



PENNSYLVANIA AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIPS



THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIPS CAN BE FOUND AT

<http://pa-legion.com/programs/student-programs/>

1. **ESSAY CONTEST*** Open to any student in grades 9th-12th who is enrolled in a Pennsylvania school. Essay is between 500-1,000 words on a topic chosen by the committee. 1st-\$3,500.00, 2nd-\$3,000.00 and 3rd-\$2,500.00 places awarded.
2. **ORATORICAL CONTEST*** Open to any student in grades 9th-12th who is enrolled in a Pennsylvania school. Consists of two parts, one a memorized oration and an extemporaneous oration on an assigned topic. 1st-\$7,500.00, 2nd-\$5,000.00 and 3rd-\$4,000.00 places awarded.
3. **SEBASTIANELLI DRUM CORPS SCHOLARSHIP*** Open to any senior who is child/grandchild of a Pennsylvania Legionnaire living or deceased. The student must be a member of a high school band and is going on to higher education with a major in music. Winner receives \$500.00.
4. **JOSEPH P. GAVENONIS SCHOLARSHIP*** Open to any Pennsylvania high school senior who is child/grandchild of a Pennsylvania Legionnaire. The student needs to be seeking a four year degree in a Pennsylvania college or university.
5. **ROBERT W. VALIMONT ENDOWMENT*** Open to any Pennsylvania high school senior who is child/grandchild of a Pennsylvania Legionnaire. The student needs to be seeking a two year career, oriented education or training in a less-than-four-year program in a Pennsylvania school.
6. **ROBERT TRACE ESSAY CONTEST*** Open to students 15-18 years of age who is child or grandchild of a Pennsylvania Legionnaire living or deceased or child of a Pennsylvania soldier killed as a result of war on terrorism. Complete a 300-500 word essay on the topic "Patriotism and Citizenship - What America means to me". Winner receives \$500.00.

THE NEXT TWO ARE WEEK LONG CAMPS WITH THE POSSIBILITY TO EARN SCHOLARSHIP MONEY.

1. **KEYSTONE BOYS STATE*** Open to any male student who has completed their junior year and resides in Pennsylvania. KBS students practice and operate fictitious cities, four counties and one state, based on the statutes and codes of the State of Pennsylvania. About the 3rd full week of June @ Shippensburg Univ. Local Legion posts will sponsor the students to attend. Four scholarships are available to those that complete the week, each is \$1000. There is a Keystone Girls State. For Girls State, contact an auxiliary unit.
2. **STATE POLICE YOUTH WEEK*** Open to any male or female student who is 15-17 years old and resides in Pennsylvania. The student should be in good health and physically fit. This camp is run like a boot camp to introduce students interested in law enforcement or a branch of the armed forces. Cadets march in platoons, do physical training and have instructional time. Held about the second full week of June @ York College of Pennsylvania. Local Legion posts will sponsor the student to attend. Three scholarships are available to those who complete the week, each is \$1000.

* please see individual applications/brochures for complete rules, instructions and more information.

Application Form

2020 High School Oratorical Program

Student Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

High School _____

Grade _____

Sponsoring Post _____

I have read and understand the rules and regulations to participate in the Oratorical Program sponsored by The American Legion, Department of Pennsylvania. I have also read and understand the brochure prepared by The National American Legion and agree to abide by all rules and regulations of both the Department and the National Organization.

Signed _____

Date _____

Oratorical Program Committee

Department Commander: Robert John

P O Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Department Adjutant: Kit Watson

P O Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Department Oratorical Chairman:

William Yarnell

6090 Peach Tree St., Harrisburg, Pa. 17111

(717) 571-6788 yarnellbill@gmail.com

Sectional Oratorical Vice Chairmen

Eastern: Denise Harner, 120 Redwood Dr.

Douglassville Pa. 19518 610-763-4413

deniseharner@yahoo.com

Central: John N. Fisher 4235 Williamsburg Dr.

Harrisburg, Pa. 17109 jfisherusrret@hotmail.com

Western: Michael Cortes, 1903 W 8th St, PMB

284, Erie, PA 16505 (814) 954-0067

michael@michaelcortes.com

Inter-District Coordinators

1-5: Aaron Campbell, Jr., (609) 871-5618

60 Hawthorne Ln, Willingboro, NJ 08046

8-9-10: Barry Amole, (610) 933-5152

305 Starr St, Phoenixville, PA 19460

11-12-15: Fred Baker, (570) 445-7790

841 Mitchell Rd. Meshoppen, Pa. 18630

1314-30: Mike Bodnar, (610) 745-1512

559 Catasauqua Ave, Whitehall, PA 18052

16-17-18: Albert Hess, (570) 524-4367

1009 Buffalo Rd, Lewisburg, PA 17837

19-22: John Fisher (717) 269-6790

4235 Williamsburg Rd. Apt D Harrisburg, Pa 17109

20-21: Jeffrey Kaylor, (724) 858-8289

325 E. Burrell St, Blairsville, PA 15717

23-27-28: Charles Hartman, (724) 822-9995

P O Box 108, Eau Claire, PA 16030

25-31: Ryan Armstrong, (724) 984-3945

301 S. Pine St, Carmichaels, PA 15320

26-29: Michael Cortes, (814) 954-0067

1903 W 8th St PMB 284, Erie, PA 16505

32-33-36: Mike Murphy, (412) 781-5691

5421 McCandless Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15201

2020

HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



“A Constitutional Speech Contest”

Rules and Regulations



PENNSYLVANIA AMERICAN LEGION

www.pa-legion.com

(717) 730-9100

1. Any student entering the competition must be under the age of 20 years on the date of the National Contest.
2. The student must be presently enrolled in a high school or junior high school (public, parochial, military, private or home school), commencing with grade nine and terminating with grade twelve, during the time of participation at any level of the Contest.
3. The student must either live in or attend school in Pennsylvania and can only compete in Pennsylvania.
4. The student must submit an application to a local Post for sponsorship by December 7, 2019. A local Post can be found at www.legion.org.
5. The contest will consist of two parts; an 8 to 10-minute memorized oration on some phase of the United States Constitution and a 3 to 5-minute oration on one of four "assigned topics" selected by the National Organization. These four topics can be found at www.legion.org/oratorical/topics.
6. The contestant may not use any notes, props, amplification or prompts during the oration.
7. A minimum of five judges will judge all contests at the District level and above. Local and County contests may use a minimum of three judges.
8. All contests at the District level and above shall conform with National Contest procedures, rules and regulations. The "assigned topics" shall be used at all levels of competition. National Contest rules can be found at www.legion.org.
9. Assigned Tabulators will review and tabulate the judges' score sheets. The Contest Chairman will verify the results and announce the contest winners.
10. The judges' score sheets, the tabulation forms and the timekeepers' cards all become the property of the Department of Pennsylvania Oratorical Committee.

11. Barring unforeseen circumstances, any student that enters the Oratorical program **must** be available to compete on the date of the Department Contest and **must** be available to compete at the National Contest from April 17-19, 2020 in Indianapolis, IN.

12. The Oratorical Committee has established the following dates **by which the various contests must be held, if required, and the winner's name and contact information sent to the next level of competition:**

School or Post Contest --January 5, 2020

County Contest – January 12, 2020

District Contest – January 26, 2020

Inter-District Contest – February 9, 2020

Sectional Contest – February 23, 2020

Department Contest – March 7, 2020

National Contest – April 17 to 19, 2020

13. The Department Contest will be held in the Forum Auditorium in Harrisburg at 10:00 AM on Saturday, March 7, 2020. A banquet to honor the Department Contest competitors will be held on Friday evening, March 6, 2020.

14. The Department Contest in March will be under the direct supervision of the Oratorical Committee; final authority on all issues raised will remain with the Oratorical Committee.

15. The Department winner must be certified with National Headquarters no later than March 21, 2020. If for any reason the Department winner is unable to compete at the National Contest, the Department First Runner-up will be substituted, following approval by National.

16. A book, "How To Prepare for The American Legion Oratorical Contest" is available for purchase at www.ConstitutionSpeechPrep.com. (The American Legion was not involved in the publication of, nor does it endorse, this product.)

AWARDS

Department Winner

\$7,500.00 scholarship, plaque and all-expense-paid trip to the Department of Pennsylvania State Convention to deliver his or her winning prepared oration, plus the opportunity to represent Pennsylvania at the National Contest and receive an additional \$1,500.00 scholarship from the National Organization.

Department First Runner-up

\$5,000.00 scholarship and plaque.

Second Runner-up

\$4,000.00 scholarship and plaque.



Program Overview

A six day camp to introduce students interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement or a branch of the military. The program includes but not limited to marching in platoon formation, participate in a drill competition, physical training, forensics, canine, SERT team, drug laws, marksmanship course, and familiarity with weapons.

To participate:

- **Students should be physically fit.**
- **In good health.**
- **Have a good academic record.**

This is not a Recreational Camp

Eligibility

Must be a resident of Pennsylvania, between the ages of 15-17 prior to entering the camp on June 7th, for both male & female students.

Cost

Fee of \$175.00* includes meals and lodging. The fee is paid by the sponsoring post/unit or other civic group, and is **Non-Refundable**.

*price subject to change

TRANSPORTATION

The responsibility of the sponsoring group or the parents of the student.

Awards

Scott Ball Outstanding Cadet Memorial Award

For the cadet who shows best merit; winner receives an American Legion plaque and \$1000.00 towards a degree in law enforcement or enters the military.

Elmer Hafer Essay Award

For the best essay; winner will receive a plaque and a \$1000.00 scholarship.

William Evans Leadership Award

For the cadet who shows the best leadership ability; winner receives a plaque and \$1000.00



To get an application or if you have any questions, contact

American Legion
Department of Pennsylvania
Telephone: 717-730-9100

or

Visit our web site at www.pa-legion.com

THE 50TH YEAR

Sponsored by:

Pennsylvania American Legion

Pennsylvania State Police

Pennsylvania National Guard



June 7-13, 2020

York College of Pennsylvania
York, Pennsylvania

State Police Youth Week:

Established in 1970 to increase understanding among the youth of Pennsylvania and its law enforcement. In 2010 the Pennsylvania National Guard joined with the American Legion and the State Police with the same objectives to give the cadets the chance to see and experience firsthand many areas of law enforcement, and military which includes leadership, discipline, and self-esteem.

In June of 2019 the name was changed from State Police Youth Week to the Pennsylvania American Legion, State Police, National Guard Youth Camp



Mission:

To prepare the cadets thru moral, intellectual and physical aspects to become future leaders of the Commonwealth, and instill in them courage, honor, and commitment.



Do They Like It?

Cadets Write:

"I have seen and felt firsthand the benefits of the camp and wherever I run into graduates of the camp they are excelling in what they do from the civilian world to the armed forces. I was a part of the 45th class of the State Police Youth Week and loved every second of it so thanks for all you and the rest of the staff do to keep it running".

"They taught us discipline and to work together as one so we could achieve our goals. The desire to accomplish and succeed was always there."

"Thank you for letting me have the opportunity and the experience of being able to attend the Camp. It has been a rewarding experience!"

Parents Write:

"Our son joined the army reserve and will be leaving for basic training this summer. We would also like to thank you for the experience Tyler had last year. He has talked a lot about it since he attended. He had a great time, and it shaped his future. Almost as soon as he turned 17 yoa he enlisted in the military and he said some of that was because of the camp he attended last summer. So thank you a million times."

"Our son hasn't stopped talking about it yet. Seldom does he show this much enthusiasm over anything...what a wonderful program it was, and what an impression it made on a 15-year-old-boy."

"He has yet to cease talking and has truly been affected in the most positive way... We're very proud of his new-found maturity and the respect he has for all of you. A job well done!!!"

Field Trips:

Firing Range: Cadets are taught by certified NRA instructors, in the use of firearms.

Ski Roundtop Rope Course: Cadets are taught team building skills, and demonstrate how to use them.

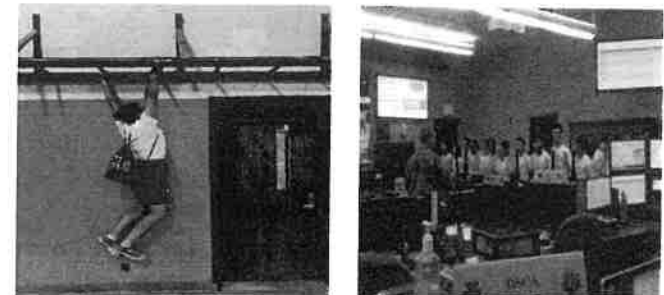
Pennsylvania State Police Academy: Cadets experience some of the training the Troopers receive.

Ft Indiantown Gap: Cadets are shown some of military operations.



Daily Schedule

0530-0610	Physical Exercise
0615-0655	Room Maintenance /Inspection
0700-0740	Breakfast
0750	Colors
0800-1150	Classroom
1200-1250	Noon Meal
1300-1650	Classroom
1100-1150	Evening Meal
1800	Retreat
1810-2050	Classroom
2100-2150	Cadet Time
2200	Call to Quarters
2215	Lights Out



2020 ESSAY CONTEST RULES & REGULATIONS

This year's Essay Contest title is:

"DOES THE US MILITARY RECEIVE THE RESPECT THEY DESERVE?"

Any student enrolled in grades 9 through 12 in a public, private or parochial school, or who is home schooled in Pennsylvania is eligible to participate.

Students **MUST** prepare essays without assistance and provide a statement to that effect on the last page.

All essays **MUST** have a **COVER PAGE** containing the following:

- **The Essay Title**
- **Student's Name, address, telephone, & email address (if applicable).**
- **Teacher's verification of Student's Grade Level.**
- **School Name and Address if applicable.**
- **Sponsoring American Legion Post Number, Name & Location.**
- **Parent or guardian's name, address and phone number.**
- **Student's signature.**

ALL essays (typewritten preferred but not required) **MUST be no less than 500** words and **no more than 1,000** words.

The title MUST appear on page one (1) of the essay, as well as the cover page.

No reference shall be made, for or against, any political candidate or political party affiliation.

Essays shall be judged on the following:

- **Proper English structure.**
- **Accuracy.**
- **Extent of information.**
- **Originality** - *Any material not original must be cited in a bibliography for the information of the judges, stating publication, volume, page, date, publisher and author. Anything cited from the internet must include a verifiable internet address such as: <http://pa-legion.com/about/our-history/>*

DEADLINE DATES BY OR BEFORE:

1. **JANUARY 17, 2020** - Essays must be submitted to a sponsoring or **LOCAL American LEGION POST**. Each school may select 1 winner for each American Legion Post in their school district. To locate a post near you, go to www.legion.org & click on find a post and enter your zip code
2. **JANUARY 31, 2020** - The local American Legion Post's winning essay shall be selected and forwarded to the **local DISTRICT American Legion Essay Chairperson** (as listed in the current American Legion Directory).
3. **FEBRUARY 21, 2020**, - The "District's" winning essay shall be forwarded to the appropriate **INTER-DISTRICT ESSAY COORDINATOR** (as listed in the current American Legion Directory)
4. **MARCH 13, 2020** The "Inter-District's" winning essay shall be forwarded to the Department of PA Essay Contest **SECTIONAL VICE CHAIRPERSON** (as listed in the current American Legion Directory).
5. **APRIL 3, 2020** the "Sectional's" winning essay shall be selected and forwarded to the **PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT ESSAY CHAIRPERSON, Linda Klutas.**
6. **APRIL 24, 2020** - The Department Essay Chairperson shall have arranged for qualified judges who will select this year's Department of Pennsylvania's Essay Program.
 1. **PRIZES TO BE AWARDED**
The Department of Pennsylvania State Essay **First Place Winner will be awarded a \$3,500, a plaque and a trip to the PA American Legion Convention in July** to read the winning essay to the assembled delegates.
 2. The Second Place Winner will receive \$3,000 and a plaque.
 3. *The Third Place Winner will receive \$2,500 and a plaque.*

As American Legionnaires, we fully believe that education is the cornerstone upon which the future of America is built. Education becomes the first requisite of good citizenship and the relationship of The American Legion to Pennsylvania citizens is of prime importance as a means of keeping us a free civilization.

Our approach to supporting solid educational principles is direct and positive. We agree with the current PA Department of Education initiative of "writing across the curriculum" and reward the efforts of involved students through our annual essay scholarship program.

Since the inception of the Department of Pennsylvania state Essay Contest in 1935, The American Legion has awarded well over \$500,000 in scholarships, while local American Legion Posts, counties, Districts and Sections have also offered suitable awards and prizes for their respective best essay winners as well.

Through the annual Department of Pennsylvania American Legion Essay scholarship contest, students are provided an opportunity to showcase their talents and abilities in English by using originality, accuracy and research as evidence, while learning that the responsibilities and duties of good citizenship can be both rewarding and fun.

For more information on participating in the Department of Pennsylvania American Legion Essay Contest, please call (717) 730-9100 or visit www.pa-legion.com.

The American Legion Essay Committee

Chairman: **Linda Klutas**
500 Stony Creek Rd
Dauphin, PA 17108 (717)-921-8660
lkutas@gmail.com

Sectional Vice Chairmen:
East: **Harry Wynn, III**, 59 Thomas Jefferson Rd
Lehighton, PA. 18235 (570) 386-2188
ddo941@verizon.net

West: **Billie J. Powers**, 1087 S. 8th St
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bpowers955@aol.com

Central: **John Minito**, 705 Quaker Cir, Apt 1
Lewisberry, PA 17339 (717)576-1726
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Inter-District Coordinators:
1-5: **Aaron Campbell, Jr.**, 60 Hawthorne Lane
Willingboro, NJ 08046 (609) 871-5618

8-9-10: **James Heslop**, 3436 Green Leaf Dr
Mount Joy, PA 17552 (717) 725-0247

11-12-15: **Mike Welch**, 95 Green Valley Street
Hallstead, PA 18822 (607) 427-8986
mdwelch21@echoes.net

13-14-30: **Harry Wynn III**, 59 Thomas Jefferson Rd
Lehighton, PA 18235 (570) 386-2188

16-17-18: **Albert Hess**, 1009 Buffalo Road
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19-22: **Norlynn John**, 7430 Nyesville Road
Chambersburg, PA 17202 (717) 860-9203

20-21: **Stephen Foor**, 1056 Black Bear Lane
Bedford, PA 15522 (814) 847-2077

23-28-29: **Billie J. Powers**, 1087 S. 8th St
Dubois, PA 15801 (404) 210-2538

25-31: **Tom Shumaker**, P O Box 176
Clarksville, PA 15322 (724)-377-0632

26-27: **Theodore Minich**, P. O. Box 265
Hawthorn, PA 16230 (814) 365-5521

32-33-36: **James Page**, 209 Jasper St
Pittsburgh, PA 15211 412-427-5917



**“DOES THE US MILITARY
RECEIVE THE RESPECT
THEY DESERVE?”**

2020

**PENNSYLVANIA
AMERICAN LEGION
85TH ANNUAL**

**ESSAY CONTEST
FOR GRADES 9-12**

**The American Legion
Department of Pennsylvania
PO Box 2324
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2324
(717) 730-9100
www.pa-legion.com**

*(Questions on Essay Contest rules or procedures can
be directed to any committee member)*