respect

Citizens are always expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and professional manner. Bear in mind that at Boys State, you will be working closely with your peers for a strenuous week. They deserve your attention and respect. In addition to other students, all of the counselors and other staff are volunteers, many of whom are taking time off from work, and some of whom are traveling from across the state or out-of-state to help put on a great program. Counselors and other staff deserve your appreciation and respect.

General Rules

These rules have been adopted by the administration of Arizona Boys State and may only be amended by the same.

1. Arizona Boys State staff reserve the absolute right to dismiss a citizen from the program without a refund and/or take other disciplinary action as appropriate if a citizen violates the letter or spirit of these rules or otherwise fails to meet the expectations of program participants. Any disciplinary action imposed by a counselor or other staff member cannot be contested in any Boys State court.
2. Citizens must attend Boys State for the full duration of the program. Late arrivals and early departures are permitted on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the Boys State staff.
3. Any signs of illness – particularly colds, fevers, or stomach disorders – and every accident must be reported to your counselor and/or first aid staff IMMEDIATELY.
4. All equipment provided is either the property of Arizona Boys State or the University of Arizona and is made available for the good of the program. Care must be taken to preserve this property, and all property must be returned at the end of the week in good condition.

5. Posters and signs may only be hung with blue painter's tape. Any damage to university property will be charged to the individual responsible, and he will be expected to pay the same.
6. No citizen shall trespass in portions of buildings not assigned to citizens of Arizona Boys State.
7. Citizens should proceed to meals, assemblies, etc. in groups (generally as a city) under the supervision of a counselor.
8. Citizens will obey the ordinances, resolutions, and laws passed by city, county, and state authorities, which shall be enforced by the Boys State criminal justice and court systems.
9. Each citizen will attend all scheduled assemblies, sessions, meetings, and events. Citizens will additionally be available for unscheduled meetings and events, as needed.
10. Each citizen will participate in one or more planned activities during each recreation period. Recreation periods shall NOT be used for napping, "alone time," or non-program-related activities.
11. Each citizen should be a candidate for at least one elected office. If a citizen loses his election, he will still be expected to fully participate in the program, including by serving in an appointed position, observing the legislature and courts, and/or volunteering for other jobs.
12. Unless specifically instructed by counselor or other staff member, no citizen shall operate an automobile while at Boys State, even though he may have consent of his parents. If the citizen drives to Boys State, he must purchase a parking permit and surrender all car keys to his counselor for the duration of the week.
13. No citizen shall bring, obtain, or retain any weapon (including but not limited to knives, stars, mace, pepper spray, and firearms), other dangerous items (including but not limited to fireworks and explosives), or dangerous or prohibited drugs, liquor, or tobacco in any form (including vape pens).
14. Citizens are expected to observe the rules of common courtesy and decency; avoid behavior that is offensive, boisterous, or rowdy; cooperate with duly elected or appointed officials; and respect the authority of counselors and other staff.
15. Citizens are expected to maintain the safety and cleanliness of shared spaces, including dorm rooms, shared bathrooms, study lounges, etc.
16. Prior to arrival, find out which Post or organization (if any) is your sponsor. It is strongly recommended that citizens write a thank-you note to their sponsor describing their Boys State experience and thanking their sponsor for the sponsor's financial support.
17. Vulgar, foul, indecent, or profane language – as well as racial, ethnic, religious, or sexual slurs – will not be tolerated. Violators may be dismissed and asked to leave the program.

Boys State Statutory Code

Previous sessions of Arizona Boys State have enacted the following laws. These laws may be amended by the Boys State legislature or by ballot initiative. Violations of any these laws may result in prosecution in the Boys State court system:

1. It is prohibited for any person to impede the duties or functions of any Boys State counselor or other staff member, or any elected or appointed official.
2. Disturbance after curfew is strictly prohibited. Activities in buildings that disturb the rights of persons in the buildings are prohibited.
3. It is prohibited for any person to be absent from any assembly without the explicit permission of a counselor or other staff member.
4. It is prohibited for a person not to be with his group when the group is traveling to a designated place.
5. Profanity is prohibited.
6. Signs shall not be affixed to any surface in a manner that causes damage to the surface. (Blue painter's tape is acceptable.) Campaign signs must be removed within four hours of the closing of the polls.
7. No person may hang a campaign sign or distribute campaign material in any public place unless he has filed a nominating petition for the office sought.
8. The official Boys State name tag shall be worn at all times except when participating in athletic events, changing clothes, bathing, or sleeping.

9. Removal of toilet paper, paper towel rolls, or any other similar items from public bathrooms and other public areas is prohibited.
10. The Boys State court of jurisdiction shall levy all punishment and fines for violations of these laws.

Boys State Creed

I believe in the constitutional form of government of the United States of America, which guarantees me the right to worship God as I choose, and as a citizen, equal opportunity and equal educational rights. Since American citizenship is my most priceless possession:

1. It is my obligation to participate in and contribute my effort to the civic and political welfare of my community, state, and nation.
2. I resolve to learn and understand government and the civic needs of my community; and
3. I hereby dedicate myself to the task of arousing and maintaining a like interest in my fellow citizens.

The Americans Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and the humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I, therefore, believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies.

Boys State Oath of Citizenship

By taking the Boys State Oath of Citizenship, you will be granted all rights and privileges afforded a citizen of The American Legion Arizona Boys State:

I, (state your name), do solemnly (swear/affirm), that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of the State of Arizona and of Arizona Boys State; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, and defend them against all enemies, foreign and domestic. I believe in the constitutional form of government of the United States, which grants me the right to worship God as I choose, or not at all, and as a citizen to enjoy the benefits of equal opportunity in education, and in seeking life's goals. I

accept the opportunities offered by Boys State citizenship: to become more knowledgeable in our form of government, and therefore, become a more productive citizen. I take this oath willingly, without reservation, (so help me God/so I do affirm).

Constitution of Arizona Boys State

Preamble

We, the citizens of The American Legion Arizona Boys State, in order to promote better citizenship and higher general knowledge of law and government, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

Article I: State Boundaries

Section 1:

The boundaries of The American Legion Arizona Boys State will be the designated buildings and outdoor areas of the south campus of the University of Arizona.

Article II: Declaration of Rights

Section 1:

No law shall be enacted respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or restricting the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of citizens peaceably to assemble; each citizen being held responsible for the abuse of these rights.

Section 2:

All citizens are qualified electors, and no lawmaking body or person shall interfere with or prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage.

Section 3:

No citizen shall be compelled in any criminal or civil case to give evidence against himself or to be twice put in jeopardy for the same offense. No citizen may be deprived of liberty or property without due process of law.

Section 4:

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury. The accused shall be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; be permitted to confront the witnesses against him; and have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Section 5:

Neither excessive fines nor cruel and unusual punishment shall be imposed.

Section 6:

The right of citizens to be secure against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, warrants shall be supported by oath or affirmation of cause and shall particularly describe the place to be searched and the citizen or things to be seized.

Section 7:

No ex post facto laws shall be enacted.

Section 8:

No law shall be enacted granting to any citizen or class of citizens privileges or immunities which, under the same conditions, belong equally to all citizens.

Section 9:

A citizen of The American Legion Arizona Boys State shall be a boy who has completed his junior year of high school. The previous session’s Governor and other returning Boys Staters shall be deemed honorary citizens without the right to vote or run for office.

Section 10:

No mode of administering an oath shall be inconsistent with nor binding upon the conscience of the person to whom such an oath is administered.

Section 11:

The Constitution of the United States shall be the supreme law of The American Legion Arizona Boys State.

Section 12:

The Constitution of the State of Arizona shall be binding upon all actions of the government of The American Legion Arizona Boys State.

Article III: Legislative Branch

Part I: State Legislature

Section 1:

The Legislature of The American Legion Arizona Boys State shall be bicameral in nature, composed of a House of Representatives and a Senate. The Legislature shall pass laws which promote the general welfare of the citizens socially, economically, and politically.

Section 2:

To be enacted, legislation shall have been passed by a majority of both houses and shall have been signed by the Governor. In the event that the Governor vetoes any legislation, the veto may be overridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of both houses, in which case the legislation shall be enacted. All laws enacted shall take effect twelve

(12) hours after enactment, except for emergency bills, which shall take effect immediately upon enactment. To qualify as an emergency bill, the bill shall have been passed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of both houses and shall have been either signed by the Governor or passed by three-quarters (3/4) of both houses over his veto.

Section 3:

The Legislature shall have all legislative power not denied to it by the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Arizona, or this Constitution.

Section 4:

Eligibility: All citizens of Boys State shall be eligible for election to the Legislature. A Boys State citizen so elected shall not hold any other elected office.

Section 5:

Election to the office: (1) Persons shall by petition be eligible for party nominations in the primary election. (2) The name of each nominee shall appear on the general election ballot and the nominee receiving the plurality vote shall, upon being sworn in, be officially declared a member of the Legislature.

Section 6:

Vacancies: When vacancies occur in the Legislature, the government of the city or county lacking representation shall issue writs of election to fill the vacancies.

Section 7:

Quorum and attendance: A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business; however, a minority may adjourn from day to day and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

Section 8:

Rules of proceedings: Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings and from time to time publish the journal with the exception of parts which in the judgment of each house require secrecy. The “yeas” and “nays” of the members of either house on any question shall, at the desire of the one-fifth (1/5) of those present, be entered into the journal.

Section 9:

Legislative immunity: (1) No member of the Legislature shall be liable to any civil or criminal prosecution for words spoken in debate. (2) Except for treason or felony, members shall not be subject to any civil or criminal

process during any session of the Legislature. (3) The definition of treason or felony shall be determined by the respective legislative chamber on a case-by-case basis.

Section 10:

Statutes: All laws previously enacted by the Arizona Boys State Legislature shall be subject to enforcement by the executive department unless replaced or repealed by the current session of the Arizona Boys State Legislature.

Section 11:

Each house shall maintain a gallery in which members of the public may be present to observe legislative proceedings. Unruly persons may be removed from the gallery.

Part II: House of Representatives

Section 1:

Election of Representatives: There shall be two Representatives from each city. Representatives shall be elected for a period of one year.

Section 2:

Officers: The officers of the House of Representatives consist of one Speaker, who is elected from and by the Representatives in the House of Representatives, and a Speaker pro-tempore, a parliamentarian, a chief clerk, a chaplain, and a sergeant-at-arms, each of which shall be appointed by the Speaker.

Section 3:

Special Powers: The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment.

Part III: Senate

Section 1:

Election of Senators: There shall be three Senators from each county. Senators shall be elected for a period of one year.

Section 2:

Officers: The Senate is headed by a President elected from and by the members. The President pro-tempore, secretary of the Senate, chaplain, sergeant-at-arms, and parliamentarian shall be appointed by the President of the Senate.

Section 3:

The chambers in which the Senate conducts its floor business shall be known as the Larry Bahill Senate Chambers.

Article IV: Executive Department

Section 1:

The executive department of Boys State shall consist of a Governor, a Secretary of State, a State Treasurer, and an Attorney General, each of whom shall hold his office from the time of his inauguration until the inauguration of his successor. The officers of the executive department during their terms of office shall perform such duties as are prescribed by this Constitution and as are provided by the statutes of The American Legion Arizona Boys State or as prescribed by the Program Director.

Section 2:

No person shall be eligible for any of the offices mentioned in Section 1 of this article except a citizen of Arizona Boys State.

Section 3:

The Governor of Boys State shall be the commander-in-chief of the Boys State Patrol.

Section 4:

The Governor may require information in writing from the officers of the executive department relating to the duties of their respective offices. He shall communicate by message with the Legislature and recommend such matters as he shall deem expedient.

Section 5:

The Governor shall have the power to grant pardons, subject to the statutes of The American Legion Arizona Boys State.

Section 6:

In case of the Governor's resignation, death, removal from office, absence from Boys State, or inability to discharge the duties of his office, the powers and duties of his office shall devolve upon the Secretary of State, then to the Attorney General, and then to the State Treasurer, until such disability ceases or during the remainder of the term.

Section 7:

Before it is enacted into a law, a bill passed by the Legislature shall be presented to the Governor. If he approves it, he shall sign it and it shall become a law. In the event a bill is disapproved, he shall return the bill with objections to the house in which the bill originated, which will then enter the objections in the journal. If, after consideration, the bill passes both houses by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members elected to each house, it

shall become a law as provided above notwithstanding the Governor's objections.

Section 8:

When any state executive office shall, for any reason, become vacant, and no mode is provided by the Constitution or statute for filling such vacancy, the Governor shall have the power to fill any such vacancy by making an appointment.

Section 9:

All commissions and incorporations shall be issued in the name of the state, shall be signed by the Governor, and shall be attested to by the Secretary of State.

Section 10:

The Governor and all other state officers shall be liable to impeachment for treason or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article V: Judicial Department

Section 1:

The judicial power of the state shall be vested in a Supreme Court, Superior Courts, and Justice Courts.

Section 2:

The Supreme Court shall consist of five Justices. All decisions of the court shall be given in writing, and the grounds of the decision shall be stated.

Section 3:

The five Justices shall elect the Chief Justice from among their members.

Section 4:

The Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction in habeas corpus and quo warranto and mandamus with respect to all state offices, and in all cases between counties concerning disputed boundaries and surveys thereof or concerning claims of one county against another. Such trials shall be without jury. It shall have appellate jurisdiction in all other actions and proceedings.

Section 5:

There shall be in each of the counties of the state, a Superior Court and a Justice Court. The judges of the Superior Courts and Justices of the Peace shall be elected at the general election to be held under the provisions of this Constitution. Their terms of office shall be coterminous with that of the Governor, and they shall be elected at the same time and in the same election as the Governor. The names of all candidates for the offices

of Judge of Superior Court and Justice of the Peace shall be placed on the regular ballot in alphabetical order, without partisan or other designation except the title of the office. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Judge of the Superior Court or Justice of the Peace, the Governor shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy.

Section 6:

The Justice Courts shall have original jurisdiction in all civil cases, and in such criminal cases as the Program Director of The American Legion Arizona Boys State or his designee may from time to time determine. The Superior Courts shall have original jurisdiction in such criminal cases as the Program Director of The American Legion Arizona Boys State or his designee may from time to time determine and shall have appellate jurisdiction over all cases tried in the Justice Courts.

Section 7:

The judge of a Superior Court may hear a case in another county at the request of the Judge of the Superior Court for that county, and a Justice of the Peace may hear a case in another county at the request of the Justice of the Peace for that county, in the case of the disqualification or the inability of the judge to serve. An appointed judge may serve in place of the disqualified judge when requested to do so by the Governor.

Section 8:

The Supreme Court, Superior Courts, and Justice Courts shall keep records of all proceedings.

Section 9:

Justices of the Supreme Court, Judges of the Superior Courts, and Justices of the Peace shall not be eligible for any other elected office.

Section 10:

No person shall be eligible for any judicial office unless he shall have attended the Boys State Law School and passed the Boys State Bar Exam.

Section 11:

The Justices of the Supreme Court shall appoint a Clerk who shall serve at their pleasure.

Section 12:

The Supreme Court may declare unconstitutional any act passed by the Legislature of Boys State or any ordinance passed by a city council or county board of supervisors that is contrary to a provision of the Boys State Constitution, the United States Constitution, an act of

Congress, a treaty of the United States of America, or the Arizona Constitution, as each has been interpreted according to principles of law.

Article VI: Elections and Nominations

Section 1:

All elections by the citizens shall be by secret ballot, and no person shall be entitled to vote in any election unless he is a citizen of Arizona Boys State.

Section 2:

Every citizen signing a nominating petition shall sign no more petitions for candidates than there are persons to be elected to that office.

Section 3:

The designated number of winning candidates, by a plurality, in primary elections shall be placed on the general election ballot.

Section 4:

In all general elections held by the citizens of Boys State, a person or persons receiving the highest number of legal votes shall be declared elected.

Section 5:

There are only two recognized political parties: the Federalist Party and the Nationalist Party.

Section 6:

In the case of a tie in the general election, the tie shall be broken by conducting an "Arizona Runoff."

Article VII: County and City

Part I: County

Section 1:

Each county of the state, now or hereafter organized, shall be a body politic equal in all respects to all other counties.

Section 2:

The elected county offices are as follows: (a) Supervisor, (b) Superior Court Judge, (c) Sheriff, (d) County Attorney, (e) County Treasurer, (f) County Recorder, (g) Clerk of the Superior Court, (h) Constable, and (i) Justice of the Peace. Each county shall elect three Supervisors.

Section 3:

The county officials shall be elected by the qualified voters of their respective counties and will be supervised by the Board of Supervisors.

Section 4:

The duties of all county officials shall be as prescribed by law or by the Program Director of The American Legion Arizona Boys State.

Part II: City

Section 1:

The city will be governed by three councilmen, one of whom will be elected Mayor by the City Council. The Mayor is the chief executive of the city. The City Council acts as a legislative unit for the city government by enacting ordinances for the welfare of its citizens.

Section 2:

The Mayor will appoint the following officers with the approval of the City Council: City Attorney, Chief of Police, City Clerk, City Treasurer, and Recreation Officer.

Section 3:

The duties of all appointed officers shall be determined by the City Council or by the Program Director of The American Legion Arizona Boys State.

Section 4:

No city or county shall restrict the use by the public of the streets, alleys, or other public grounds or ways.

Section 5:

A city may annex only property adjoining it and must obtain the written consent of fifty-one percent (51%) of the Arizona Boys State citizens residing in the area which the city seeks to annex. A map of any annexed property must be filed with the County Recorder.

Article VIII: Initiative and Constitutional Amendment

Section 1:

Initiative: By means of a petition signed by fifteen percent (15%) of the qualified voters, the citizens may compel the government to place a measure on a special ballot on which each citizen shall have the opportunity to vote. If approved by a majority of the citizens, the measure shall be enacted into law.

Section 2:

Constitutional amendment: To be adopted, an amendment to this Constitution must be placed on the ballot and ratified by an absolute majority of the citizens of Arizona Boys State. A proposed amendment may be placed on the ballot for ratification in two ways:

- A. *By initiative:* The amendment is placed on the ballot upon presentation to the Secretary of State an initiative petition bearing the signatures of twenty-five percent (25%) of the electors of Arizona Boys State; or
- B. *By legislation:* The amendment is placed on the ballot upon the approval of the amendment by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members of each house of the Legislature.

Article IX: Official Flag

Section 1:

The flag will be rectangular in shape.

Section 2:

The colors of the flag shall be gold, blue, and white.

Section 3:

The outline of the State of Arizona shall be in white. The words "Arizona Boys State" shall be in blue, and The American Legion emblem shall be in gold and blue.

Section 4:

The outline of the State of Arizona shall be centered in a field of blue with nine (9) golden rays radiating from it.

Article X: Desecration of Official Boys State Flags

Section 1:

In the areas occupied by The American Legion Arizona Boys State, it shall be illegal to desecrate any and all flags recognized by the Arizona Boys State Constitution. This infraction shall be considered an act of treason against the entire Arizona Boys State.

Section 2:

The areas occupied by The American Legion Arizona Boys State are those described in Article I.

Section 3:

The official flags recognized by The American Legion Arizona Boys State include the American Flag, the Flag of the American Legion, the Arizona Boys State Flag, the Flag of the State of Arizona, flags honoring American POW/MIAs, and flags of any and all branches of the United States military. This recognition is to be extended to any and all easily recognizable representations of any of the specified flags. The degree of easily recognizable representation shall be determined by the Program Director of Arizona Boys State and/or the current Governor of Arizona Boys State. Only one opinion in the affirmative by either party is necessary for a flag or flag representation to be granted Constitutional protection.

Section 4:

An act of desecration of any officially recognized flag or flag representation shall include any act that compromises the physical integrity of the flag or flag representation, and any act that alters the original appearance of the flag or flag representation, from the time of manufacture of the flag or flag representation. Acts of desecration do not include sanctioned flag burnings for the purpose of retiring a flag.

Government Organization

Arizona Boys State is comprised of six cities. Citizens are already assigned to a city when they reach Boys State. Each delegate rooms with one other citizen of his city, but from the opposite party. Each county consists of two cities. The counties and corresponding cities are listed below.

Compton County

- Carleton City
- Fremont City

Poston County

- Lapka City
- O'Neill City
- Orth City

Vawter County

- Pershing City
- Pruitt City
- Bahill City (2026 Capital City)

Assigned to each city are counselors, who will remain with the city for the duration of Boys State. They are there to help each citizen with all his problems, both personal and program related. The counselors will be great sources of information and will try to help you get the most out of the program.

List of Elected Offices

The following list specifies the available elected positions, as well as the applicable nominating petition requirements and education requirements, if any.

	<u>Signatures required on nominating petition</u>	<u>Education requirements</u>
City-level elected offices		
3 Councilmen (1 to be Mayor)	5 signatures from city (any party)	
County-level elected offices		
1 Justice of the Peace	5 signatures from party from county	Law school
1 Constable	5 signatures from party from county	
3 Supervisors	5 signatures from party from county	Legislative school
1 Sheriff	5 signatures from party from county	
1 Superior Court Judge	5 signatures from party from county	Law school
1 Superior Court Clerk	5 signatures from party from county	Law school
1 County Treasurer	5 signatures from party from county	
1 County Recorder	5 signatures from county (any party)	
1 County Attorney	5 signatures from party from county	Law school
State-level elected offices		
1 Governor	20 signatures from party	
1 Secretary of State	20 signatures from party	
1 Attorney General	20 signatures from party	Law school
1 State Treasurer	20 signatures from party	
5 Supreme Court Justices	20 signatures from party	Law school
3 Senators <i>per county</i> *	5 signatures from party from county	Legislative school
2 Representatives <i>per city</i> *	5 signatures from party from city	Legislative school

List of Appointed Offices

The following list specifies the available appointed positions, as well as the applicable education requirements, if any.

	<u>Education requirements</u>
City-level appointed offices	
1 Highway Patrolman*	
1 City Attorney	Law school
1 City Clerk	
1 City Treasurer	
1 Chief of Police	
1 Recreation Officer	
County-level appointed offices	
1 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors	
State-level appointed offices (non-legislative)	
1 Secretary to the Governor	
1 Superintendent of Patrol	
1 Clerk of the Supreme Court	Law school
State-level appointed offices (legislative)	
1 Chief Clerk of the House	Legislative school
1 Secretary of the Senate	Legislative school
2 Sergeants-at-Arms (1 for House, 1 for Senate)	
2 Chaplains (1 for House, 1 for Senate)	
Generals Counsel, Pages, Readers, and Runners (for both House and Senate)	

* The Highway Patrolman is appointed on a permanent basis by the counselors of each city. Other city-level appointments are made on a temporary basis until the City Council is elected and can make permanent appointments.

Overview of Elected Offices

A citizen may hold, at most, one elected office at a time. If a citizen is elected to City Council, for example, and subsequently elected to County Board of Supervisors, the citizen must choose one office to vacate. Unless the citizen says otherwise, he shall be assumed to have vacated the lower office.

City Council

The City Council is composed of three Councilmen, one of whom is Mayor, elected from the city at large. Core duties:

1. Act as a legislative body for the city government by enacting ordinances for the welfare of its citizens.
2. Consider the Mayor's recommendations regarding legislation, appointments, and other city business.
3. Hear reports submitted by the Mayor and other city-level elected and appointed officers.
4. Fill vacancies that may develop in elected and appointed offices on account of resignation, etc.

Mayor

The Mayor is the chief executive of the city and is chosen from among the three City Councilmen. Core duties:

1. Preside over all meetings of the City Council.
2. Appoint, with the consent of the City Council, the City Attorney, City Treasurer, Chief of Police, City Clerk, and Recreation Officer. The Mayor may also, with the City Council's consent, remove appointed officers from office.
3. Supervise the work of all appointed officers and hold them responsible for the proper performance of their duties.
4. Within 24 hours after taking office, present to the City Council a message related to the affairs of the city and recommend measures that he may deem expedient to the business of the city.

Justice of the Peace

The Justice of the Peace is the judge of the Justice Court, which is the lowest level of the Boys State court system. Core duties:

1. Issue warrants of arrest upon complaint filed in proper form by a law enforcement officer, County Attorney, or counselor or other staff.
2. Hear civil cases filed in proper form against citizens of his county.
3. Hear criminal cases filed in proper form against citizens of his county.
4. Organize the county's Justice Court, fix a regular time and place for holding sessions, and require the Constable to enforce his decisions.
5. Find violators of his official pronouncements to be in "contempt of court" and provide for proper penalties as authorized by law.

Constable

The Constable is a peace officer of the county and shall maintain order in and around the Justice Court. Core duties:

1. Serve as bailiff in the Justice Court.
2. Enforce all lawful pronouncements of the Justice of the Peace of the county.
3. Make lawful arrests as directed by the Justice of the Peace.
4. Serve writs, warrants, and subpoenas for the Justice Court and seize property as directed by the Justice of the Peace.
5. Assist other law enforcement officers in carrying out their duties in his county.

Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors is the governing board of the county. Core duties:

1. Select one member to be Chairman and appoint a Clerk to record meeting business.
2. Make appointments to fill vacancies in any county-level office.
3. Determine the county expenses and levy taxes necessary to meet these expenses.
4. Pass ordinances necessary for maintaining the general welfare and peace of the county.

Sheriff

The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer of the county. The Sheriff may appoint one or more deputies to assist him in the discharge of his duties. Core duties:

1. Serve as bailiff in the Superior Court.
2. Act as agent of the Superior Court, serving writs, warrants, and subpoenas.

3. Manage the arrest and safekeeping of persons charged with crimes under the laws of the state.
4. Act as the official jailer.
5. Supervise the carrying out of any prisoner's sentence.
6. Act as custodian of the residence hall housing his county and its equipment.
7. Manage the comportment and general conduct of the citizens of his county when they are together as a group in general meetings, the dining hall, while on trips, and during athletic events.

Clerk of the Superior Court

The Clerk is an important administrative officer of the Superior Court. Core duties:

1. Keep a complete record of all proceedings of the Superior Court.
2. Arrange the docket and calendar of the Superior Court.

Superior Court Judge

The Superior Court Judge presides over the Superior Court of the county in which he was elected. Core duties:

1. Serve as outlined in Article V, Sections 5-8 of the Boys State Constitution.

County Recorder

The County Recorder is responsible for the administration of all elections, under the oversight of the Elections Director. Core duties:

1. Manage the conduct of elections in the county.
2. Supervise Election Board members and ensure proper procedures are followed at polling places.
3. Organize and report the results of all contests on the ballot in the county.

County Treasurer

The County Treasurer is responsible for tracking the financial status of the county. Core duties:

1. Account for all general property owned or received by the county and manage all funds belonging to the county.
2. Collect taxes levied by the Board of Supervisors.
3. Submit a report to the State Treasurer of all funds collected and expended and forward any surplus funds to the State Treasurer.

County Attorney

The County Attorney is responsible for enforcing the law through the courts. The County Attorney may appoint one or more deputies to assist him in the discharge of his duties. Core duties:

1. Investigate crimes on his own initiative or on complaint of other citizens and institute criminal actions by filing process with the courts.
2. Prosecute all citizens charged with violation of state laws.
3. Represent the county in all civil suits to which any of its officers may be a party.
4. Bring to trial any public official suspected of misconduct in office.
5. Advise the Board of Supervisors and other county officials on any legal question.

Governor

The Governor is the chief executive of the government of Arizona Boys State. His functions and duties are outlined in Article IV of the Boys State Constitution. Core duties:

1. Act as the Chief Executive of Boys State.
2. Sign into law any bills passed by the State Legislature, or veto those bills found to not be in the best interests of Boys State.

Secretary of State

The Secretary of State acts as the custodian for official documents within the state. Core duties:

1. Maintain the records of Arizona Boys State and attest to all executive orders, commissions, and certificates issued by the Governor.
2. Keep adequate records of legislation passed and signed by the Governor, and forward to the Boys State administration any revisions to the Constitution or Handbook for future sessions.
3. Retain the Seal of Arizona Boys State and affix it to all official documents.

Attorney General

The Attorney General is the highest-ranking law enforcement official of the state. Core duties:

1. Provide legal advice and interpretations to state officials.
2. Represent Arizona Boys State in all suits or legal actions to which the state is a party.

3. Upon request of a County Attorney or the Governor, assist in the prosecution of citizens charged with violations of the laws of the state.

State Treasurer

The State Treasurer is the custodian of all funds belonging to the State. Core duties:

1. Account for all general property owned or received by the state and manage all funds belonging to the state.
2. Collect taxes levied by the State Legislature.
3. Prepare a report of all funds collected and expended by Arizona Boys State during the session.

Supreme Court Justice

A Chief Justice and four Associate Justices comprise the Supreme Court. Core duties:

1. Serve as outlined in Article V of the Boys State Constitution.

Overview of Appointed Offices

A citizen may hold an unlimited number of appointed offices.

Highway Patrolman

The Highway Patrolman ensures state-wide enforcement of law and order. Core duties:

1. Maintain orderly movement of citizens about the campus, particularly at meals.
2. Issue citations for violations when necessary to maintain peace and order at Boys State. Citations will be heard in the Superior Court or Justice Court of the defendant's county of residence.

City Attorney

The City Attorney acts as the city's primary legal representative. Core duties:

1. Provide legal advice to the Mayor and other city officers.
2. Represent the city when it is a plaintiff or defendant before any court.

City Clerk

The City Clerk is the official keeper of city records. Core duties:

1. Attend meetings of the City Council and keep records of its proceedings in the official journal.
2. Maintain a record of all elected and appointed positions held by all residents of the city.
3. Maintain city files for use by the Mayor and the City Council.
4. Maintain the City Book, which is a complete record of the activities of the city and its residents during the week and is an important consideration toward the Capital City Award.
5. Check the city's mailbox in Headquarters at every opportunity for mail and information.

City Treasurer

The City Treasurer is the official custodian of all city property and funds. Core duties:

1. Account for all general property owned or received by the city and manage all funds belonging to the city.
2. Collect taxes levied by the City Council.
3. Submit a report to the County Treasurer of all funds collected and expended and forward any surplus funds to the County Treasurer.

Chief of Police

The Chief of Police is the principal agent of law enforcement for the city. Core duties:

1. See that city ordinances are observed and order is maintained within the city.
2. Assemble citizens for assemblies and meals and report absences or laggards to the city counselors.

Recreation Officer

The Recreation Officer oversees the activities of the city during recreation periods. Core duties:

1. Organize athletic teams.
2. See that the city is represented in scheduled contests.
3. Keep citizens advised of all available recreational opportunities.

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Core duties:

1. Keep a journal of the activities of the Board of Supervisors.

2. Retain all county ordinances and resolutions and anything else considered appropriate for the County Book.

Secretary to the Governor

Core duties:

1. Assist the Governor with the discharge of his duties.

Clerk to the Supreme Court

Core duties:

1. Maintain and post the docket of the Supreme Court.
2. Record summaries of the cases heard by the Supreme Court and maintain a file of the decisions of the Supreme Court.

Superintendent of Patrol

The Superintendent of Patrol is responsible for the public safety of all of Boys State. Core duties:

1. Appoint at least one officer from each city.
2. Train the officers in their duties and supervise their activities as assigned or requested.

Chief Clerk of the House

Core duties:

1. Collect and organize all bills prepared by members of the House of Representatives.
2. Track bill numbers assigned to House Bills.
3. Prepare bills for reading before the House.
4. Track passage among committees and order runners to transfer bills to the Senate or to the Governor for approval.
5. Keep the journal of the House of Representatives.

Secretary of the Senate

Core duties:

1. Collect and organize all bills prepared by members of the Senate.
2. Track bill numbers assigned to Senate Bills.
3. Prepare bills for reading before the Senate.
4. Track passage among committees and order runners to transfer bills to the House of Representatives or to the Governor for approval.
5. Keep the journal of the Senate.

Sergeant-At-Arms

The Sergeant-at-Arms maintains the security of the legislative chamber and serves the legislature's power of subpoena on citizens within its jurisdiction.

General Counsel

The General Counsel represents the legislative chamber in all cases in which it is a party and provides legal advice to the members of the chamber.

Chaplain

The Chaplain delivers opening and closing prayer for daily sessions.

Pages, Readers, and Runners

These individuals assist the Chief Clerk of the House and Secretary of the Senate in reading bills aloud, running bills between houses, and delivering bills to the Governor.

Political Parties

The citizens of Arizona Boys State are divided into fictitious political parties: the Federalists and the Nationalists. These titles carry no political connotation. Citizens are assigned to parties by lot and are expected to remain loyal to the party for the duration of Boys State.

Great emphasis is placed on political parties, campaigns, and elections at Boys State. It is believed that citizens of a community, state, or nation have a better opportunity to express themselves in government through political parties than through their individual efforts as citizens.

Each party has its city (or precinct), county, and state organizations. Each party adopts its own platform based on collective aims and ideals. Caucuses are held so that citizens with mutual interests can collectively develop a program of government for the people as a whole to consider and express their support or opposition to the platform and candidates.

The success or failure of a party ticket will depend on its soundness and popularity, and the degree of aggressiveness with which the campaign is carried on. All citizens should seriously measure their particular qualifications for the office sought. Develop a following, campaign hard, and go into an election to win – but remember that if you lose, the citizens of the state have found something in your opponent or his party's

principles that they prefer over yours. Do something about it in a constructive manner; don't condemn the world because you have lost.

You must remember that at the conclusion of any election, only one candidate for a particular office can be successful. Politics is a serious business. You must be able to win or lose alike. That's true Americanism.

Party Organizations

All party members in a city meet in a special caucus to elect three Precinct Committeemen early in the Boys State program. Like in real-world politics, the Precinct Committee's job is to build party spirit and strength, to get out the vote for the party, and to meet with the Precinct Committee of the other party (as well as those of other cities in the county). Among the three Precinct Committeemen, one will be Chairman, who will make all nominations from his precinct for party offices and poll his precinct when votes are taken.

In addition to the party's Precinct Committee, each precinct will appoint three members to the local Election Board. Election Board members will be responsible for managing the polling places on Election Day.

At the county level, the Precinct Committees of the party will organize into a County Caucus. Each County Caucus is led by a Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Clerk. The County Caucus carries out the purposes of introducing candidates, developing party spirit, and filling any vacancies in county-level offices on the general election ballot that arise after the primary election.

At the state level, the parties organize into a State Caucus. The State Caucus is led by a Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Clerk. The State Caucus shepherds the state's party membership into creating a platform, helps to identify members who are running for office, builds party efficacy, and fills any vacancies in state-level offices on the general election ballot that arise after the primary election.

Election Procedures

Three elections will take place at Arizona Boys State. The first election, held on Day 2 (Monday), is a nonpartisan election for City Councilmen and County Recorder. The second election, held on Day 3 (Tuesday), is a primary election to determine each party's nominee(s) for the remaining county-level offices and all state-level offices. The primary election winners will then face off in a

general election held on Day 4 (Wednesday). Following the general election, elected and appointed officeholders operate the government of Boys State – a stage of the program known as “all offices operating.”

Petitions

To get on the ballot for any elected office, an office seeker must file a nominating petition with his City Clerk. The petition must include the requisite number of signatures from other citizens who support the office seeker's candidacy. The signing of petitions is the first opportunity for citizens of Boys State to exercise judgment by supporting qualified candidates for office. A citizen should not sign a petition to discharge a personal debt, nor because of friendship; rather, it should be objective. Citizens should sign only when satisfied that the office seeker can fulfill the obligations and discharge the duties of the office faithfully and well.

Citizens may sign as many petitions for a given office as there are positions. For example, there is only one Constable per County, so county citizens should sign at most one petition for Constable. On the other hand, there are three Supervisors, so citizens may sign three petitions for Board of Supervisors.

Primary Election

While the election for City Councilmen and County Recorder is nonpartisan, the election for state- and county-level offices (other than County Recorder) is different. There are both primary and general elections. Boys State follows the rule of the State of Arizona in that the primary election is closed to only the electors registered for the party. A citizen wishing for his name to appear on the primary election ballot must present a petition containing the requisite number of signatures of members of his party.

In the primary election, all candidates for all offices who are running for one party's nomination appear on the ballot of that party. The person receiving a plurality of the votes cast for an office by members of the party will then be the nominee for that party for the office in the general election.

Breaking A Tie

In the case of a tie, the tie will be settled by an “Arizona Runoff.” The candidates will cut a deck of cards, and the candidate who draws the low card will be declared the winner.

Voting Mechanics

Sample ballots will be posted for public inspection once Boys State HQ makes them available. **Candidates for office are encouraged to examine the sample ballots to ensure accuracy** (lest someone's candidacy be challenged in court). When voting, it is also important to follow the "Vote for not more than" direction listed on the ballot. This number varies by office, so make sure that you don't cheat yourself out of an opportunity to support candidates for an office in the election.

The Judicial System

The Arizona Boys State court system is one of the core components of the program. The Boys State courts hear both criminal cases (such as those relating to citations issued by the Highway Patrolmen) and civil cases (such as torts, contracts, and other private disputes between citizens).

There are three levels to the Boys State court system. Each county has a Justice Court, headed by the Justice of the Peace, which conducts civil and criminal trials. Each county also has a Superior Court, headed by the Superior Court Judge, which hears appeals from the county's Justice Court, and may also conduct trials. Finally, the Supreme Court, consisting of five Justices (one of whom is the Chief Justice), is Boys State's highest court. The Supreme Court typically hears appeals from the Superior Courts, but also has original jurisdiction in certain cases, as described in the Boys State Constitution.

All citizens of Boys State are encouraged to participate in the court system in some way during the program. There are many ways to get involved. For example, beyond the judge, every courtroom requires other court personnel, such as a bailiff and a clerk. Citizens may also be called to serve as a witness or juror in a trial. And of course, citizens who attend Law School and pass the Boys State Bar Exam are eligible to serve as lawyers and argue cases as prosecutors, plaintiffs' attorneys, or defense attorneys.

If you have a dispute with another citizen while at Boys State, consider bringing a case against him in court!

Additional Program Information

Names of Cities and Counties

Each city and county comprising Arizona Boys State is named in honor of an individual who was important to Arizona and/or The American Legion.

Compton County: Glenn R. Compton, a native of Flagstaff, served as a Navy Corpsman with the Marine Corps during WWII. He was a life member of Mark A. Moore Post 3 in Flagstaff, was a member of the Color Guard that posted the colors in 1947 at the first session of The American Legion Arizona Boys State, and participated in every session of Arizona Boys State until his death in 2008.

Poston County: Charles D. Poston is sometimes known as the father of the Arizona Territory. His lobbying is credited with having had considerable influence upon the enactment of the Organic Act of 1863, which made Arizona a territory.

Vawter County: Dr. Charles L. Vawter, Jr. was a life member of Luke Greenway Post 1 in Phoenix, served as Commander of The American Legion Department of Arizona, and represented the Department on the National Executive Committee of The American Legion. Dr. Vawter served as Program Director of Arizona Boys State for 50 years, retiring in 2018. In 2006, he was the recipient of The American Legion's National Education Award. Boys State was an integral part of Dr. Vawter's life and staffers were honored to lay him to rest alongside his family in 2020.

Bahill: Larry Bahill

Carleton: Col. James H. Carleton

Fremont: Gen. John Fremont

Lapka: Cpl. Christopher L. Lapka

O'Neill: Buckey O'Neill

Orth: Brig. Gen. William A. Orth

Pershing: Gen. John J. Pershing

Pruitt: Cpl. John H. Pruitt

Past Program Directors of Arizona Boys State

W.C. "Tom" Sawyer	1947
James D. Walkup	1948
Laurence W. Carr	1949
Delmar Layton	1950–1971
Dr. Charles L. Vawter Jr.	1972–2018
Larry Bahill	2019–2024*

*Arizona Boys State did not take place in 2020 or 2021 due to COVID-19.

In Memoriam

- John Aldecoa, past Deputy Program Director
- Glenn and Kay Compton, past board member
- Rose Mofford, past board member
- Dr. Charles L. Vawter Jr., past Program Director
- Christopher L. Lapka, past staff member
- Roland Matteson, past board member
- George Ernst, past staff member

Arizona Boys State Board of Directors

	<u>Additional position, if any</u>	<u>City of residence</u>	<u>First year on staff</u>
Gary A. Vaughan	Chairman (Department Commander)	Peoria, AZ	
Matt E. Kritzer	Secretary (Department Adjutant)	Laveen, AZ	
Samie L. McPherson	(Department Americanism Commission Chair)	Prescott, AZ	
Steve “Chico” Aguirre	Program Director	Tucson, AZ	2022
Larry Bahill	Director Emeritus	Tucson, AZ	1974
Natalie Bahill	Program Coordinator	Chandler, AZ	1994
Jeremy Davalos		Prescott Valley, AZ	2011
Alec Dugin		Tulsa, OK	2018
Cody Gaffney	Recruiting Director	Washington, D.C.	2008
Benjamin E. Headen	National Liaison	Tombstone, AZ	2021
Frank Hirrill	Deputy Program Director; Media, Marketing & Communications Director	Seabrook, TX	2023
Alfred R. Keyes III	Operations & Personnel Director	Gilbert, AZ	2013
Chris Rhode		Portland, OR	2013
David Roland	Finance Director; Treasurer	Tombstone, AZ	2025
Dustyn Sandsness		Casa Grande, AZ	2019

Awards and Honors

Each citizen is eligible for a number of awards based on his activities while at Boys State. Award winners will be announced during Closing Ceremonies at the end of the week.

Boys Nation

Each year, two outstanding citizens from every Boys State are selected for an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. for Boys Nation. The basis for selection is which boys will best represent Arizona Boys State. At Boys Nation, citizens will have opportunities to meet with national political leaders, experience the nation's capital, and work on legislative opportunities for the good of the country.

Capital City Award

Awarded to the most outstanding city, the capital city will be designated the seat of government for the following year. The returning Governor will be a counselor in the capital city in the next year. Selection of the capital city is based on the collective participation in the program by members of the city. Example criteria include the number of candidates for office; the number of elections won; participation in athletic events, the Boys State Band, the newspaper, and other extracurricular activities; and participation on juries. Citizens are encouraged to maximize participation to help their city achieve this award.

Memorial Awards

Tony and Roger Upchurch Memorial Award:

Awarded to the outstanding Mayor of Boys State.

Rueben C. Guerra Memorial Award:

Awarded to the outstanding county official by Morgan McDermott Post 7, Tucson.

Lawrence T. Wren Memorial Award:

Awarded to the outstanding judge by the State Bar of Arizona.

Arnold S. Gracia Memorial Award:

Awarded to the outstanding attorney.

Dick Auguston Memorial Award:

Awarded to the outstanding City Clerk.

Floyd Niewald Memorial Award:

Presented to the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, and the Chief Justice.

PDC Kay and Glenn Compton and Charles Compton Memorial Award:

Awarded by the Compton family to an outstanding Boys Stater.

Wesley Bolin Memorial Award:

Awarded to the outstanding legislator.

Hampton, Murph, Epstein Memorial Scholarship:

Presented to an outstanding student who intends to pursue a military career.

Esprit de Corps Award

Awarded to the citizen exhibiting outstanding leadership by the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona.

Samsung American Legion Scholarship

The Samsung American Legion Scholarship fund was established by Samsung (the multinational electronics corporation) to show appreciation for U.S. military veterans who served during the Korean War. One winner will receive a \$1,250 state-level scholarship and then advance to a regional competition with the potential to receive up to \$10,000 in additional scholarship funds. The recipient must be a direct descendant of a U.S. military veteran. The scholarship application must be submitted prior to your arrival at Boys State.

Essays

Two essay awards are available. Completed essays must be submitted to your City Counselor before the announced deadline (typically Thursday or Friday).

Christopher Lapka Americanism Essay Award:

Awarded by the Lapka family to the citizen writing the best Americanism essay.

Boys State Impression Award:

Awarded to the citizen writing the best essay on his impression of Boys State.

Other Awards

Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer Award:

Awarded to the outstanding law enforcement officer.

Journalist Award:

Awarded to the outstanding journalist on the Boys State Record.

Lobbyist Award:

Awarded to the outstanding lobbyist.

Athletic Award:

Awarded to the city winning the athletic competition by The American Legion.

Band Award:

Awarded to all members of the Boys State Band by The American Legion.

Outstanding County Award:

A rotating trophy awarded to the county judged most outstanding.

Schedule

Day 1 – Sunday: Citizens Arrive

10:00 AM: Staff Meeting – CORONADO

1:00 PM: Citizens Register

- Drop-off location: **Coronado Dorm (822 E. 5th Street, Tucson, AZ, 85719)**
- Receive city and party assignments
- Report to City Counselors

3:00 PM: Band/Choir Practice – CORONADO

4:30 PM: City Orientations – CORONADO

- Introductions and icebreakers
- Announce permanent appointment (Highway Patrolman)
- Announce temporary appointments: City Clerk, Recreation Officer, Chief of Police

6:00 PM: Dinner – TUCSON HIGH

7:30 PM: Opening Ceremonies – ENR2 N120

- Dress-up occasion (optional)
- Welcome, orientation, introduction to Boys Nation
- City Clerks to meet immediately after

8:45 PM: Recreation Period

10:15 PM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- Debrief Day 1 activities
- Reports from city officials
- Party precinct meetings: Select 3 precinct committeemen and 3 election board members
- Distribute nominating petitions for City Council and County Recorder; file with City Clerk
- Begin building party platforms

11:00 PM: Curfew

Day 2 – Monday: Schools and First Election

8:00 AM: Breakfast – CORONADO

8:45 AM: City Meeting – CORONADO

- Headcount and preview of Day 2 schedule
- Speeches from candidates for City Council and County Recorder

9:30 AM: Schools – CORONADO

- Class locations to be announced

NOON: Lunch – Global Center

1:00 PM: Schools – CORONADO

3:00 PM: Bar Examination – CORONADO

- Bar passage is required for attorney and judge positions

4:00 PM: County Caucuses – location varies:

VAWTER: **NATS – MCPRK 103 / FEDS – BLOW 208**

POSTON: **NATS – PAS 224 / FEDS – PAS 220**

COMPTON: **NATS – BLOW 219 / FEDS – BLOW 237**

- Select County Caucus Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Clerk
- Review available county offices
- Distribute nominating petitions

5:15 PM: Election Procedures Assembly / First Election – ENR2 N120

6:00 PM: Dinner – TUCSON HIGH

7:15 PM: State Caucuses – location varies:

NATIONALISTS: MCPRK 105

FEDERALISTS: ENR2 N120

- Select State Caucus Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Clerk
- Review available state offices
- Distributing nominating petitions
- Begin developing party platform

8:45 PM: Recreation Period

10:15 PM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- Debrief Day 2 activities
- Reports from city officials
- File nominating petitions for county and state positions with City Clerk

11:00 PM: Curfew

Day 3 – Tuesday: Primary Election Day

8:00 AM: Breakfast – CORONADO

8:30 AM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- Headcount and preview of Day 3 schedule

8:45 AM: Assembly on Law 101 – ENR2 N120

9:45 AM: County Caucuses – location varies (NOTE ROOM CHANGES):

VAWTER: **NATS – MCPRK 103 / FEDS – HAURY 129**

POSTON: **NATS – S SCI 222 / FEDS – PAS 220**

COMPTON: **NATS – SAGH 114 / FEDS – SAGH 225**

- Speeches from candidates for county offices and Senate

10:45 AM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- First meeting of City Council; selection of Mayor
- Speeches from House of Representatives candidates
- Begin working on city charter

NOON: Lunch – CACTUS GRILL

1:15 PM: Court Demonstration – ENR2 N120

2:30PM: State Caucuses – location varies:

NATIONALISTS: MCPRK 105

FEDERALISTS: ENR2 N120

- Speeches from candidates for state offices
- Continue developing party platform

3:30 PM: Primary Election – ENR2 N120

4:00 PM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- Finish working on city charter
- Announce permanent appointments
- Begin working on ordinances, resolutions, and city book

5:00 PM: Guest Speaker (Jimmy Arwood, Lobbyist) – ENR2 N120

6:00 PM: Dinner – TUCSON HIGH

7:00 PM: Future Leaders Summit – CORONADO

- Presenter locations to be announced

8:45 PM: Recreation Period

10:15 PM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- Debrief Day 3 activities
- Reports from city officials

11:00 PM: Curfew

Day 4 – Wednesday: General Election Day

8:00 AM: Breakfast – CORONADO

8:45 AM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- Headcount and preview of Day 4 schedule

9:15 AM: County Caucuses – location varies (NOTE ROOM CHANGES):

VAWTER: **NATS – MCPRK 103 / FEDS – MCPRK 101**

POSTON: **NATS – S SCI 222 / FEDS – S SCI 206**

COMPTON: **NATS – PAS 220 / FEDS – SAGH 225**

- Fill vacancies on General Election ballot
- Continue developing party platform

10:30 AM: State Caucuses – location varies:

NATIONALISTS: MCPRK 105

FEDERALISTS: ENR2 N120

- Fill vacancies on General Election ballot
- Finish developing party platform

NOON: Lunch – CACTUS GRILL

1:15PM: County Meetings – location varies:

VAWTER: MCPRK 105

POSTON: ENR2 N120

COMPTON: HAURY 129

- Both County Caucus Chairmen jointly preside
- Speeches from candidates for county offices and Senate

2:30 PM: State Campaign Assembly – ENR2 N120

- Both State Caucus Chairmen jointly preside
- Speeches from candidates for state offices

4:00 PM: Gubernatorial Debate and General Election – ENR2 N120

6:00 PM: Dinner – TUCSON HIGH

7:30 PM: Inauguration – ENR2 N120

- Dress-up occasion (optional)
- Introduction to lobbying
- Instructions to elected officials

8:45 PM: Recreation Period

10:15 PM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- Debrief Day 4 activities
- Reports from city officials

11:00 PM: Curfew

Day 5 – Thursday: All Offices Operating

Purple Shirt Thursday! Wear your favorite purple shirt!

8:00 AM: Breakfast – CORONADO

8:45 AM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- Headcount and preview of Day 5 schedule

9:00 AM: All Offices Operating – CORONADO

- Locations to be announced
- Orientation to positions

11:00 AM: State of the State Address – ENR2 N120

NOON: Lunch – CACTUS GRILL

1:15 PM: All Offices Operating – CORONADO

5:15 PM: Pima County Court Panel – ENR2 N120

6:30 PM: Dinner – TUCSON HIGH

7:30 PM: All Offices Operating – CORONADO

8:45 PM: Recreation Period

10:15 PM: City Meetings – CORONADO

- Debrief Day 5 activities
- Reports from city officials

11:00 PM: Curfew

Day 6 – Friday: All Offices Operating

Red Shirt Friday! Wear your favorite red shirt!

8:00 AM: Breakfast – CORONADO

8:30 AM: Special Presentation – ENR2 N120

11:00 AM: Boys Nation Balloting – ENR2 N120

NOON: Lunch – CACTUS GRILL

1:15 PM: Final All Offices Operating – CORONADO

- City books, legislative records, and clerk's notes due to HQ before dinner

6:00 PM: Dinner – TUCSON HIGH

7:30 PM: Talent Show – ENR2 N120

9:00 PM: City Parties – CORONADO

11:00 PM: Curfew

Day 7 – Saturday: Return Home

8:00 AM: Breakfast – CORONADO

8:45AM: City Meetings – CORONADO

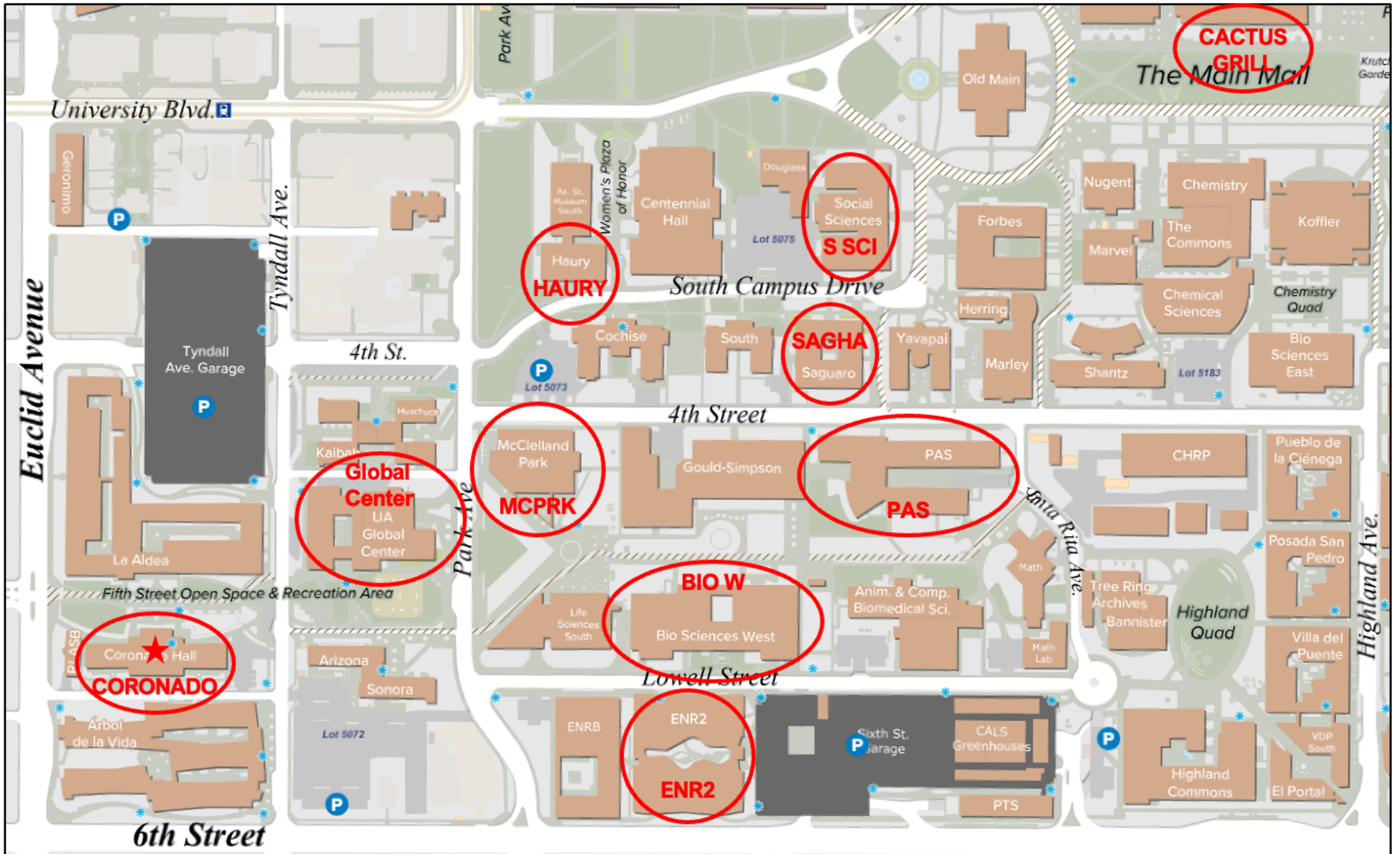
- Headcount and review check-out procedures

9:30AM: Closing Ceremonies – ENR2 N120

11:00 AM: Citizens Depart

- All students must be picked up by noon

Campus Map





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