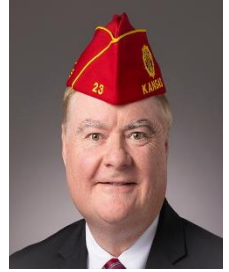




**National Commander Dan Wiley
Visit to Missouri
September 18 – 21 September 2025**



Thursday - September 18, 2025

6:00 pm - Dinner - Table Rock Post 637, 6 Woodland Ave, Kimberling City, MO 65686
POC: Commander Heather Lawson – 417-224-5022

Friday - September 19, 2025

8:00 am - Breakfast - Nixa Memorial Post 434, 591 N. McCroskey, Nixa, MO 65714
POC: Nicholas Gerdes 316-737-1161

9:45 am - Tour - Visit Springfield Missouri State Veterans Cemetery 5201 S Southwood Road, Springfield, MO 65804 - POC: Anthony Cupples, Cemetery Director 417-823-3944

12:00 pm - Lunch - Kaffenburger -Williams Post 43, 2538 Evergreen Pkwy, Lebanon, MO 65536 – POC:
Post Adjutant Diamond Bowman 417-791-3198

2:30 pm - Meet and Greet - Heinline-Hanks Post 38, 86 S. Main, Fair Grove, MO 65648
POC: Post Commander Charles Holt 417-872-1425

5:00 pm - Dinner - Howard S. Keeling Post 138, 1424 W. Broadway, Bolivar, MO 65613
POC: Post Commander James Woods 417-777-5037

Return to Hotel

Saturday- September 20, 2025

9:00 am - Breakfast - Greenfield Post 47 – 405 College St., Greenfield, MO 65661
POC: Post Commander Chritopher Lurvey 949-813-9239

10:30 am - Meet & Greet - Robert S. Thurman Post 13, 5501 Dennis Weaver Dr., Joplin, MO 64801 –
POC : Post Commander Robert L. Harrington 417-782-2086

12:00 pm - Lunch - Fred A. Boswell Post 137, 101 S. Spring Park Blvd, Mt. Vernon, MO 65712
POC: Post Commander Jason Dannettel 623-293-8819

1:30 pm - Tour – Mount Vernon Veterans Home, 1600 S. Hickory St. , Mount Vernon, MO
Home Administrator April Cutbirth 417-466-7103

3:00 pm - Meet & Greet - Clyde R. Burdick Post 163, 215 N High St., Neosho, MO 64850
POC: Post Commander Virgil Alcorn 615-426-7289

Saturday - September 20, 2025 Cont.

5:00 pm - Dinner – Hubert H. Klieboeker Post 419, 105 E 3rd Street, Freistatt, MO 65654
POC: Post Commander Mark Maples 417-440-9337

Return to Hotel

Sunday – September 21, 2025

8:00 am - Breakfast - Trent-Sallee Post 230, 209 North Street, Stockton, MO 65785
POC: Post Commander Larry Griffin 618-697-4571

10:45 am - Meet and Greet - Lewis - French Post 604 – 404 S. Main Street, Lowry City, MO 64763
POC: Post Commander Donald Feasel 417-425-9484

12:00 pm - Lunch –Matthews-Crawford Post 131, 733 E. Young, Warrensburg, MO 64093
POC: Post Commander Bill Guillickson 573-771-5854

2:00 pm - Tour – Camp Valor Outdoors - 1527 SW 300th Road, Kingsville, MO 64061
POC: Executive Director John T. Schwent . Jr. - 816-744-0022

4:00 pm - Drop off to Kansas -TBD

Official Traveling Party

National Commander – Dan Wiley
National Commander's Aide – Doug Hensley
Department Commander - Jerome Goolsby
NECman - George Scarborough
Alternate NECman - Kerry Boardman
Senior Vice Commander – Alex Slocum
Department Adjutant - Lowry Finley-Jackson
Historian – Chris Wallingford
Zone 3 Commander – Mark Reed
District Commanders - when available
Legion Riders -when available

The attire for all events is Legion Casual (i.e., Polo Legion shirt, khakis, or slacks) Don't forget your Legion Cap.

This schedule is subject to change.



**National Vice Commander
Jerry Landkamer
Visit to Missouri
September 26 – 30 September 2025**



Friday - September 26, 2025

Arrival : TBD – Warrensburg Hotel)

6:00 pm - Dinner - Matthews-Crawford Post 131, 733 E Young St, Warrensburg, MO 64093
POC: Commander Bill Gullickson – 573-771-5854

Saturday - September 27, 2025

8:00 am – Depart for Post 21, Independence, MO

9:00 am – Food Pantry, Tirey J Ford Post 21, 16071 E. Hwy 40, Independence, Mo 64055
POC: 5 District Commander Tom tanner – 816-674-9347

10:00 am – District Revitalization Event, 5th District at Post 21

12:00 pm - Lunch - Post 21

3:00 pm - Meet and Greet - Hurley Lee Spicer Post 42, 303 E Pearl St, Harrisonville, MO 64701
POC: Commander Chad Burlingame, 816-260-9950

5:00 pm - Dinner – Windsor Post 82, 1034 Hwy 52 E, Windsor, MO 65360
POC: Commander David Free – 504-439-1095

Return to Hotel

Sunday - September 28, 2025

8:30 am – Catholic Mass – Sacred Heart Catholic Church – 300 S Ridgeview Drive, Warrensburg, MO 64093

10:00 am – District Revitalization Event - Matthews-Crawford Post 131, 733 E Young St, Warrensburg, MO 64093 – 6th and 7th Districts

12:00 pm - Lunch – at Post 131

3:00 pm - Tour and Dinner – Camp Valor Outdoors - 1527 SW 300th Road, Kingsville, MO 64061
POC: Executive Director John T. Schwent. Jr. - 816-744-0022

Return to Hotel

Monday - September 29, 2025

8:00 am - Tour – Higginsville Veterans Cemetery, 20109 Business Hwy 13, Higginsville, MO 64037
Cemetery Administrator Kelly Larkin 660-362-6111

9:15 am – Meet and Greet – Lohman-Meyer Post 258, 802 S Gordon St., Concordia, MO 64037
POC: Commander Dave Meyer – 660-909-4627

10:30 am - Tour and Lunch - Warrensburg Veterans Home, 1300 Veterans Road, Warrensburg, MO 64093
POC: Latisha Koetting, Volunteer Coordinator 660-429-4661

1:00 pm – Tour – Whiteman AFB (Unofficial). POC Alex Slocum

5:00 pm - Dinner – George A Whiteman Post 642, 2016 W Main St, Sedalia, MO 65301
POC: Commander George Sheppard 660-281-8065

Return to Hotel

Official Traveling Party

National Vice Commander – Jerry Landkamer

Senior Vice Commander – Alex Slocum

Department Adjutant - Lowry Finley - Jackson

Zone and District Commanders - when available

Legion Riders -when available

The attire for all events is Legion Casual (i.e., Polo Legion shirt, khakis, or slacks) Don't forget your Legion Cap.

This schedule is subject to change.



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Veterans Strengthening America

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

PO BOX 1055, INDIANAPOLIS, IN, 46206-1055 • WWW.LEGION.ORG • P: (317) 630-1200 • F: (317) 630-1223

Dan K. Wiley **National Commander** **The American Legion** **2025-2026**

Dan K. Wiley was elected national commander of the country's largest veterans organization on August 28, 2025, in Tampa, Fla., during The American Legion's 106th national convention.

An Air Force veteran, Wiley is a retired state district court judge. He raises cattle in Leavenworth, Kan. Following his Air Force service, Wiley obtained a bachelor's degree in business at the College of Great Falls in Montana. He returned to his hometown of Lawrence, Kan., and earned a law degree at the University of Kansas.

Wiley has held many leadership positions at The American Legion post, department (state) and national levels. He is a paid-up-for-life member of Byron H. Mehl American Legion Post 23 in Leavenworth and is a past department commander of the Kansas American Legion. He also represented the state as a member of The American Legion's National Executive Committee.

Appointed by the Kansas governor as a district court judge in 2008, Wiley helped establish and preside over the Leavenworth County Veterans Treatment Court. He has been active in his community and is a past president of the Leavenworth / Lansing Chamber of Commerce, a past chairman of the Leavenworth County Veterans Day Parade Committee and a former member of the Unified School District 453 School Board.

As national commander, Wiley is a strong advocate for The American Legion's "Be the One" outreach mission to prevent veteran suicide. He emphasizes inclusivity in The American Legion Family through the theme, "better together!"

Wiley and his wife, Sonia, have two children, Austin and Christy, and one grandson. Dan and his son, Austin Wiley, are charter members of Sons of The American Legion Squadron 36 in Oskaloosa, Kansas. Sonia and Christy are members of the American Legion Auxiliary.

#####



You're cordially invited to
**Department Commander
Homecoming
In Honor of
Jerome Goolsby**

Saturday, November 1st, 2025
(Postponed 1 week, disregard earlier 25 October date)
Dick Munkres American Legion Post 287

501 East Price Avenue - Savannah, MO 64485

Social Hour: 5:00-6:00pm

Dinner Served: 6:00pm

Homecoming celebration following dinner.

Cost Per Person: \$25

If you have any questions, please contact Post Adjutant Terry Beasley (816-248-0849,
email beasleybiker@gmail.com) or call the Department at 1-573-893-2353

Reservations must be made by October 7, 2025

Please return with payment

Name: _____

_____ Tickets @ **\$25.00** each Total Enclosed _____

(Checks made out to "American Legion Post 287")

Please mail payment to:

Terry Beasley

117 Chellew Road, Saint Joseph, MO 64505

Attire: Business dress: Shirt, tie and jacket and appropriate parallel dress for women

(Registration Form can be found on Department website: www.missourilegion.org)
Recommended Hotels in Saint Joseph area:

- Candlewood Suites, 3505 N. Village Dr., 816-232-2600, ihg.com
- Holiday Inn Express, 3600 N. Village Dr., 816-232-2500, ihg.com
- Fairfield Inn & Suites, 4779 Tuscany Dr., 816-232-2700, marriott.com
- Drury Inn & Suites, 4213 Frederick Ave., 816-364-4700, druryhotels.com
- Stoney Creek Hotel, 1201 N. Woodbine Rd., 816-901-9600, stoneycreekhoteles.com

No lodging available in Savannah.



2025 FALL CONFERENCE HOUSING

October 17-19, 2025

**Capitol Plaza Hotel
415 W. McCarty
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Call to make reservation:
407-581-8250 option 3**

**Make reservations using credit card for
confirmation. Be sure to mention you are with
The American Legion.**

**Rooms - \$102.00 + tax
Jr. Suites & Suites - \$130.00 + tax**

**(The hotel charges a \$10.00 per person, per night facility fee,
which is based on the actual number of guest in each room)**

Check in time after 3:00 p.m.

(DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS 9/22/2025)

2025 FALL CONFERENCE Schedule
October 17-19 2025
Capitol Plaza Hotel, 415 W. McCarty
Jefferson City, MO 65101 800-338-8088

COMMITTEE MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS

Friday, October 17

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	District Commanders Training	Truman C
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	VA&R Committee	Carnegies
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Service Officer Training	Carnegies
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Suicide Prevention	Truman A
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Membership Committee	Missouri/Capitol
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	ALR Executive Committee Meeting	Truman B
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Convention Committee (Department & National)	Truman A
8:15 - 9:00 p.m.	Past Dept. Cdr's Meeting (Closed Meeting)	Joplin

Saturday, October 18

7:30 - 9:00 a.m.	ALR General Meeting	Lincoln
8:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Finance Commission	Joplin
8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Leadership Training Committee	Truman B
8:00 - 8:30 a.m.	ROTC	Truman A
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Homeland Security Committee	Carnegies
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	Cadet Patrol	Lincoln
9:30 -12:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m. SAL DEC & 10:30 a.m. General Session	Truman C
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Foundation	Joplin
10:00 a.m.	LEGION GENERAL SESSION	Missouri/Capitol
12:00 -1:15 p.m.	Distinguished Guest Luncheon	Lincoln
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.	Navy Club Meeting	Turman A
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	SAL General Session	Truman C
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	LEGION GENERAL SESSION	Missouri/Capitol
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Membership Workshop/MyLegion Training	Missouri/Capitol
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.	Boy State Commission Meeting	Truman B
4:30 - 5:00 p.m.	Past Post Commanders Meeting	Truman B
5:00 p.m.	Catholic Services	TBA
	Protestant Services	Carnegies
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Oratorical Workshop	Missouri/Capitol
5:30 -7:30 p.m.	History Book Training	Joplin
5:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Media & Communication Committee	Truman B
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Children & Youth Commission	Truman C
	County Government Committee	Truman A

Sunday, October 19

7:30 a.m.	Past District Cdr's Breakfast	Carnegies
9:00 a.m.	Final Session	MO/Capitol
	D.E.C. following Final Session	Truman Rooms

ALL MEETINGS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Updated 9/11/2025

Send to: The American Legion, PO Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102 - 0179

Name of Post	Post number	
District	Located in the City of	County

IMPORTANT -- Your Post **Will Not** receive the new membership cards until you return this completed form to Department Headquarters. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ADJUTANT OR PREVIOUS ADJUTANT TO COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM. Forward immediately following the election.

IMPORTANT -- Department mail list of POST OFFICIALS and DIRECTORY are prepared from information on this certification.

Print or Type Name, Complete Mailing Address, Phone Number and Email if applicable	Date of Military Enlistment	Date of Military Discharge	Military Rank and Branch	American Legion Membership #
Commander Address Phone: () Email:				
Adjutant Address Phone: () Email:				
Finance Officer Address Phone: () Email:				
Membership Chrmn. Address Phone: () Email:				

List additional officers on back side

Membership supplies & mailings will go to Post Adjutant unless specify otherwise below.

Send Post Mail To:

Indicate Officer of Post Commander/Adjutant/Finance Officer etc.

Street Or P.O. Box

City

State

Zip

Early submission of Officers List (9/01/2025) will ensure your Post listing in the 2025-2026 Department Directory.

Additional Officers:

Print or Type Name, Complete Mailing Address, Phone Number and Email if applicable	Date of Enlistment	Date of Discharge	Rank and Branch	American Legion Membership #
Vice Commander Address				
Vice Commander Address				
Service Officer Address				
Historian Address				
Chaplain Address				
Judge Advocate Address				
Sergeant-at-Arms Address				

Post Meeting Dates _____ Time _____ Post Phone (____) _____
 Not to be Post Officers Home Phone #

Physical Address of Post _____
 _____ Street _____ City _____ Zip _____

Post Meeting Place If Not At Post _____

Annual Dues \$ _____ Are Officials Bonded? _____ Is Post Incorporated _____

DEPARTMENT BY-LAWS:

ARTICLE IX, SEC. 2 Each Post in the Department shall have a Commander, one or more Vice Commanders, an Adjutant, a Finance Officer, a Chaplain, a Historian, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and such other officers as may be provided by the Constitution and By-laws of the Post.

ARTICLE IX, SEC. 3 The election of Post Officers for the ensuing year shall be held at least thirty days (6/10/25) but not more than sixty days (5/10/25), prior to the the Department Convention (7/10/25) Officers elected shall be installed after the Department Convention, but not later than 10/10/25, after the adjournment of the Annual Department Convention.

POST OFFICER BONDING:

ARTICLE XV, SEC 4 Department By-Laws provides that all Post officials handling American Legion monies shall be properly bonded with a good and solvent bonding and surety company, or by other duly qualified bond, as surety. Bonds should be approved annually by the Post. Many local insurance brokers/agents provide such coverage.

Pursuant to the Department Constitution and By-Laws, I hereby certify that the following Officers have been duly elected to serve the Post as indicated below and that I have examined the service record of each and find them eligible to belong to The American Legion.

Certified by _____

Post Adjutant/Officer

Date

CERTIFICATION FOR
THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, INC.
HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST

Date _____

THIS CERTIFICATION SHOULD BE MAILED **OR** E-MAILED
ON OR BEFORE **NOVEMBER 30th**.

The total number of students in our high school who participated in the Oratorical Contest is:

Number of Students (Please include **all students who studied** for this program.)

Student selected to represent our High School in the County (or Group) Contest:

Mr./Ms. _____
(NAME) (STREET) (CITY, STATE, ZIP)

(GRADE) (AGE) (EMAIL ADDRESS) (PHONE NUMBER)

Alternate Selection:

(NAME) (STREET) (CITY, STATE, ZIP)

(GRADE) (AGE) (EMAIL ADDRESS) (PHONE NUMBER)

HIGH SCHOOL _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY & ZIP _____ COUNTY _____

PRINCIPAL Mr./Ms. _____ PHONE _____

TEACHER/COACH Mr./Ms. _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Local Newspaper Name/Address _____

You may enter electronically at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

MAIL THIS COPY TO

Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission
The American Legion
PO Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102
services@missourilegion.org

OR E-MAIL TO

"High schools may select, in any reasonable manner, a contestant to represent the school. Each contestant, to advance, must be certified the winner of each prior contest beginning with the high school. Certification must be made in writing to both the COMMISSION Chair and the CHAIR of the next contest. If a winner is disqualified, withdraws, or cannot compete, then the second-place contestant may advance. If a substitute contestant is not available without undue delay, the contest shall proceed among available contestants."



For God and Country

★ DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, INC. ★ PO BOX 179 ★ JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102-0179 ★
★ (573) 893-2353 ★ (800) 846-9023 ★ FAX (573) 893-2980 ★
★ E-MAIL: info@missourilegion.org ★ WEBSITE: www.missourilegion.org ★

92nd ANNUAL
2025-2026 ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
A Constitutional Speech Contest

Greetings High School Administrator:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, teaming with your local Post, will again sponsor the High School oratorical contest. The contest meets the guidelines of the Missouri State High School Activities Association and appears in the Advisory List of Contests and Activities, of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Legion contest is a partner with the National Speech & Debate Association, the honor society for high school students (formerly the National Forensic League).

The Oratorical Contest exists to increase students' knowledge of the Constitution of the United States, to develop the ability to think and speak clearly, and to promote the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.

We hope your students will participate in the Contest this year. We encourage you to enroll at least one to represent your school.

This year, state finalists will receive the largest scholarship certificates ever--for **\$5,000, \$2,500, \$2,250, and \$2,000** respectively--redeemable after graduation at any college. Also, some colleges grant substantial scholarships to the participants.

All information about the contest is at <http://missourilegion.org/oratorical> For any questions, simply contact Department Headquarters, PO Box 179, Jefferson City, 65102, services@missourilegion.org, or call (573) 893-2353

To enter a student, send the Form to me or you may enter electronically at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

School administrators and educators have supported this program for the past 90 years. We trust it continues to earn the cooperation of your speech, social studies, civics, government, and similar programs.

Sincerely,

Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission

P.S. Feel free to pass this to your speech teacher/coach, and to other interested teachers or students.

PERSONAL PREFERENCES
NATIONAL COMMANDER: DAN K. WILEY

HOBBIES:	Farm
RELIGION:	Methodist
SPORTS:	Watch yes, play no
BEVERAGES:	Water
MAIN COURSE:	No preference
SNACKS:	None
FAVORITE DESSERT:	None
DIETARY RESTRICTIONS:	No coconut
MEDICAL RESTRICTIONS:	None
BRANCH OF SERVICE:	US Air Force
POST:	Kansas Post 23
GIFT SUGGESTIONS:	Donations to the Veterans and Children Foundation in lieu of gifts
SIZES:	Polo Shirt: L Dress Shirt: 15 ½/33 Suit: 44 Slacks: 36” Waist/30” Length Legion cap: 7 3/8
LEGION PROJECT:	Veterans and Children Foundation

PERSONAL PREFERENCES
AIDE TO THE NATIONAL COMMANDER: CARL “DOUG” HENSLEY

MAIN COURSE:	Beef
BEVERAGES:	Dinners: Tea and Water Social Functions: Long Island Iced Tea Hotel Room: Water/Coffee/Monster (zero sugar)
DIETARY/ MEDICAL RESTRICTIONS:	Type 2 Diabetes
BRANCH OF SERVICE:	US Army
POST:	Kansas Post 156
SIZES:	Polo Shirt: 2XL Dress Shirt: 18/37 Suit: 46L Slacks: 36” Waist X 34” Length Legion cap: 7 5/8

2025—2026 HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
A Constitutional Speech Contest

TO: Post Adjutants (For Post Oratorical Chair)

This letter inaugurates the 92nd Annual High School Oratorical Contest. For nine decades, Legionnaires of Missouri have unselfishly worked to help boys and girls become better citizens. Certainly, it is a record we can be proud of.

To accomplish our goal, we cannot merely wish for results. It takes hard work by the Post Chair. The Post Chair is **the key** to the Oratorical Program, which can be no better than the number of schools and students enrolled by them.

Post Chair must contact their schools immediately. The minute that high schools receive our materials is when contestants need to begin to prepare for this program.

Contact your schools. Briefly explain the program, its purpose, and what it does for the students. Encourage the school to enroll its entire speech or social studies class, but if the school can enroll only one student, that is fine. Tell the school the name and address of the County Oratorical Chair, available from your District Chairman.

All the forms for the Oratorical Contest are only available online at <https://www.missourilegion.org/general>. This is the only material to be used this year, as outdated materials can cause embarrassment.

Thank you for making the Oratorical program successful. Call or write if I can help in any way.

Sincerely,



Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission

P.S. ***Oratorical information is now available at <http://www.missourilegion.org/oratorical>***

Checklist
POST Oratorical Chair
for
Local high-school contests

The High School Oratorical Contest—one of our great Americanism programs—emphasizes knowledge about the U.S. Constitution. It stimulates speaking abilities for high school youth, along with emphasis on the duties, rights, and responsibilities of citizenship under the Constitution.

The Post Oratorical Chair (and Committee) are the key to participation. Here are some specific suggestions.

- _____ 1. Study the Missouri Rules Brochure for all details of the program. Or visit <https://www.missourilegion.org/oratorical>
- _____ 2. Contact local high schools to encourage participation. (Talk with principals and relevant teachers—speech, social studies, and history teachers—as well as school board members and other community leaders..)
- _____ 3. A local high school contest has only one speech—an oration on some phase of the U.S. Constitution with emphasis on the attendant duties, rights, responsibilities, and privileges of citizenship. It must last between 5-6 minutes.*
- _____ 4. Volunteer to help—if asked by the high school—to furnish judges, timekeepers, and other helpers.*
- _____ 5. Find out when the County Contest is. Tell the local schools of the time, place, and date of County Contest. Also, tell them of name of the County Chair. [If there's any doubt who the County Chair is, please do contact the District Chair, listed on the enclosed list.]
- _____ 6. Remind the high school to certify the winner's name, age, grade, and address, and total number of students who study the topic, to the District Chair and to the State Oratorical Chair. **DEADLINE - NOVEMBER 30th**

Remember, entry is easy at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

- _____ 7. Arrange with your Post to sponsor the winner to the next contest levels. Arrange transportation, if needed. Ask Post members to attend subsequent contests.

* **Note:** Local high schools may conduct the contest in any reasonable way, and most conduct no contest.

2025 Reminders & Upcoming Events

September – December

September 2025 (American Legion National Disaster Preparedness)

1	Be The One Day
1	Labor Day - Department Headquarters Closed
11	Patriot Day
16	American Legion Day
16	Fall Conference -Cutoff Date for Room Reservations
17-23	Constitution Week
18	Air Force Birthday
18 - 21	National Commander 's visit (Zone 3) See Department website for schedule
19	POW-MIA Recognition Day
23 - 27	81st Cotton Carnival Celebration – Sikeston, MO
26 – 29	National Vice Commander's visit (Schedule on Department website)
26-28	Combined Americanism Conference – Indianapolis, IN

October 2025 (National Disability/Employment Awareness Month)

1	Be The One Day
6-9	National Fall Meetings, Indianapolis, IN
12	Eisenhower Pilgrimage – Abilene Kansas
13	Navy's 231 st Birthday
13	Columbus Day
17-19	Fall Conference -Capitol Plaza, Jefferson City, MO
19 -24	Department Service Officer National Conference , Virginia

November 2025 (Membership Retention Month)

1	Be The One Day
3	Daylight Savings Time Ends (Clocks back an hour)
4	Election Day
10	Marine Corps' 227th Birthday
10	American Legion Auxiliary Birthday
11	Veterans Day – Department Headquarters Closed
16-21	National Legion College
27-28	Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2025

1	Be The One Day
7	Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance Day
20	Space Force's 6 th Birthday
31	Membership Cutoff for Lincoln Pilgrimage

METHODS OF JUDGING

Zone and state contests have five judges. Lower contests may have three or five judges. Judges should be trained or experienced in public speaking, and (preferably) previously judged speech contests. Judges should not have judged a prior contest including the contestant, or be employed by a school represented by a contestant. Arrangements for judges are made by the Chair of each contest, who should brief the judges before the contest. A judge should not discuss anything about the contest with a contestant before the contest.

During the contest, judges are seated separately. Each judge individually ranks the contestants without consulting anyone else. Judges must use and follow the scorecard on the preceding page.

If the prepared oration or assigned topic ignores the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen, the contestant may be penalized up to 10 points. Judges also downgrade contestants if parts of the assigned topic discourse appear overly “canned.”

The Judges, Timekeepers, Tabulators, and Chair, following the last speech, may proceed to a private room for final tabulation.

Tabulators check each scorecard and then tally the rankings. The contestant receiving lowest total rankings (*not* total points) is the winner. (For example, if contestant #1 receives two firsts, two seconds, and a third on the judges’ score cards, the total score is 9. If contestant #2 receives two firsts, two seconds, and a fourth, the total score is 10. Though contestant #2 receives two firsts, the total score of 10 places second.)

In contests with five judges, if two contestants have the same rankings total, the tie is broken by the rankings of the five judges for the two contestants. One contestant wins by three judges’ Record of Choice – comparing only the rankings of the two top contestants. Total points do *not* break a tie between two contestants.

If three (or more) contestants receive the same rankings total, the tie is broken by the highest total points from all judges. Total points are used only when three (or more) contestants tie on total rankings. In the rare case of a tie on points as well as on rankings, the judges will meet, compare scores and arrive at consensus rankings, which are final.

CERTIFICATION OF CONTESTANTS

Each high school (or home school) may select, in any reasonable way, a contestant to represent it. High school (or home school) contests are preferred in order to increase participation.

A contestant, to advance, must be certified the winner of each prior contest beginning with the high school (or home school). Certification must be made in writing or by e-mail to both the COMMISSION Chair and the CHAIR of the next contest.

If a contest has only one contestant, that student advances to the next higher level. If a winner is disqualified, withdraws, or cannot compete, then the runner-up may advance. If a substitute contestant would delay the contest, the contest shall proceed among available contestants.

The Commission supplies forms to certify contestants. Other written certifications are acceptable if equivalent information is provided. Electronic certification is available for high schools or home schools at www.missourilegion.org/oratorical.

OTHER CONTEST RULES

Publicity – The names of contestants may be released to the media for publicity purposes. Interviews or photographs of contestants are prohibited before the contest. No publicity shall be given to the judges before the contest, who are introduced only after announcement of their decision.

Broadcasts – Television and radio recording is permitted if the normal speaking voice of the contestant is not interfered with or amplified within the auditorium, the lighting and other conditions are the same for all contestants, and the Legion is not obligated financially. Satisfactory arrangements for recording must be made in advance with the Chair of the contest and with the person in charge of the building. Recording shall not change the contest schedule, nor distract the contestants. Any other electronic/digital data gathering, receiving and/or transmitting equipment shall not be used by contestants or audience members during the contest.

Copies of Prepared Oration – Contestants in the district, zone, and state contests shall give the Chair two printed copies of their prepared oration, which clearly show the title. Contestants may possess and consult a copy of their oration until exiting the holding room to speak, when they must leave the copy in the holding room.

Dress – Contestants shall not wear uniforms, or awards and medals from previous competition. Business attire is recommended for all contestants.

Notes and Rostrums – Contestants may not use notes, speaker’s stands, or amplification systems while speaking. Prompting is not allowed, nor props of any kind.

Applause – The Chair at each contest shall try to prevent applause until all contestants speak, so that speakers are judged on merit.

Order of Speaking – Contestants speak in the order determined by a drawing conducted with the Chair, who will refer to the speakers only as Number 1, Number 2, etc.

Announcement of Winner – The Chair does not introduce the contestants by name until after the judges finish all scoring. The Chair announces only the first place winner and alternate, or only those contestants receiving actual awards.

Time Keeper – The Chair names an official timer to keep an accurate time record of each contestant. The timer shall sit on the main floor in full view of the contestants. The timer has a stop watch and time cards with the figures 3, 4, 5 and 6. Timing starts when the contestant starts speaking. When 5 minutes pass in the Prepared Oration, the card with the figure “5” is placed in full view of the speaker, followed by the “6” card at the end of 6 minutes. During the Assigned Topic, the timer uses cards with the figures 3, 4 and 5. (Time cards with the figures 8, 9 and 10 are used for the Oration in the State Finals.) The Chair announces the time immediately after each speech, for the benefit of the judges. The Chair also announces penalty points then, if any.

Escorts – Immediately before the prepared orations, all contestants enter a separate room with an Escort appointed by the Chair, so the other orations cannot be heard. Contestant #1 then goes to the platform for delivery of the oration, following which he or she retires to the separate room. Each student in turn speaks and returns to the room, then all contestants return together to the platform.

Assigned Topic – Immediately before the last prepared oration, the Chair places in separate envelopes the text of the four Assigned Topics, and asks someone in the audience to draw one. The Article or Amendment drawn is the topic for all contestants, but is not then announced. The Chair reads the topic to the judges and audience after the last oration.

Assigned Topic Preparation – Approximately five minutes before delivery of the assigned topic, contestant #1 is first shown the topic and taken to a private room, with an escort who ensures that the contestant does not consult anything except the actual words of the topic.

Each contestant is called in order of previous appearance. Each, also in turn, is shown the topic and escorted to the private room for five minutes, just like contestant #1.

Tabulators – The Chair appoints at least three Tabulators to compile and check the judges’ scorecards before handing them to the Chair. The Chair and the Tabulators shall not divulge the judges’ scorecards to anyone at the site of the contest. Persons interested in the scoring, for professional purposes, may request, from the commission Chair, copies of the scores of a contestant (with judges’ names omitted).

MISSOURI NATIONAL WINNERS

1949	Paul T. Heyne	Concordia
2011	Anisha N. Gururaj	Chesterfield
2013	Agnes G. Rieger	Kansas City
2014	Ashwath S. Kumar	Columbia

MISSOURI STATE WINNERS		
1935	Everett Grese	Concordia
1936	Thomas Tierney	St. Louis
1937	Charles Brown	Springfield
1938	Carl Kenagy, Jr.	Raytown
1939	Kenneth Hackman	Brentwood
1940	Olin W. Venable	Boonville
1941	James J. Jenkins	Maplewood
1942	Maurice Kraxberger	Salisbury
1943	Ed Keath	Clayton
1944	Richard B. Dempsey	St. Louis
1945	Patrick O'Mera	St. Louis
1946	Howard Downs	Independence
1947	Robert A. Southern	Independence
1948	Robert Wallace	Springfield
1949	Paul T. Heyne	Concordia
1950	Kenneth Lee Frerking	Concordia
1951	Martin E. Palmer	St. Louis County
1952	Monty Harlow	Springfield
1953	David Morton	Kansas City
1954	Thomas Hungerford	St. Louis
1955	Leonard Goodall	Warrensburg
1956	Kenneth R. Jennison	Carthage
1957	Jeana Sue Herl	Hannibal
1958	Robert Dickeson	Independence
1959	June Lynne Skaggs	Monett
1960	David J. Wynne	St. Louis
1961	John H. Garabedian	Kansas City
1962	Sandra Lee Appleby	St. Charles
1963	Bond R. Faulwell	Kansas City
1964	John Willibrand	St. Charles
1965	David Hilgendorf	St. Louis
1966	Robert Thedinger	Kansas City
1967	Robert Thedinger	Kansas City
1968	Gary Klingsporn	Monett
1969	John W. Head	Palmyra
1970	Susan J. Dye	Hannibal
1971	John W. Head	Palmyra
1972	Joyce Meier	Farrar
1973	Robert Banks, Jr.	Monett
1974	Debbie O. Downs	Manchester
1975	Joy Anita Haven	Manchester
1976	Donald A. Calvert	Cape Girardeau
1977	John F. Gillespie, Jr.	Manchester
1978	Charles J. Rupp	Diamond
1979	Allan H. Harvey	Rolla
1980	Brenda Tompkins	Bolckow
1981	Glen Dasmalchi	Mansfield
1982	Kevin W. Smith	North Kansas City
1983	Rodney Sexton	Ava
1984	Patrick Walker	Grandview
1985	Sam M. Caring	Springfield
1986	Catherine M. Kintner	Jackson
1987	Marty Tade	Columbia
1988	Rachel L. Bringer	Palmyra
1989	Bryan D. Watson	Milan
1990	Ted W. Beasley	St. Louis
1991	Lisa S. Williams	Manchester
1992	Brian W. Prewitt	Ballwin
1993	Amy E. Smith	Warrenton
1994	Tina Suneja	Town and Country
1995	Tina Suneja	Town and Country
1996	Karen M. Barmann	Maryville
1997	Bradley W. Cordes	Raytown
1998	Erin K. Guyer	Ballwin
1999	Arif H. Kamal	Warrensburg
2000	Edward C. Shelton	Kansas City
2001	Ashley S. Oppenheim	Ballwin
2002	Ashley S. Oppenheim	Ballwin
2003	Jared R. Wortman	Warrensburg
2004	Afrin N. Kamal	Warrensburg
2005	Alexandra K. Hunstein	Ballwin
2006	Michael E. Gertz	Sedalia
2007	Cody L. Clemons	Malta Bend
2008	Brittany M. Sanders	Gladstone
2009	Brittany M. Sanders	Gladstone
2010	Derek W. Schulze	Warrenton
2011	Anisha N. Gururaj	Chesterfield
2012	David A. Rogers	Warrensburg
2013	Agnes G. Rieger	Kansas City
2014	Ashwath S. Kumar	Columbia
2015	Meghana C. Bharadwaj	Wildwood
2016	Meghana C. Bharadwaj	Wildwood
2017	Lorinda A. Ruz	Independence
2018	Makaylah L. Jones	Maryville
2019	Marissa M. Gertz	Smithton
2020	Andrew R. Moore	Kahoka
2021	Vignesh Kumar	Columbia
2022	Evan T. Becker	St. Charles
2023	Jana A. Rawashdeh	St. Peters
2024	Jana A. Rawashdeh	St. Peters
2025	Gretchen M. House	Oldfield

The American Legion

DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, Inc.

Ninety-Second Annual
High School
Oratorical Scholarship
Program

A CONSTITUTIONAL SPEECH CONTEST

2025-2026



Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Oratorical Commission, P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City 65109 (800) 846-9023
services@missourilegion.org

ZONE I

Larry J. DuFour (636) 441-7102
106 Mill Run Lane. St. Peters 63376
Christine A. Sapp (573) 469-3461
608 Appaloosa DrAshland 65010

ZONE II

Mark M. Hummer (816) 390-4521
12820 Jantzen Ln Platte City 64079
Stephen J. Olson (660) 831-0982
423 E. North St Marshall 65340

ZONE III

Patricia C. Olmstead (417) 684-7512
1005 S. Main St. El Dorado Springs 64744
David E. Shafer (573) 759-6874
14325 Camden Ln Dixon 65459

ZONE IV

Darlene Coats (314) 477-6841
5389 Wells Avenue. St. Louis 63112
John L. Midkiff (636) 207-0626
1277 Mautenne Dr. Ballwin 63021

www.missourilegion.org/oratorical

THE AMERICAN LEGION Department of Missouri, each school year, sponsors an Oratorical Contest for high school students in Missouri.

The purpose of the contest is to develop knowledge and appreciation of the United States Constitution, the ability to think and speak clearly and critically, and the acceptance of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship. The contest meets guidelines of the Missouri State High School Activities Association, and appears in the Advisory List of Contests and Activities, of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Legion contest is a partner with the National Speech & Debate Association, the honor society for high school students (formerly the National Forensic League).

AWARDS

The Department of Missouri awards the following medals and scholarships at State Finals:

1st place	Gold Medal	\$5,000.00
2nd place.	Silver Medal	\$2,500.00
3rd place.	Silver Medal	\$2,250.00
4th place.	Silver Medal	\$2,000.00
Zone		
1st place	Gold Medal	
2nd place.	Silver Medal	
Others.	Bronze Medal	
District		
1st place	Silver Medal	
2nd place.	Bronze Medal	
County award	Brooch	

If a high school contest is held, the sponsoring Post should award the winner a bronze medal, available from Department Headquarters, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City 65102 at \$12.50 each.

Contestants in the National Finals receive scholarships of **\$25,000, \$22,500, and \$20,000** for the top three places. State winners who participate in first-round National contests receive **\$2,000** scholarships. Second-round National participants (who do not make the finals) receive additional **\$2,000** scholarships. Some colleges and universities (including Drury University and William Jewell College) give additional scholarships based on participation in the Oratorical Contest.

SCHEDULE OF CONTESTS

Contest	Date
High School	Before November 30, 2025
County	Between December 7 and 22, 2025
District	Before January 19, 2026
Zone	Before February 9, 2026
State Finals	On Sunday, March 1, 2026
Most Contests are on a Sunday Afternoon	

NATIONAL CONTESTS

National contests are May 15 - 17, 2026, in Hillsdale, Michigan. Missouri sends one contestant to the first of the three National rounds. The top three national finalists earn berths in Original Oratory at the National Speech & Debate national tournament.

PREPARED ORATION

Each contestant delivers a prepared oration, which must be an original effort. Plagiarism may cause disqualification.

The oration must address some aspect of the Constitution of the United States, which emphasizes the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. A student shall use the same subject for the oration throughout all contests.

The oration in all contests, except the State Finals, must last between five and six minutes. The oration in the State Finals must last between eight and ten minutes. The same oration must be used by the state winner in the national contest. The title of the oration is announced by the contest Chair before each oration.

Quotations must be clearly indicated. If they exceed ten words, the author's name shall be given both orally and in the manuscript. All speeches are delivered in English (except for short phrases from other languages). Singing is not permitted (although songs may be quoted).

ASSIGNED TOPIC DISCOURSE

Contestants in the district, zone, and state contests give an Assigned Topic Discourse, in addition to a Prepared Oration. The discourse lasts between three and five minutes. The oration quotation rule must be observed.

The discourse tests the speaker's knowledge of the subject, the extent of research, and the ability to relate the topic to the basic principles of the Constitution. All contestants speak on the same topic, drawn during the contest from the four listed on the next page.

	DELIVERY TIME			
	Prepared Oration		Assigned Topic	
	Not Less Than	Not More Than	Not Less Than	Not More Than
School, County	5 min.	6 min.	-	-
District & Zone	5 min.	6 min.	3 min.	5 min.
State Finals	8 min.	10 min.	3 min.	5 min.

If a contestant speaks less than the minimum or more than the maximum time, a penalty of one point for each minute (or fraction thereof) is deducted from the contestant's total score.

ASSIGNED TOPICS – 2026

AMENDMENT IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

* * * * *

ARTICLE III

Section 3. Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attainted.

* * * * *

ARTICLE IV

Section 4. The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

* * * * *

ARTICLE VI

Clause 3. The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

ORGANIZATION

The contest is supervised by the Oratorical Commission of nine members appointed by the Department Commander. The Commission is the final authority on all aspects of the contest.

The state is divided into four zones:
Zone 1 - Legion Districts 1, 2, 8 and 9
Zone 2 - Legion Districts 3, 4, 5 and 7
Zone 3 - Legion Districts 6, 15,16 and 17
Zone 4 - Legion Districts 10, 11/12, 13 and 14

Each District Commander appoints County Chairs and a District Chair. The Commission appoints the four Zone Chairs. Each Chair cooperates with the local schools and Legion Posts to promote the program; to supervise generally the contests in the area; and, in addition, to preside at the particular contest he or she chairs.

ELIGIBILITY

All contestants shall be citizens or lawful permanent residents of the United States, bona fide students under age 20, and presently enrolled in grades 9 through 12, in a high school or junior high school (public, parochial, military, home or private). Contestants must either be legally domiciled in, or attend school within Missouri. Contestants may enter the contest in only one state. Students who graduate early may compete if not enrolled in a college, university, trade school, or other institution of higher learning on March 1, 2026.

The three finalists in the National Finals cannot compete again at any level.

SPONSORSHIP

Contests are sponsored and financed by The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc., and the Legion Posts throughout the State.

Posts sponsor and assist the contestants from their local high schools. If no Post is near a high school, or if a contestant is not sponsored by a Post, then the Commission, upon request, will assist the contestant.

Posts of each county unite to sponsor the county champion at the district contest. Posts in each district sponsor the district winner at the zone contest, while Posts of the zone sponsor the zone champion at the State Finals in Jefferson City.

Contests are open to the public, with no admission charge. Schools and the public, generally, are invited to cooperate with the Legion in promoting this patriotic enterprise. Constructive criticisms and suggestions are considered by the Commission at its annual meeting.

CRITERIA FOR SPEECHES

Before the contest, each Judge should study the scoring of the Prepared Oration and Assigned Topic, as indicated by this scorecard:

Name of judge _____		Date _____
Number of Contestant		1 2 3 4 5 6
A. Content		
1. Was the speech original, fresh, and direct, applying the student's knowledge?	Prepared Oration Assigned Topic	12 pts. 4 pts.
2. Did the student skillfully select examples, descriptions, analogies, and specific data?	Prepared Oration Assigned Topic	12 pts. 4 pts.
3. Was the speech logical, well organized, and developed?	Prepared Oration Assigned Topic	12 pts. 4 pts.
4. Did the student show a comprehensiveness of knowledge of the subject matter?	Prepared Oration Assigned Topic	16 pts. 6 pts.
B. Speaking Skills		
1. Did the student use volume, rate, pitch, and diction effectively?	Prepared Oration Assigned Topic	6 pts. 4 pts.
2. Rate the speaker's style: language use, word arrangement and selection, and transitions.	Prepared Oration Assigned Topic	6 pts. 4 pts.
3. Were body actions – poise, eye contact, posture, gestures, facial expressions – appropriate?	Prepared Oration Assigned Topic	6 pts. 4 pts.
	Total Points	_____
Penalties:		
1 point for each minute (or fraction thereof) over or under allotted time		
1-10 points for failure to speak on the Constitution		

Rank each Contestant 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION
Erman W. Taylor Memorial Scholarship

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly)

Full name of applicant _____
Complete Address _____
Phone # Home () _____ Work () _____
Date of Birth _____ Graduation Date _____ SAT/ACT Score _____

* Full name of (veteran) and your relationship i.e.; parent, grandparent or great grandparent

*Name _____ *Relationship _____

Family combined gross annual income _____

Number of children under 18 in the family _____

Name and complete address of High School _____

Attach typewritten essay of 500 words or less.

In your opinion, what was the most significant event of the past year?

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee: A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

_____ Date _____

Applicant's signature

This application for scholarship aid is being submitted with my knowledge and approval.

_____ Date _____

Signature of Parent / Guardian

All inquiries should be directed to: Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068 or ajnoonan2004@yahoo.com

Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements on reverse.

Erman W. Taylor Americanism Scholarship -Three recipients of \$750.00 each

The \$750.00 scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

Basis for Eligibility:

1. Must be the descendent* of a veteran having served 90 days on active duty in the Army, Air Force, Space Force, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States, and having an honorable discharge. A copy of the veteran's discharge or separation notice must be submitted with application. The copy must show the date the veteran entered service and the date the veteran left service
2. Be a resident of the state of Missouri.
3. Consideration for scholarship will be determined annually for high school graduates in NEED of financial aid to attend a college / university.
4. Student must be planning to major in education. **A counselor's statement must be attached.** The counselor's statement should be on school letterhead, attest to the student's ability and desire to major in education or a related field, and must be signed by the school counselor.
5. Scholarship must be used the first fall semester of a college / university following graduation from high school.

(*) DEFINITION OF "DESCENDANT": Any child, grandchild or great grandchild of a veteran who is unmarried and under the age of 21 and is (1) A legitimate child. (2) A child legally adopted. (3) A stepchild of and living in the veteran's home. (4) An illegitimate child (when necessary proof of relationship is provided).

This scholarship application may be obtained on the web at www.missourilegion.org

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION**

Joseph J. Frank Scholarship

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly)

Full name of applicant _____

Complete Address _____

Phone # Home () _____

Work () _____

Date of Birth _____

Graduation Date _____

SAT/ACT Score _____

Year applicant attended Missouri Boys / Girls State/Cadet _____

Patrol _____

* Full name of (veteran) and your relationship i.e.; parent, grandparent or great grandparent

*Name _____

*Relationship _____

Family combined gross annual income _____

Number of children under 18 in the family _____

Name and complete address of High School _____

What community activities do you or have you participated in? _____

Attach an additional sheet if necessary.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee; A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

Date _____

Applicant's signature

This application for scholarship aid is being submitted with my knowledge and approval.

Date _____

Signature of Parent / Guardian

All inquiries should be directed to: Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068 or ajnoonan2004@yahoo.com

Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements on reverse.

Joseph J. Frank Scholarship - Five awards of \$750.00 each.

The \$750.00 scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

Basis for Eligibility:

1. One boy who has attended a full session of Missouri Boys State or Missouri Cadet Patrol and one girl who has attended a full session of Missouri Girls State or Missouri Cadet Patrol.
2. Must be the descendent* of a veteran having served 90 days on active duty in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Space Force, or Coast Guard of the United States, and having an honorable discharge. A copy of the veteran's discharge or separation notice must be submitted with the application. The copy must show the date the veteran entered service and the date the veteran left service.
3. Be a resident of the state of Missouri.
4. An unmarried dependent under the age of 21.
5. Must be attending an accredited college / university as a full-time student.
6. Consideration for scholarship will be determined annually for high school graduates in NEED of financial aid to attend a college / university.
7. Scholarship must be used the first fall semester of a college / university following graduation from high school.

(*) DEFINITION OF "DESCENDANT": Any child, grandchild or great grandchild of a veteran who is unmarried and under the age of 21 and is (1) A legitimate child. (2) A child legally adopted. (3) A stepchild of and living in the veteran's home. (4) An illegitimate child (when necessary proof of relationship is provided).

This scholarship application may be obtained on the web at www.missourilegion.org

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION**

Lillie Lois Ford Scholarship Fund

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly)

Full name of applicant _____

Complete Address _____

Phone # Home () _____ Work () _____

Date and Place of Birth _____ Graduation Date _____ SAT/ACT Score _____

Year applicant attended Missouri Boys State/Girls State or Cadet Patrol Academy _____

* Full name of (veteran) and your relationship i.e.; parent, grandparent or great grandparent

*Name _____

*Relationship _____

Family combined gross annual income _____

Number of children under 18 in the family _____

Name and complete address of High School _____

What community activities do you or have you participated in?

Attach an additional sheet if necessary.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee; A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

_____ Date _____

Applicant's signature

This application for scholarship aid is being submitted with my knowledge and approval.

_____ Date _____

Signature of Parent / Guardian

**All inquiries should be directed to: Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068 or ajnoonan2004@yahoo.com
Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.**

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements on reverse.

Lillie Lois Ford Scholarship Fund-Two recipients of \$1,000.00

The \$1,000.00 scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

Basis for Eligibility:

1. One boy who has attended a full session of Missouri Boys State or Missouri Cadet Patrol.
2. One girl who has attended a full session of Missouri Girls State or Missouri Cadet Patrol.
3. Must be the descendent* of a veteran having served 90 days on active duty in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Space Force or Coast Guard of the United States, and having an honorable discharge. A copy of the veteran's discharge or separation notice must be submitted with application.

The copy must show the date the veteran entered service and the date the veteran left service.

4. Be a resident of the state of Missouri.
5. An unmarried dependent under the age of 21.
6. Must be attending an accredited college / university as a full-time student.
7. Consideration for scholarship will be determined annually for high school graduates in NEED of financial aid to attend a college / university.
8. Scholarship must be used the first fall semester of a college / university following graduation from high school.

(*) DEFINITION OF "DESCENDANT": Any child, grandchild or great grandchild of a veteran who is unmarried and under the age of 21 and is (1) A legitimate child. (2) A child legally adopted. (3) A stepchild of and living in the veterans home. (4) An illegitimate child (when necessary proof of relationship is provided).

This scholarship applications may be obtained on the web at www.missourilegion.org

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION**

M.D. "Jack" Murphy Memorial Nurses Training Scholarship

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly)

Full name of applicant _____

Complete Address _____

Phone # Home () _____ Work () _____

Date and Place of Birth _____ Graduation Date _____ SAT/ACT Score _____

* Full name of (veteran) and your relationship i.e.; parent, grandparent or great grandparent

*Name _____

*Relationship _____

Family combined gross annual income _____

Number of children under 18 in the family _____

Name and complete address of High School _____

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee; A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

_____ Date _____

Applicant's signature

This application for scholarship aid is being submitted with my knowledge and approval.

_____ Date _____

Signature of Parent / Guardian

All inquiries should be directed to: Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068 or ajnoonan2004@yahoo.com

Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements on reverse.

M. D. "Jack" Murphy Memorial Nurses Scholarship - One award of \$1,000.00.

The scholarship may be extended for one additional year by reapplying.

The \$1,000.00 scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

Basis for Eligibility:

1. One applicant planning a career as a Registered Nurse. The scholarship must be used the first fall semester upon completion of high school.
2. Must be the descendent* of a veteran having served 90 days on active duty in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States, and having an honorable discharge. A copy of the veteran's discharge or separation notice must be submitted with the application. The copy must show the date the veteran entered service and the date the veteran left service.
3. Be a resident of the state of Missouri.
4. Shall be an unmarried dependent under the age of 21.
5. Must be attending an accredited college / university as a full-time student.
6. Consideration for scholarship will be determined annually for high school graduates in NEED of financial aid to attend a college / university.
7. Applicant must graduate in the top 40% of his / her class.
8. **A counselor's statement must be attached.** The statement should be on school letterhead, attest to the student's ability and desire to major in nursing, certify that the student is in the top 40% of their class, and be signed by the school counselor.

(*) DEFINITION OF "DESCENDANT": Any child, grandchild or great grandchild of a veteran who is unmarried and under the age of 21 and is (1) A legitimate child. (2) A child legally adopted. (3) A stepchild of person and living in the veterans home. (4) An illegitimate child (when necessary proof of relationship is provided).

This scholarship application may be obtained on the web at www.missourilegion.org

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION**

MO Detachment, Sons of the American Legion Scholarship

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly)

Full name of applicant _____

Complete Address _____

Phone # Home () _____ Work () _____

Date of Birth _____ Graduation Date _____ SAT/ACT Score _____

Applicant Membership Number () SAL _____ Membership ID Number _____

or () Junior Auxiliary

Family combined gross annual income _____

Number of children under 18 in the family _____

Name and complete address of High School _____

What school and community activities do you or have you participated in? _____ Attach an additional sheet.

Attach an essay outlining what being a member of the American Legion Family means to you.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee; A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

_____ Date _____

Applicant's signature

This application for scholarship aid is being submitted with my knowledge and approval.

_____ Date _____

Signature of Parent / Guardian

All inquiries should be directed to: Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068 or ajnoonan2004@yahoo.com

Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements on reverse.

MO Detachment, Sons of the American Legion Scholarship – One Award of \$500.00 .

The \$500.00 scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

Basis for Eligibility:

1. One student who is a member of the Sons of the American Legion or the Junior Auxiliary of the American Legion.
2. Must attach a copy of most recent High School transcript
3. Must attach an essay on the topic "What being a member of the American Legion Family Means to me.
4. Be a resident of the state of Missouri.
5. An unmarried dependent under the age of 21.
6. Must be attending an accredited college / university as a full-time student.
7. Consideration for scholarship will be determined annually for high school graduates in NEED of financial aid to attend a college / university.
8. Scholarship must be used the first fall semester of a college / university following graduation from high school.

This scholarship application may be obtained on the web at www.missourilegion.org

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION
Shane Dean Voyles Memorial Scholarship

This application is limited to **only one student per high school**. The student is to be selected by the faculty of the school based on the criteria listed on the reverse side of this application.

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly. Use plain paper to add supporting information)

Name and Address of High School _____	
Counselor's Name and Phone Number _____	()
Full name of applicant _____	
Complete Address _____	
Phone # Home () _____	Date of Birth _____
SAT/ACT Score _____	Overall G.P.A. _____
Family combined gross annual income _____	
Number of children under 18 in the family _____	
List athletic activities applicant participated in while attending High School _____	
College applicant plans to attend _____	
Has he/she received an athletic scholarship? _____	If yes, which sport? _____
Extra circular activities applicant participated in? _____	
Community Service activities applicant participated in? _____	

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee; A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

_____ Date _____

Applicant's signature

This application for scholarship aid is being submitted with my knowledge and approval.

_____ Date _____

Signature of Parent / Guardian

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements. They must be strictly adhered to.

Shane Dean Voyles Memorial Scholarship – One award of \$750.00.

The scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school. **The faculty of each High School in the state of Missouri may submit only one student for this scholarship.** The Education & Scholarship Committee of The American Legion, Department of Missouri will determine the recipient of the scholarship. The decision of the Committee shall be final.

Supporting Information may be submitted as needed/desired.

Basis for Eligibility:

1. Each High School in the state of Missouri may submit only one application for this award. Applicant must be selected by the faculty of the High School he/she is attending based on the individuals financial need, participation in athletics, participation in school activities/clubs, volunteer work, exceptional leadership qualities, high moral standards and extreme patriotism.
2. Recipient must be a full-time student in an accredited college or university in the state of Missouri.
3. Applicant must be a resident of the state of Missouri.
4. Must be attending an accredited college / university as a full-time student.

The \$750.00 will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

All inquiries should be directed to Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068

Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

This scholarship application may be obtained on the web at www.missourilegion.org

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION
Charles L. Bacon Memorial Scholarship

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly)

Full name of applicant _____

Complete Address _____

Phone # Home () _____

Work () _____

Date of Birth _____

Graduation Date _____

SAT/ACT Score _____

This application is based on the membership of The American Legion Family, i.e., Legion Member, Auxiliary Member, Sons of The American Legion Member, or a **descendant*** of any member thereof.

Legion Family Members Full Name

Membership Number

American Legion Post Number

or

Legion Auxiliary Unit Number

or

S.A.L. Squadron Number

Family combined gross annual income _____

Number of children under 18 in the family _____

Name and complete address of High School _____

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee; A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

Date _____

Applicant's signature

This application for scholarship aid is being submitted with my knowledge and approval.

Date _____

Signature of Parent / Guardian

All inquiries should be directed to: Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068 or ajnoonan2004@yahoo.com

Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements on reverse.

Charles L. Bacon Memorial Scholarship - Two recipients \$750.00 each.

The \$750.00 scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

Basis for Eligibility:

1. Must be a member of The American Legion Family, i.e., Legion Member, Auxiliary Member, S.A.L. Member, or a descendant* of any member thereof.
2. Be a resident of the state of Missouri.
3. An unmarried dependent under the age of 21.
4. Must be attending an accredited college / university as a full-time student.
5. Consideration for scholarship will be determined annually for high school graduates in NEED of financial aid to attend a college / university.
6. Scholarship must be used the first fall semester of a college / university following graduation from high school.

(*) DEFINITION OF "DESCENDANT": Any child, grandchild or great grandchild of a veteran who is unmarried and under the age of 21 and is (1) A legitimate child. (2) A child legally adopted. (3) A stepchild of and living in the veteran's home. (4) An illegitimate child (when necessary proof of relationship is provided).

This scholarship application may be obtained on the web at www.missourilegion.org

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION**

COMMANDER'S SCHOLARSHIP

(Must be typewritten or printed legibly)

Full name of applicant _____

Complete mailing address _____

Phone # Home () _____ Phone # Work () _____

Date and place of birth _____

Name of Institution Attending _____

Address of Institution _____

Year in College _____ Marital status _____ Number of dependants _____

Combined Gross Annual Income (not taxable income) _____ Are you using the GI Bill? _____

Are you a member of The American Legion? _____ If yes, Post # _____

Payments of this scholarship will be in accordance with the financial rules of the institution you are attending.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she understands scholarship eligibility requirements and will adhere to its conditions.

Applicant's signature certifies that he / she is not related to any member of the reviewing Education and Scholarship Committee: A.J. Noonan, Mark Reed, Alex Slocum, Rose Noonan, Robert "Bob" Maddox, or Thomas Tanner.

Applicant's signature grants The American Legion Department of Missouri the right to use applicant's name and / or likeness to publicize the Scholarship Program.

Applicants signature

Date

All inquiries should be directed to Mr. A. J. Noonan, Chair (573) 872-9068 or ajnoonan2004@yahoo.com

Letter will notify recipients after July 1, 2026.

Completed application should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee

P.O. Box 179

Jefferson City MO 65102-0179

Please read carefully and follow all eligibility requirements on reverse.

Two \$1000.00 Scholarships will be awarded annually to eligible veterans who are currently or planning to attend a vocational technical college, college or university in the state of Missouri. The Education and Scholarship Committee of The American Legion, Department of Missouri will determine the recipients of the scholarship.

Basis for eligibility:

1. Applicant must have served in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Space Force, or Coast Guard for a minimum of 90 days and received an Honorable Discharge. **Photocopy of DD-214, Discharge or Separation papers must be included with application.**
2. Applicant must be enrolled or accepted, as a full time student, in an accredited vocational technical college, college or university in the state of Missouri. **A letter verifying enrollment or acceptance from the institution must be attached to application.**
3. Applicant must be a resident of the state of Missouri.
4. The scholarship must be used the following semester after it is awarded.

The scholarship award will be paid at the beginning of the student's first semester at their college of choice. Registrar's certification of enrollment is required before payment will be made. A check will be issued to joint payees, the recipient and the Scholarship and Awards Officer or equivalent official at the school.

Please direct questions concerning the scholarship to Mr. A.J. Noonan. Phone (573) 872-9068.

Completed application and supporting documentation should be submitted by April 20, 2026.

THE AMERICAN LEGION



ANNOUNCING 2026 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Basic Criteria for Scholarship Awards

The student must be a resident of Missouri. Applicants must be under the age of 21, unmarried and a descendant* of a veteran with at least ninety days active service in the U. S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard, who received an Honorable Discharge for such service. A photocopy of the veteran's DD 214, discharge or separation notice must accompany the scholarship application. Any additional requirements for each scholarship are on the reverse side of the application.

Lillie Lois Ford Scholarship - Two awards of \$1,000 each are given each year. One award is given to a boy who has attended The American Legion Boys State of Missouri or a full session of the Department's Cadet Patrol Academy. The second award is given to a girl who has attended The American Legion Auxiliary's Girls State program or a full session of the Department's Cadet Patrol Academy.

M.D. "Jack" Murphy Memorial Nurses Training Scholarship - Currently one \$1,000 award is given each year, and may, by application, be extended for a second year. This award is available to a Missouri boy or girl training to be a Registered Nurse, and may be used in their freshman or subsequent college years. The student must have graduated in the top forty percent of their high school class or have a "C" or equivalent standing from their last college or university semester.

Joseph J. Frank Scholarship – Five awards of \$750.00 are given annually to individuals who are descendants of a veteran. Applicant must have attended the 2023 session of The American Legion Boys State or The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program. Applicants must be unmarried, under the age of 21, a current resident of the state of Missouri and must use the scholarship as a full time student in an accredited college or university.

Charles L. Bacon Memorial Scholarship - Two awards of \$750.00 are given annually in memory of the first Missourian to serve as National Commander of The American Legion. Eligible are individuals who are currently members of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of The American Legion, or a descendant* of a member of any thereof. Applicants must be unmarried, a resident of Missouri, under the age of 21, and must use the scholarship as a full-time student in an accredited college or university and.

Erman W. Taylor Memorial Scholarship - Two \$750.00 awards are given annually to a student planning on obtaining a degree in education, in honor of this Past National Executive

THE AMERICAN LEGION



Committeeman from Missouri. To be eligible, individuals must: (1) be a descendant (2) be a Missouri resident; (3) use the award as a full-time student at an accredited college or university; (4) provide a copy of the discharge certificate for the veteran on whose service the application is made; and (5) submit an essay of 500 words or less on the subject **In your opinion, what was the most significant world event of this past year?**

Shane Dean Voyles Memorial Scholarship - One \$750.00 award will be awarded, annually. (1) Each school in the State of Missouri may nominate **one** student to be considered for the award. (2) The nominee will be selected on athletic, scholastic and leadership abilities. The nominee should be deeply involved in community and school activities. (4) Must use the award as a full-time student at an accredited college or university.

Missouri Detachment, Sons of the American Legion Scholarship – One award of \$500 is given annually to a student who is a member of the Sons of the American Legion or of the Junior Auxiliary of the American Legion. The student must complete an essay on the topic “What being a member of the American Legion Family means to me.”

Direct all questions concerning scholarships to:

**Mr. A.J. Noonan
Education and Scholarship Committee
(573) 872-9068**

Completed applications should be mailed no later than April 20, 2026 to:

**The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.
Attn: Education and Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0179**

***ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS ***

Scholarship applications **may be reproduced** as necessary.
Copies of the scholarship applications may also be obtained on the web at
www.missourilegion.org

Some applications require that a counselor's statement be attached.

92nd ANNUAL
2025-2026 ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
A Constitutional Speech Contest

Greetings High School Administrator:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, teaming with your local Post, will again sponsor the High School oratorical contest. The contest meets the guidelines of the Missouri State High School Activities Association and appears in the Advisory List of Contests and Activities, of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Legion contest is a partner with the National Speech & Debate Association, the honor society for high school students (formerly the National Forensic League).

The Oratorical Contest exists to increase students' knowledge of the Constitution of the United States, to develop the ability to think and speak clearly, and to promote the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.

We hope your students will participate in the Contest this year. We encourage you to enroll at least one to represent your school.


This year, state finalists will receive the largest scholarship certificates ever--for **\$5,000, \$2,500, \$2,250, and \$2,000** respectively--redeemable after graduation at any college. Also, some colleges grant substantial scholarships to the participants.

All information about the contest is at <http://missourilegion.org/oratorical> For any questions, simply contact Department Headquarters, PO Box 179, Jefferson City, 65102, services@missourilegion.org, or call (573) 893-2353

To enter a student, send the Form to me or you may enter electronically at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

School administrators and educators have supported this program for the past 90 years. We trust it continues to earn the cooperation of your speech, social studies, civics, government, and similar programs.

Sincerely,



Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission

P.S. Feel free to pass this to your speech teacher/coach, and to other interested teachers or students.

**NATIONAL COMMANDER DAN K. WILEY'S
103 PERCENT MEMBERSHIP GOAL
2026 MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE INCENTIVE PIN
(CERTIFICATION FORM)**

**This form must be sent to the department headquarters to be verified
by the department adjutant.**

Date: _____

Name: _____

Membership ID Number: _____

Street Address or PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

A DOG TAG COIN WILL BE AWARDED TO ANY POST COMMANDER, DISTRICT COMMANDER, COUNTY COMMANDER, DIVISION COMMANDER, DEPARTMENT COMMANDER OR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN WHO ACHIEVES 103 PERCENT OF THEIR ASSIGNED MEMBERSHIP GOAL FOR 2026. COINS WILL BE MAILED DIRECTLY TO THE RECIPIENT UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

☐ MAIL TO RECIPIENT ☐ MAIL TO DEPARTMENT

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS JUNE 30, 2026, OR UNTIL SUPPLIES ARE EXHAUSTED.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INDIVIDUAL LISTED ABOVE HAS REACHED 103 PERCENT OF THEIR 2026 MEMBERSHIP GOAL.

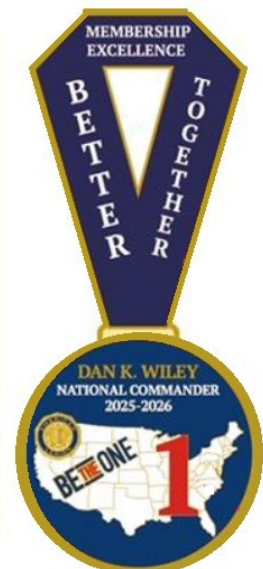
Department Adjutant

Date

**For Department use only – return completed forms to:
The American Legion
Internal Affairs & Membership Division
PO Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206**

Fax: 317-630-1413

Email: kadams@legion.org





**NATIONAL COMMANDER DAN K. WILEY'S
2026 MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE INCENTIVE PIN
CERTIFICATION FORM**



**Please make sure that the address, phone number and email address
provided is for the recruiter and not the post.**

Date: _____

Name: _____

Membership ID Number: _____

Street Address or PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

☐ MAIL TO RECRUITER ☐ MAIL TO POST

TO QUALIFY YOU NEED TO RECRUIT (2) NEW MEMBERS INTO THE AMERICAN LEGION.

(A NEW MEMBER IS DEFINED AS ANY ELIGIBLE VETERAN JOINING FOR THE 2026 MEMBERSHIP YEAR WHO WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DURING THE 2025 MEMBERSHIP YEAR). TRANSFERS DO NOT COUNT AS NEW MEMBERS.)

NEW AUXILIARY MEMBERS AND SAL MEMBERS DO NOT COUNT TOWARDS THIS INCENTIVE. PLEASE FORWARD THE NAMES OF NEW SAL MEMBERS OR AUXILIARY MEMBERS TO YOUR SQUADRON OR UNIT FOR USE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS. CONTACT YOUR STATE HEADQUARTERS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED BEFORE SUBMISSION. COINS WILL NOT BE MAILED UNTIL THEY ARE VERIFIED ON THE NATIONAL DATABASE.

THE DEADLINE FOR THIS INCENTIVE IS JUNE 30, 2026, OR UNTIL SUPPLIES ARE EXHAUSTED.

(2) NEW MEMBERS:

(Include full name, ID number, department, post)

1. _____

2. _____

Return completed forms to:

The American Legion

Internal Affairs & Membership Division

PO Box 1055

Indianapolis, IN 46206

Fax: 317-630-1413

Email: kadams@legion.org