

ALMBS CITIZEN PACKET

THE AMERICAN LEGION MOUNTAINEER BOYS STATE

JUNE 9 – JUNE 15
2024

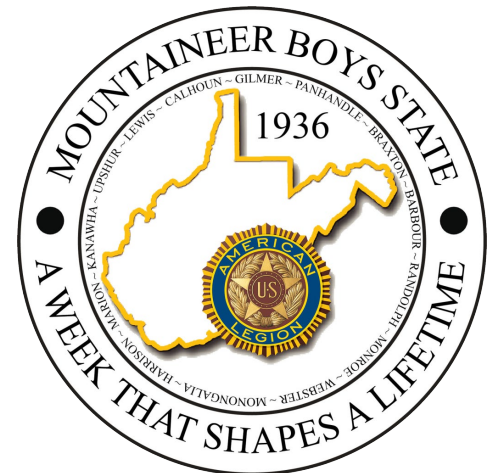
CONGRATULATIONS on your selection to attend The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State!

The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State is among the most respected educational programs of government instruction for high school students and is *West Virginia's Premier Leadership Academy*. Each participant becomes a part of the operation of his city, county, and state government. The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State has been a program of The American Legion Department of West Virginia since 1936.

At The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State, participants are exposed to the rights, privileges, duties, and responsibilities of a franchised citizen. The training is objective and practical with city, county, and state governments operated by the participants elected or selected to the various offices and positions. Activities are varied and include many facets of government such as elections, legislative sessions, legal proceedings, law enforcement presentations, assemblies, guest speakers, band, chorus, recreational programs, a college/career fair, and a talent show are also held.

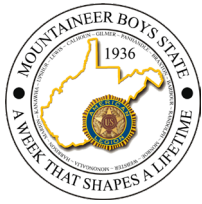
Male high school juniors are selected by local American Legion Posts to attend the program. Expenses associated with attending this program are paid by a sponsoring American Legion Post, a local business, community-based organization, or local individual(s).

WEST VIRGINIA'S PREMIER LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



85TH ANNUAL

A PROGRAM OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA



THE AMERICAN LEGION MOUNTAINEER BOYS STATE WEST VIRGINIA'S PREMIERE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

PREPARATION CHECKLIST

- Read entire contents of this packet.
- Obtain physical examination and bring completed *WVSSAC Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physician's Certification Form* and *Affidavit and Consent to Treat* to Registration. The *Affidavit and Consent to Treat* requires a parent(s)/guardian(s) signature and must be notarized.
- Attend an orientation session. (See enclosed schedule, additional sessions may be scheduled; visit online at <https://e.wvboysstate.org> for an updated schedule.)
- Visit ALMBS website <https://wvboysstate.org>.
- Subscribe to our channel on YouTube at <https://y.wvboysstate.org>, follow us on Twitter at: <https://t.wvboysstate.org>, follow us on LinkedIn at <https://i.wvboysstate.org>, like our Facebook page at: <https://f.wvboysstate.org>, and join the discussion on our Facebook group at: <https://fg.wvboysstate.org>.
- Study law lecture (<https://packet.wvboysstate.org>), under the Legal Career Path.
- Develop a plan (what you want to do/be at The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State) and backup plan(s) (if first, second, third, etc., plans fail.)
- Complete career path application (available at <https://packet.wvboysstate.org>), if interested. The Banking, Journalism, Office of Emergency Services, Corrections, State Police, DNR Police, Forensic Laboratory, Homeland Security/National Guard, and Business Management & Marketing career paths are hired positions and require the completion of an application.
- Pack personal belongings/items, including one pair of navy-blue shorts, musical instruments, etc. per enclosed instructions.
- Complete and bring the following additional forms to registration: *ALMBS Pledge*, *Proposed Legislation Form*, *Summer Foods Household Application*, *National Guard Waiver*, and *Order Form*.
- Arrive at WVU Jackson's Mill Main Pavilion (near swimming pool and West Virginia Building) on Sunday, June 9, 2024, between 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. (early arrival is recommended) with completed *ALMBS Pledge*, *Proposed Legislation Form*, *Summer Foods Household Application*, *National Guard Waiver*, *WVSSAC Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physician's Certification Form*, notarized *Affidavit and Consent to Treat*, and *Order Form*, personal belongings, musical instruments and no more than \$50.00 spending cash.



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INFORMATION BULLETIN

OVERVIEW

ATTENDANCE

You are attending The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State (ALMBS) on the recommendation of your school officials and members of The American Legion. You are expected to conduct yourself in a manner that reflects well on yourself as well as your school and community. **Being selected to attend ALMBS is an honor which should not be taken lightly.** You will be expected to show proper respect to the American Flag by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and you are expected to participate in the singing of the National Anthem. If you are not willing to do these, please inform us that you are unable to attend, so that a replacement can be found for you.

The staff reserves the right to dismiss any citizen for failure to follow camp rules, regulations, policies, and/or for engaging in behavior that is deemed by the staff to be inappropriate and/or disruptive. If you are dismissed from ALMBS, your High School Principal and sponsoring American Legion Post will be notified of your dismissal and reason for it.

If you will not be able to attend, immediately notify your school's recommending official, your local American Legion representative, and The American Legion Department of West Virginia Headquarters at (888) 534-4667. This will allow an alternate to be selected to replace you.

You are expected to remain in attendance for the entire session. All attendees of ALMBS agree to stay the entire duration of the program. Requests for excused absences from the program will only be approved by the Director in the event of an emergency and must be presented to the Director by the attendee's parent(s)/guardian(s). All expenses associated with your attendance at ALMBS have been provided by your local American Legion Post or another sponsoring organization, business, or individual. If you fail to make notification in a timely manner, you or your parent(s)/guardian(s) will be liable for reimbursement of the \$350.00 application fee. If you leave the camp early for any reason, you will be required to reimburse the balance of your meal and lodging fees to ALMBS.

PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY

The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State will adhere to all WV Bureau for Public Health and Lewis County Health Department guidelines that are in place at the time of the program. All participants, as in past years, will be required to have a physical examination and all participants will undergo a medical screening upon arriving at the WVU Jackson's Mill facility. Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing is encouraged and expected. Participants are permitted to bring face masks, hand sanitizer, and sanitization wipes. As of publication, the WV Bureau for Public Health and Lewis County Health Department policies do not require mandatory mask wearing. Participants will not be required to wear masks but are permitted to do so. This policy is subject to change and will be updated as necessary.

Only one person may accompany the Citizen through the registration process, and only registered Citizens and staff will be permitted in any cottages during Registration.



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SPECIAL NEEDS

If you have any special accommodation or dietary needs, please address those needs with The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State Director as soon as possible prior to camp at almbs@wvboysstate.org.

ALMBS STAFF

The staff of ALMBS is comprised of over 75 highly motivated and qualified individuals who work with one goal in mind: To make your week at ALMBS one of the most rewarding, educational, and worthwhile experiences of your life. The staff is drawn from the ranks of The American Legion, West Virginia State Police, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Section, other Agencies of West Virginia Government, United States Military Services, professional career fields, The American Legion State Headquarters staff and former ALMBS Citizens who distinguished themselves during their participation in the program. All staff members are volunteers and receive no financial compensation for their participation. The staff is always available to assist you should a question or problem arise.

ORIENTATION SESSIONS

You and your parent(s)/guardian(s) are requested to attend an Orientation Session. Preregistration for an Orientation Session is required. The purpose of the Orientation is to acquaint you and your parent(s)/guardian(s) with the ALMBS program. You will meet others who will be attending ALMBS and will have an opportunity to ask questions about the program. **Please have this information packet with you during the Orientation Session.**

The programs should last approximately 45 minutes. Your local American Legion Post may have a supplemental orientation that will provide additional information. The orientation sessions will be held virtually. It is requested that the citizen be available by video; however, this is not required. ***Pre-registration should be completed on the ALMBS website at <https://e.wvboysstate.org>, preferred at least 3 hours prior to the scheduled orientation.*** To register you will need to:

1. Go to <https://e.wvboysstate.org> and select the orientation that is the most convenient for you to attend.
2. Enter the password “**1936**” (numbers only).
3. Select the blue box labeled “Going.”
4. Complete the Attendee Registration form.
5. Commit your RSVP by clicking the blue box labeled “Finish.”
6. The screen will refresh and show a blue checkmark that “You Are Going.”
7. Verify you received an email in your registered email box that includes the Zoom link to the orientation.

DO NOT LOSE THIS LINK AND CONNECTION STRING AS YOU WILL NEED THIS TO CONNECT TO THE ONLINE ORIENTATION. If you have not received this email within 2 hours, check your spam folder, and then if you still have not received it, send an email to almbs@wvboysstate.org and request the information be sent to you. Please include your name and registration email address in this request so that we can appropriately identify your registration.

Orientation sessions will be held at 7:30 p.m.

May 14 May 16 May 20 May 22 May 24 May 26 May 29 June 1

Additional sessions may be scheduled; please visit us online at <https://e.wvboysstate.org> for an updated schedule.



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ALMBS WEBSITE

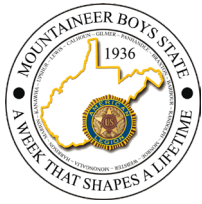
ALMBS has a website that can be accessed at <https://wvboysstate.org>. All information and any updates contained in this packet can be located directly at <https://packet.wvboysstate.org>. The website will be updated daily with information about the Citizens' activities, including election results, daily newspaper, pictures, assemblies, speakers, etc. There will also be live video feeds of major events during the camp, check our website daily for a list of scheduled events that can be streamed. ALMBS maintains a web presence through the following mechanism: Twitter (<https://t.wvboysstate.org>), Facebook (<https://f.wvboysstate.org>), LinkedIn (<https://i.wvboysstate.org>), YouTube (<https://y.wvboysstate.org>), and Zenfolio (<https://p.wvboysstate.org>). Please check us out and subscribe to the social media system for which you are a member.

SAMSUNG AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIP

If you are a direct descendant (e.g., child, grandchild, great grandchild, stepchild) of a US wartime veteran, a participant in the ALMBS Program, and a current year Junior, you are eligible to apply for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship.

If eligible, complete the application online, upload the required Veteran's Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty (Form DD-214) or other government document showing time served on active military duty and submit your application online prior to your arrival at camp. This is the only year that you can apply for this scholarship, so make sure that you apply if you're eligible. Extra points are awarded towards your application for American Legion Family membership. If you are a member or have recently joined, you will need to upload a copy of your membership card or your receipt from joining when you are completing your application. **Applications MUST be submitted online (<https://samsung.wvboysstate.org>) prior to your arrival at ALMBS.**

If you need assistance in obtaining a copy of the veteran's DD-214, you may contact the West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance Cabinet Secretary's Office at (304) 558-3661 or through your local Field Office (locations can be found by visiting <https://veterans.wv.gov>). They may not have copies of every DD-214, but they may be able to tell you how to get a copy. The County Clerk's office, in the county to which your qualifying wartime veteran returned from war, may also be a source of the DD-214 form.



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TRANSPORTATION

All transportation to and from ALMBS ***must*** be furnished by parent(s)/guardian(s) or sponsor(s). The ALMBS Board of Directors voted to ban automobiles being driven to camp by Citizens. ALMBS is a very intense program, and the Board made this decision out of concern for the safety and well-being of the Citizens on their drive home.

For safety purposes, Citizens are prohibited from bringing their own vehicle to ALMBS.

You should arrive between 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday. Early arrival is recommended. The Commencement Ceremony will begin on Saturday morning promptly at 9:15 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 11:00 a.m.

LOCATION

ALMBS is held at WVU Jackson's Mill near Weston, West Virginia. This facility is nestled in the most beautiful hills of West Virginia and offers every comfort and recreational facility of a modern camp. The native stone Mount Vernon Dining Hall, 14 spacious and healthful county cottages, a tennis court, softball fields, volleyball courts, swimming pool, frisbee golf course, and other facilities make WVU Jackson's Mill an ideal home for ALMBS. ALMBS has been held at WVU Jackson's Mill since the beginning of the ALMBS program in 1936.

You will be randomly assigned to one of fourteen (14) cottages. Each cottage will be managed by a Senior Counselor and one (1) to three (3) additional Counselors, depending upon the cottage's size. You will be assigned a bed, mattress, pillow, bed sheets, pillowcase, and blanket. You will be provided instruction on the proper way to maintain your living quarters and a daily inspection of the cottages will be conducted by an Inspection Staff.

REGISTRATION

Registration for ALMBS will promptly begin at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 9, 2024, at the MAIN PAVILION, WVU Jackson's Mill. Follow posted signage to registration. The closest entrance to this location is from Lightburn Road by the pool entrance. The WVU Jackson's Mill grounds can be accessed from Jacksons Mill Road or Lightburn Road (see enclosed map). Registration will close by 9:30 a.m. and ALMBS will be operational at that time. Early arrival is recommended. It is recommended that you eat breakfast prior to Registration. **ALL forms in the Forms Packet must be completed and brought to registration.**

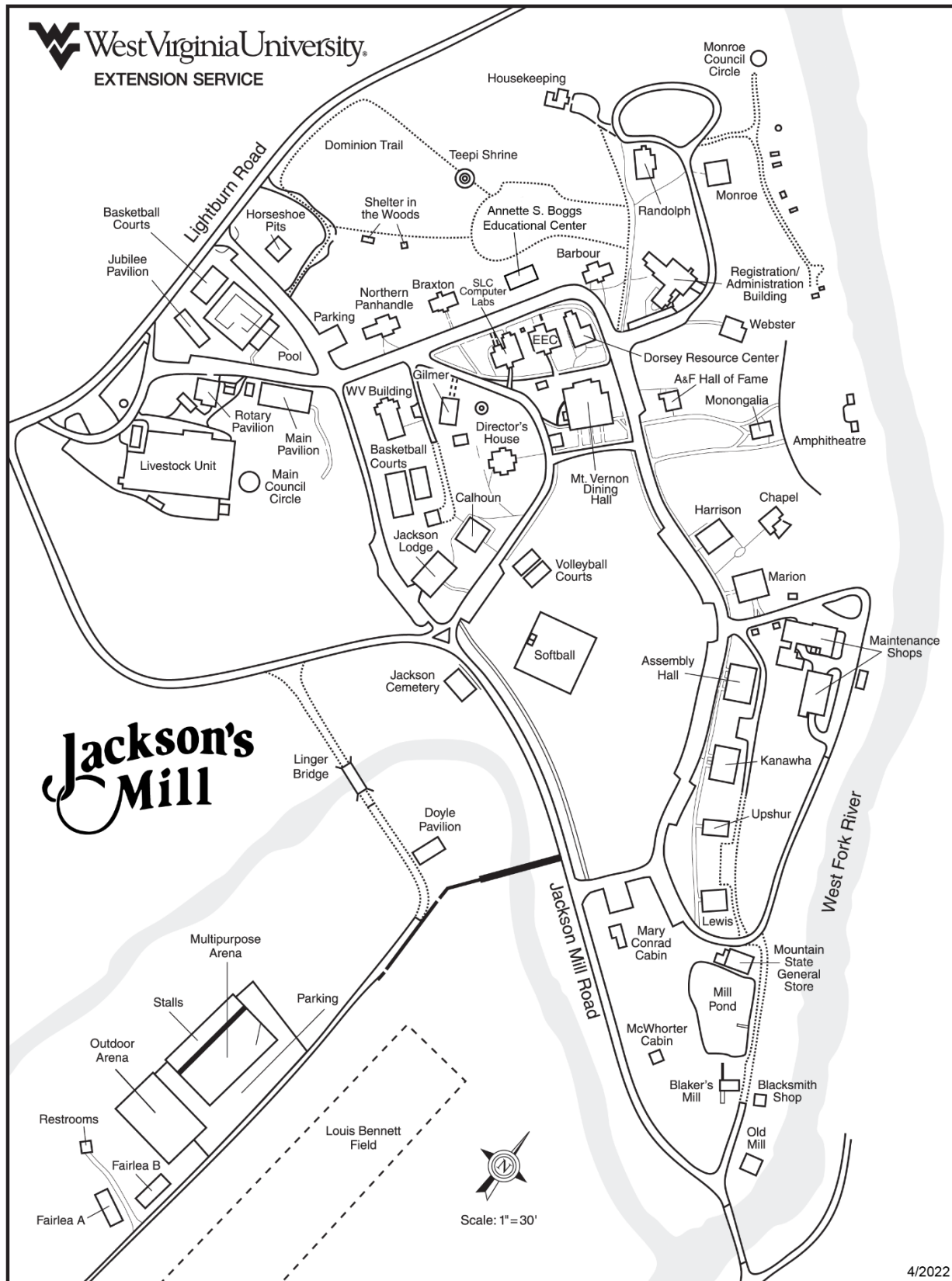
Only one parent/guardian may accompany the Citizen through the registration process, and only registered Citizens and ALMBS staff will be permitted in any cottages during Registration.

During Registration, you will be issued the ALMBS Manual and one (1) ALMBS T-shirt. Additional ALMBS T-shirts can be purchased for \$6.00 each. It is recommended you purchase at least two (2) additional T-shirts at the time of Registration. Additional T-shirts will be available for purchase throughout the week. The official ALMBS Citizen uniform consists of the ALMBS T-shirt and suitable pants. The ALMBS T-shirt will always be worn. The ALMBS T-shirts will be washed by staff members one time midway through the week. Your first meal will be the afternoon meal on Sunday at 12:30 p.m.



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WHAT TO BRING

You should bring one travel bag with a week's supply of:

- Underclothing
- Comfortable socks and shoes such as athletic shoes with at least one pair being a dark color
- Soap and shampoo
- Hand sanitizer
- No. 2 Pencils (at least 2)
- Sleepwear
- One pair of navy-blue shorts
- Comfortable and respectable pants (to include long and short)
- One light jacket or sweater
- Disinfectant hand wipes
- Notebook
- Shaving and toilet articles
- House slippers, shower shoes, flip flops
- Face and bath towels
- Mobile phones or personal communication device
- Rain gear (poncho)
- Masks (personal preference)
- SAL Uniform Cover, if applicable

The below items are optional personal equipment that may make your stay at ALMBS more enjoyable.

- Swimming trunks
- Snacks
- Baseball/softball gloves/tennis equipment
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Musical instruments
- Flashlight
- Frisbee golf equipment
- Sleeping bag

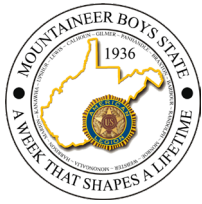
All personal equipment should be marked with your name or identifying mark. ALMBS is not responsible for personal items, and it is recommended that all items be marked with your name and contact information.

If you are elected to a state office (Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Treasurer, Auditor, Commissioner of Agriculture, Supreme Court Justice, Speaker of the House, President of the Senate) or if you are appointed State Superintendent of Schools, you will be required to wear a *business suit* during the Inauguration and Formal Review on Wednesday. Those not elected to a state office will be required to wear the ALMBS T-shirt and navy-blue shorts during the Inauguration and Formal Review on Wednesday. If you are a member of the SAL, you will be permitted to wear your Uniform Cover for the Formal Review.

On Thursday, all state office holders (Board of Public Works) and all members of the House of Delegates and Senate will travel to the WV Capitol to conduct a joint session with like participants of The American Legion Auxiliary West Virginia Rhododendron Girls State. The following laws were adopted at the 2023 ALMBS that affect the state office holders (Board of Public Works) and all members of the House of Delegates and Senate:

“WEST VIRGINIA CAPITOL FORMAL WEAR REQUIREMENTS (Enacted 2023) – While going to the Capitol of West Virginia, there shall be a formal dress code. Within this dress code shall be but not limited to formal clothing, such as khakis, dress pants, non-ripped jeans, formal shirts, polos, button-up shirts, and dress shirts. Optional wear includes jackets, dress shoes, three (3) piece suits, and ties. All members of the House of Delegates and Senate shall be provided polos to wear at all Legislature sessions and these may be worn to the state capitol in substitution of the formal wear.”

“SUIT UP CEREMONY ACT (Enacted 2023) – The Senate, House of Delegates and Board of Public Works shall wear formal wear/nicest clothes possible at the ceremony at the end of The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State Program.”



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It is recommended that **no more than \$50.00 in spending money be brought** for optional expenses. Refreshments will be ordered on Friday evening; a \$5.00 donation is requested to help defray the cost. Souvenirs, postage stamps, soft drinks, and snacks are available for purchase on campus throughout the week.

Citizens are permitted to bring cellular/smart telephones, and other electronic communication devices; however, these private communication devices are to be used during scheduled free time. Use of these private communication devices at any other time, to include after "lights out," can be disruptive and will be confiscated. An attendee's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified if it becomes necessary to confiscate a private communication device and all confiscated communication devices will be returned at the conclusion of the camp.

You will be provided three meals daily in the Mount Vernon Dining Hall, and you may eat as much as you like. There is a Gift Souvenir Shop and vending machines located on the grounds.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

Do not bring campaign literature, cards, signs, pins, hats, or other objects that can be used for soliciting votes. Items used to prepare campaign materials are not permitted. These include markers, paper, poster board, etc. The use of these items will result in your immediate disqualification from the office you are seeking. Campaign materials will be available for purchase (with the ALMBS currency). This allows each Citizen to start on an equal basis.

DO NOT BRING

Illegal drugs
Alcoholic beverages

Vaping/Tobacco products
Any type of weapon

Pornographic material
Fireworks

Possession of these items is strictly prohibited. Violators will be immediately dismissed from the ALMBS and may be subject to arrest. Additionally, a dismissed Citizen's high school principal and sponsoring American Legion Post will be notified of the dismissal and the reason for it.

Do not bring large laptops/PCs, gaming consoles, or other expensive electronic equipment. These devices are not necessary for your stay at the program and have generally proven to be disruptive during the camp. Do not bring anything that is extremely valuable. Expensive items cannot be secured throughout the week.

VISITORS

Your parent(s)/guardian(s) are welcome to visit you throughout the week (recommended between 6:15 p.m.–7:30 p.m. daily). They may enjoy visiting on Wednesday evening, at 6:30 p.m., for the Formal Review held on the Parade Field followed by visitation until 8:00 p.m.

The Formal Review will begin promptly on Wednesday, June 12, at 6:30 p.m. PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)/GUEST(S) SHOULD PLAN ON ARRIVING NO LATER THAN 6:00 P.M. AT THE PARADE FIELD, which is located across from Harrison Cottage.

It is also recommended that your guests bring lawn chairs and cold bottled water. Small coolers are permitted during the Formal Review. If your guests are a member of any of The American Legion Family organizations, it is requested that they wear their Uniform Cover for the Formal Review.

All visitors, other than those attending the Formal Review, must report to General Headquarters in the Dorsey Center to sign in. Staff members will be present to assist your guests during their visit(s).



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COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Your parent(s)/guardian(s)/guests are also encouraged to attend the Commencement Ceremony that will begin promptly at 9:15 a.m. on Saturday morning in the Multipurpose Arena, which is located adjacent to Louis Bennett Field. This ceremony will end by 11:00 a.m.

Your parent(s)/guardian(s)/guests should arrive at WVU Jackson's Mill between 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and proceed directly to your cabin. Upon arrival at your cabin, they will pick up your luggage and personal items and proceed off the main campus of WVU Jackson's Mill to the Parking Area at the Multipurpose Arena to prepare for the Commencement Ceremony. Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair with them for this event and may congregate in the open area of the Multipurpose Arena. All parent(s)/guardian(s)/guests must be off the main campus by 8:05 a.m. The Citizens will then proceed to breakfast before the Commencement Ceremony. At the conclusion of the Commencement Ceremony, you will be given your graduation packet and be dismissed from the ALMBS. No one is permitted to re-enter the Main Campus of WVU Jackson's Mill for another program will be setting up at this time. **If your guests are a member of any of The American Legion Family organizations, it is requested that they wear their Uniform Cover for the Commencement Ceremony.**

At the conclusion of the Commencement Ceremony, all graduates will receive their graduation packet which includes a certificate of completion, ALMBS pin, and graduation cord to be worn at your high school graduation ceremony. We have worked with the county board of education superintendents across the state and received approval for you to wear the graduation cord the following year.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you have any questions prior to your arrival, you may contact us at almbs@wvboysstate.org or through the ALMBS website at <https://wvboysstate.org>. We will do our best to respond to your questions within 24 hours of receiving your message.

If you have any questions at any time throughout the program, do not hesitate to ask a staff member.

- CAN I BE A PARTY CHAIRMAN AND RUN FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE? Yes. However, you cannot run for more than one office at each level (state, county, and city).
- CAN I RUN FOR A CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE OFFICE AT THE SAME TIME? Yes. However, you cannot run for more than one office at each level (state, county, and city). A Citizen can hold only one elected office.
- DOES PARTICIPATING IN THE ALMBS BAND/CHORUS KEEP ME FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE ALMBS POLITICAL PROCESS? No. Participating in the band/chorus is an added benefit. As a band/chorus member, you can take part in all aspects of the political process, and you also receive compensation (ALMBS currency) for each performance.
- HOW DO I FINANCE MY POLITICAL CAMPAIGN? Political campaigns are financed with your personal funds (ALMBS currency) and by obtaining campaign contributions (ALMBS currency) from other Citizens.
- AS A VOTER, HOW MUCH CAN I CONTRIBUTE TO A CANDIDATE'S CAMPAIGN? You are limited to contributing \$50.00 per office to any candidate.
- DO CANDIDATES HAVE TO ACCOUNT FOR CAMPAIGN MONIES? Yes. Any winning or losing candidate must file a Campaign Contribution and Expense form with the ALMBS Secretary of State.



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A FEW DOS AND DON'TS

- DO.....Extend yourself to the fullest within the ALMBS.
- DON'T.....Think you can't do something without trying first.
- DO.....Come to the ALMBS with an open mind and a willingness to become involved.
- DON'T.....Think you are coming to a recreation camp.
- DO.....Come to the ALMBS with enthusiasm and a willingness to show pride in your country by paying proper respect to the flag.
- DON'T.....Hesitate to keep your local American Legion Post and sponsor informed of what you are doing. They are proud to have you represent them.
- DO.....Be proud of being selected to attend the ALMBS. It is an honor afforded only to a special group of young men each year.



THE AMERICAN LEGION MOUNTAINEER BOYS STATE WEST VIRGINIA'S PREMIERE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

ACTIVITIES

A real state with all the subdivisions of government is placed in operation by the Citizens under capable leadership. This fifty-first State of the Union is headed by the elected Governor. Officials (state, county, and municipal) are elected through primary and general elections. Many functions of government are in operation throughout the week. This includes courts, law enforcement, boards of education, other governmental units, a newspaper, and a bank.

ALMBS has its own legislative division including the House of Delegates and State Senate. The West Virginia State Code is followed with such additional measures as the ALMBS Legislature adopts.

AMERICAN LEGION MOUNTAINEER BOYS STATE CAREER PATHS

Each Citizen participates in this serious, but fascinating, leadership academy. **You will have a full-time job.** There is no public assistance at the ALMBS. You will be paid a salary (in ALMBS currency) based upon the job(s) you perform.

Upon arriving at the ALMBS, each Citizen is given a checking account with \$1,000.00 in ALMBS currency. From that account, the Citizen pays a variety of taxes, license fees, registration fees, and other costs related to maintaining a household and employment within a city, county, and state. In addition, Citizens pay taxes on their real property (bed). Each Citizen will make deposits and withdrawals in his account by earning monies through a position of employment within the ALMBS and participation in organized activities (e.g., band, athletics, chorus, Americanism).

Please review the enclosed ALMBS Careers Packet to see all the available jobs at ALMBS. You will have one of the "Full Time" jobs by Wednesday morning, so it is recommended you pursue a job that interests you.

ALMBS jobs fall within the following career paths:

**Political
Corrections
Law Enforcement**

**Office of Emergency Services
Homeland Security / National Guard
Forensic Laboratory
Business Management & Marketing**

**Legal
Banking
Journalism**

You are highly encouraged to pursue the job that is of most interest to you, whether that's running for office or applying for a 'hired' position.

RECREATION AND ATHLETICS

There are a variety of recreational opportunities at ALMBS to include intramural type athletic competitions where the ALMBS Counties compete against one another. The games that are played are one pitch softball, volleyball (hard court and sand court), basketball, kickball, and ultimate frisbee. Each County will have an Athletic Director whose responsibility will be to ensure that his county fields a team at the scheduled games. There is also a swimming pool, tennis court, gaga ball, a frisbee golf course, small fitness center, and walking/hiking/running trails.



THE AMERICAN LEGION MOUNTAINEER BOYS STATE WEST VIRGINIA'S PREMIERE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

AMERICAN LEGION MOUNTAINEER BOYS STATE BAND

The ALMBS traditionally has an excellent band. The band plays for assemblies, flag raising, Formal Review, political rallies, and other events. **BRING YOUR INSTRUMENTS!** Citizens who participate in the band will have plenty of time to participate in other activities and will receive compensation (in ALMBS currency) for each of their performances. There are some items you will want to bring such as a flip folder, lyre, reeds, valve oil, etc. If you have a music stand, you may also want to bring it. The ALMBS does not own any instruments, so please be sure to bring your own, especially tuba players. We encourage all wind players to participate, especially horns, baritones, trombones, trumpets, saxes, clarinets, and flutes. Percussionists need to bring snares and tenors. We normally borrow one bass drum and set of cymbals, but feel free to bring them if you can. **Guitars, dulcimers, banjos, harmonicas, and any other types of instruments are also welcome.** Guitar players are reminded to bring your amp. Each night, when time permits, an informal gathering of musicians is permitted to occur. This allows those interested to showcase their talents. Additionally, a talent show will be held on Friday evening and musicians may want to participate. If you are interested in participating in the ALMBS Band, please visit <https://packet.wvboysstate.org> and practice the provided music prior to your arrival.

DEVOTIONS

Non-denominational devotion services, under the guidance of staff members, are held nightly at the Chapel. Citizens who wish to participate are encouraged to do so. Citizens may volunteer to lead these services.

THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS NATION

The National Headquarters of The American Legion conducts a program called The American Legion Boys Nation (ALBN), which is held in Washington, DC. This program picks up the instructional process on government where respective American Legion Boys State programs leave off. Through hands on participation, young men learn about the Federal Government and its process. The American Legion Boys Nation delegates meet with legislators from both Houses of Congress, Administration Officials, and usually have an opportunity to meet the President of the United States. Delegates will tour many historic sites in and around Washington, DC and lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.

The American Legion Boys Nation follows the national political process and culminates its program with the election of the President of the Boys Nation Senate. The Boys Nation is conducted at Marymount College in Arlington, Virginia. Two (2) ALMBS Citizens will be selected to represent West Virginia at Boys Nation. **This is the highest honor bestowed upon a Citizen of the ALMBS.** Only those ALMBS Citizens who are elected to a state office, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, and each political party chairman, are automatically eligible to apply for consideration. The American Legion Boys Nation Selection Committee may consider Citizens who did not obtain one of the above offices, but who have excelled in all aspects of the program. The American Legion National Headquarters pays for the transportation, housing, and meal costs of all delegates to Boys Nation. Alternates will be selected in the event a principal delegate is unable to attend.

Key attributes of American Legion Boys Nation attendees are policy knowledge (international/national), debate skills, charisma, self-confidence, and love of country. To participate in all activities of ALBN you must possess a government issued photo identification (e.g., driver's license, passport, identification card).