

Important Message

NOTICE!!!! NATIONAL DUES INCREASE FOR THE 2025 MEMBERSHIP YEAR

**At the National Convention held on August
29-31, 2023, in Charlotte, North Carolina
It was voted to Increase the National Per
Capita by \$5.00**

**This increase will take effect on
July 1, 2024
For the 2025 Membership Year**

**Current Post remitted to Department
\$32.50 per member, with the National
dues increase post will be required to
remit \$37.50 per member to Department
effective July 1, 2024**



AMERICAN LEGION MULTIYEAR MEMBERSHIP IS HERE

Eliminate the yearly hassle of remembering to renew your American Legion membership by taking advantage of the new multiyear membership available to current and potential members. Legionnaires needing to renew 2024 or veterans joining the organization for the first time can lock in a three-year membership by visiting legion.org/renew or legion.org/join.

A multiyear membership was approved by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion during the organization's Spring Meeting last May. Resolution 1: Purchase of Multiple Years of Membership approves "a five-years pilot program offering the purchase of these consecutive 12-month member terms at the then current dues rate."

Here is what you need to know about the three-year membership:

- ❖ Multiyear member sign-up is only available on the national American Legion website. Current or potential members cannot renew or join for three-year membership at the post level or through MyLegion.org.
- ❖ Renew now with a three-year membership by visiting legion.org/renew.
- ❖ Join now with a three-year membership by visiting legion.org/join.
- ❖ Legionnaires already renewed for 2024 will soon be able to renew under the multi-year membership starting with the 2025-member year.
- ❖ Payment for the three-year membership will be upfront.
- ❖ There is not a discount rate with the three-year membership.
- ❖ Membership cards will be sent annually by Legion posts.
- ❖ Those who sign up for a multiyear membership will not receive a renewal notice during the time they have signed up for the multiyear membership.

Please note that the multiyear membership will work just like PUFL. Whatever rate the member renews at is the what the post/department/national will receive for the duration of that timeframe. Once the member renews after the three-year renewal is up, the renewal rate will adjust to the new rate. For questions, please contact Department headquarters.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Category I -- Legionnaire to recruit **3 New Members** by **May 10, 2024** will be announced during General Session.

Category II -- Legionnaire to recruit **5 New Members** by **May 10, 2024** will receive a Certificate.

Category III -- Legionnaire to recruit **10 New Members** by **May 10, 2024** will receive a Plaque.

Category IV -- Legionnaire to recruit **25 New Members** by **May 10, 2024** will receive a Plaque.

Category V -- Legionnaire to recruit **50 New Members** by **May 10, 2024** will receive a Plaque.

Legion Post -- The Post with the highest percentage of its **2024** membership goal will be awarded \$100.00. Membership must be received at Department Headquarters by **July 1, 2024. (Postmarked not honored)**

Auxiliary Members -- Any Auxiliary member to recruit 3 **New Legion Members** for **2024** by **May 10, 2024** will receive a certificate. The Auxiliary member who recruits the most Legion Members will receive a certificate of recognition.

Recruiters Name should only be submitted once. New member names and membership numbers must be provided to be considered This form should not be submitted to Department Headquarters **before April 10, 2024** to ensure proper credit is given to the recruiter. New Members names will be verified at Department. This form must be returned to Department no later **than May 10, 2024.**

Recruiters Name _____ Post No. _____

New Members Names:	Post No.	New Members Names:	Post No.
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1 _____	2 _____
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3 _____	4 _____
---------	---------

5 _____	6 _____
---------	---------

7 _____	8 _____
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9 _____	10 _____
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2024 Membership Recruiter

This form is to be completed by the Post Adjutant or Post Membership Chairman to submit names for Membership Recruiter Awards. Send to Department Headquarters at P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102, no later than **May 10, 2024**.

Post # _____ District _____

Please Mail Pins To:

[illegible]

[illegible]

!!!!!! Announcement !!!!!



Missouri Cadet Patrol Academy



**The 2023 Session of Cadet Patrol is cancelled due to lack
of Highway Patrol Staff.**

Plans are being made for the 2024 Session

Date: June 22-29, 2024

Cost : TBA

POC: Frankie Adams – Chairman - 573-380-6231



THE AMERICAN LEGION Veterans & Children Foundation



A FOUNDATION OF
HOPE



THE AMERICAN LEGION VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
(317) 630-1200

 legion.org

Follow The American Legion online:

 [legion.org/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/legion.org/facebook)

 [@AmericanLegion](https://twitter.com/AmericanLegion)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

DONATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ ☐ Cell ☐ Home ☐ Work

Email _____

Make Checks Payable to: American Veterans & Children Foundation

- ☐ I want to make a one-time donation ☐ I want to make this a recurring donation for the next 12-months. CREDIT CARD ONLY
- ☐ Paying by Check (enclosed) ☐ Paying by Credit Card (see below – MC/VISA/DISCOVER/AMEX)

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date: ____/____/____ 3-digit Security Code (on back of card) _____

Signature Required for Credit Card _____

Mail this form with your check or
credit card information to:

American Legion
Veterans & Children Foundation
PO Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206

Questions? Call (877) 534-4668 or email
customerservice@legion.org

NOTE: When the recurring donation is processed, a confirmation notice will be sent to the email address provided above.



THE AMERICAN LEGION Veterans & Children Foundation

1. The American Legion Veterans & Children's Foundation delivers needed aid for military and veteran parents who face unexpected financial hardships that threaten the stability of their homes. One-time Temporary Financial Assistance grants are used to cover housing, utilities, food and other basic needs for families with minor children at home.

2. The American Legion Veterans & Children's Foundation also trains the organization's army of accredited service officers who at any one time are continuously working more than 750,000 benefits claims for disabled veterans and their families, free of charge.

Your Gift Makes Differences for Men, Women and Children Who Have Sworn with their Lives to Protect Our Nation

Safe, secure, tax-deductible contributions can be made online at: legion.org/donate

For military and veteran families in urgent need

For disabled veterans and their loved ones

**The American Legion
Veterans & Children Foundation is**

**A FOUNDATION OF
HOPE**



About The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation

The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation was established in 1925 as the American Legion Endowment Fund. Since then, the donation-driven fund has helped millions of disabled veterans and military/veteran families facing unexpected, threatening challenges. The foundation is a separate tax-deductible non-profit 501(c)3 organization with a dedicated board of directors and national steering committee. It was renamed The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation in 2019 to better reflect those it serves.

About The American Legion

The American Legion is the nation's largest veterans service organization. Founded by World War I veterans in 1919, it has grown to include all who have honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces since Dec. 7, 1941, veterans and active-duty men and women alike. The American Legion Family consists of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American and American Legion Riders. The combined membership of those groups exceeds 3 million.

The American Legion works every day in Washington D.C., across the country and around the world on behalf of veterans, U.S. military personnel, young people and patriotic communities. Through "individual obligation to community, state and nation," The American Legion is committed to fulfill the words of its official motto:

"It's hard to imagine how many lives are being touched. Not just military life – but the family unit as a whole."



Ken Lee, American Legion service officer, former TFA grant recipient, speaking of the American Legion program that delivers up to \$1.2 million a year to military and veteran families facing unexpected financial crises

"The American Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance grant establishes hope in someone who has contacted and spoken to everyone for any kind of help ... We are extremely thankful and ... couldn't have been blessed more by getting into The American Legion and look forward to our future within the organization."

U.S. Marine Corps veteran **Walter Culberson**, whose family received a Temporary Financial Assistance grant to pay utilities until he got a new job after the COVID-19 pandemic put him out of work in April 2020



VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI



JROTC CADET OF THE YEAR 2024

Name and Contact Information

Name:

High School:

High School Phone #:

JROTC Unit:

JROTC Phone #:

JROTC Unit Address:

JROTC Unit Email:

Military Service Associated with:

Cadet Rank:

Grade Point Average:

JROTC Medals & Ribbons

(List your medals and ribbons in order of highest precedence – spell out medal/ribbon name)

1 _____	2 _____
3 _____	4 _____
5 _____	6 _____
7 _____	8 _____
9 _____	10 _____
11 _____	12 _____

Other JROTC Awards:

(List any award received and year received, don't list additional Medals or Ribbons)

1 _____	2 _____
3 _____	4 _____
5 _____	6 _____
7 _____	8 _____
9 _____	10 _____

Participation in Your JROTC Unit, Leadership Positions, and Roles

(List your top 5 JROTC participation with most recent listed first)

1) School Year	Rank at Time	Leadership Position Held
_____	_____	_____

Briefly describe your role and most important accomplishment or award while in this position.

2) School Year	Rank at Time	Leadership Position Held
_____	_____	_____

Briefly describe your role and most important accomplishment or award while in this position.

3) School Year	Rank at Time	Leadership Position Held
_____	_____	_____

Briefly describe your role and most important accomplishment or award while in this position.

Cadet Last Name:

4) School Year Rank at Time Leadership Position Held

Briefly describe your role and most important accomplishment or award while in this position.

5) School Year Rank at Time Leadership Position Held

Briefly describe your role and most important accomplishment or award while in this position.

Participation in Activities with The American Legion

List any participation with The American Legion either as a member of the JROTC or one of the Legion organizations. List up to 5 activities.

1) Activity Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

2) Activity Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

Cadet Last Name:

3) Activity

Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

4) Activity

Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

5) Activity

Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

**Participation in Activities or Organizations other than the
JROTC or The American Legion**

List up to five activities

1) Organization & Leadership Position

Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

Cadet Last Name:

2) Organization & Activity

Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

3) Organization & Activity

Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

4) Organization & Activity

Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

5) Organization & Activity

Month and Year of Activity

Briefly describe your participation in the activity.

Cadet Last Name:

Membership in the American Legion Family

Are you a member of the Sons of the American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary?

If YES what Squadron or Unit: _____ # of Years as a member: _____

Post name and number affiliated with: _____

Cadet Last Name:

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

JROTC SENIOR INSTRUCTOR ENDORSMENT

(Provide your endorsement of the cadet below)

[illegible]



Department of Missouri American Legion JROTC Cadet of the Year 2024

Instructions for Completion of the Application Form

Cadet of The Year nominee at the time of submission must be a cadet currently in or just completed their **junior** year of high school.

Each JROTC program will submit only one application.

The cadet will fill out the first five pages of the application. Both the cadet and parent/guardian will sign the application at the bottom of page five. The senior instructor should review the application for accuracy and provide their written endorsement on page six of the application. There is no need to send supporting documentation.

Name and Contact Information: Provide accurate name and contact information.

JROTC Medals & Ribbons: List your top 12 medals and ribbons earned in JROTC. The medals/ribbons need to be listed in order of precedence as viewed when looking at your uniform. The medal/ribbon with the highest precedence will go in block one. Spell out medal/ribbon name. Indicate if you have been awarded the medal/ribbon more than once by including the number of oak leaf clusters (OLC). You can enter OLC with the number (2 OLC).

Other JROTC Awards: List up to 10 other JROTC awards you have received and the school year it was earned (i.e. 2022-2023). Enter most recent awards first. **DO NOT** list medals and ribbons that are below your top 12 from the JROTC Medals & Ribbons section of this application. (Examples: drill competition individual/team trophies, letters of appreciation or certificates earned for JROTC activities)

Cadet Last Name: Enter last name of cadet at the bottom left of pages other than the first page.

Participation in Your JROTC Unit, Unit Leadership Positions and Roles: Document your participation in your JROTC unit. Enter most recent school year participation first and go back in chronological order.

4) School Year Rank at Time Leadership Position Held

School Year: Enter in the appropriate school year it was earned (i.e. Soph, Jr.).

Rank: Identify the rank you held while for this activity.

Leadership Position: Enter your leadership position that you were in for the entry

Accomplishment: Summarize your MOST significant accomplishments while in this position and provide position name. Highlight your leadership role in the accomplishment (example: As the cadet commander my team....). If you received an award for this accomplishment, explain what you did to earn it (be very specific) and use the additional information sheet if needed.

Participation in Activities with The American Legion: If you have participated in activities associated with the American Legion then provide the details in this space. If known enter the post number associated with. Examples may include Veterans and Memorial Day events, parades, events at an American Legion post or Flag Day ceremonies. Legion activities can be associated with The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion or American Legion Riders.

Participation in Activities or Organizations other than the JROTC or The American Legion: List any activity you are active in that would not fit into the above sections.

Organization and Leadership Position List the organization you were associated with and any leadership position associated with it.

Accomplishment: Summarize your MOST significant accomplishment while in this position or as a participant.

Membership in the American Legion Family: If you are a member of the Sons of the American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary then complete the questions asked. If not, then leave blank.

What are your Goals after High School: In the space provided, describe what your plans are upon graduating from high school? Do not enter information for this section on any additional information page.

Signatures: The application must be signed by both the cadet and parent or legal guardian to be accepted for award consideration.

Senior Instructor Endorsement: In the space provided the senior instructor will provide written endorsement. Be specific on Americanism and Leadership qualities demonstrated by the cadet in the JROTC unit, school and community. Signature of senior instructor is required.

Additional Information Sheet: If there is not enough space on the application then list additional relevant information on a separate page. Do not list more entries than requested on the application as they won't be scored.

Additional page(s) will have the below information centered at the top of each page:

Additional Information Page ____ of ____
Cadet Rank & Name
JROTC Unit

Provide the main section the additional information is for, entry #, and then enter information (example: Participation in Activities with The American Legion - Entry 3)

Award Package Submission

Award package will consist of completed application by cadet, signature of cadet/Parent or guardian, endorsement by senior instructor, and full-length photograph (portrait orientation) of cadet in service uniform with current rank and ribbons. Photo should be at least 5" x 7" on photo paper.

Mail application and photograph in large envelope so application and photograph are not folded.

Mail to:

The American Legion Dept of Missouri
Attn: ROTC Committee Chairman
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Completed awards packages must be received by **June 24, 2024**, for consideration.



American Legion Basic Training

The American Legion's official training program for officers, members, Legion College applicants and those who simply want to expand their knowledge of the nation's largest veterans service organization is now available online.

Already taken the old course? The American Legion Extension Institute (ALEI) has been rewritten, updated, streamlined and enhanced with videos, digital photos, clickable links, a historical timeline and additional features. The program should take less than two hours to complete. It is divided into six sections, with a quiz at the end of each one, followed by a final exam.

How Does it Work?

Course Structure

The Course is arranged into 5 major topic areas and 1 concluding section. Each section will present information about the topic via text, images and video.

Evaluation

At the end of each topic area there is a quiz that will help gauge your understanding of the material.

When you've completed each section quiz, you'll be able to take the final exam. The exam will take roughly ~30 minutes to complete.

Course Topics

History & Organization

Learn why and how The American Legion came into existence after World War I.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

The foremost pillar of American Legion service learn the ways in which the organization is dedicated to compassionate care, timely delivery of benefits, career development and other areas of advocacy for those who have served in uniform.

National Security

Outlined here is The American Legion's position on a strong, well-equipped and effectively deployed U.S. military, including a decent quality of life for those now in uniform and retirees of the Armed Forces.

Americanism

This pillar of American Legion service is filled with respect for the nation that those in the military swore with their lives to defend, from proper treatment of the U.S. flag to voter education to youth programs that make life-changing differences.

Children & Youth

The American Legion's long-held position that "every child deserves a square deal" is explained here, to include such programs and efforts as the Child Welfare Foundation, the Family Support Network,

Temporary Financial Assistance and other initiatives that aim to help children and youth follow their dreams, no matter their circumstances.

Course Conclusion

See how all the pieces of American Legion service and advocacy fit together to best serve our nation and learn where other committees and commissions play vital roles.

Final Exam

Take an online test to see how well you understand the nation's largest veterans service organization.

For more information or to take the course go to: www.legion.org/alei

2024 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER COMPETITION

The power and importance of a Post Newsletter is indescribable. Properly used, it is a very valuable tool for communicating to the members of the Post the news, events, and programs that make The American Legion such a dynamic organization of veterans. Every Post should be communicating their news to their members. This news gives the members a sense of pride and accomplishment and makes them want to be a part of their Post and participate in programs if they are able to.

To recognize the importance of Post newsletters, The Department of Missouri conducts an annual Post Newsletter competition to recognize the most outstanding newsletters. There are five awards, one for each of five membership categories. The five awards based on membership are: Category 1, 15 to 50 members; Category 2, 51 to 100 members; Category 3, 101 to 200 members; Category 4, 201 to 500 members; and Category 5, 501 or more members. Only first place is awarded in each category.

Winners of the Newsletter competition are announced at the Department Convention, and the awards are presented to each winner at the Fall Conference.

A post should present one year of their Post Newsletter in a folder, binder or book. A Post may also submit one year of their post newsletter in digital format, a thumb drive (preferred, CD or DVD). The digital submissions will be judged by viewing the files on a computer screen.

Judging is based on:

- a. Neatness and legibility as well as the information contained in the newsletters.
- b. Informative contents: Organized by activities/programs/news-information (from Post to Department and vice-versa).
- c. Content: Organized articles by officers and/or committees.
- d. Membership growth & retention: Newsletter contains information on recruiting, retaining, and renewing membership.
- e. Calendar of Events: A timely list of events scheduled to take place in the post and other events of importance that members should be aware of. (Items should contain dates, time and location of each event and should reflect timely notice to all members so members can participate in the events.)
- f. Judges Discretion: Judges overall opinion.

Any advertising contained in the newsletters should have a disclaimer to the effect that the below or above-named business donates to and supports our Legion programs.

The Media & Communication Commission's goal is that every Post that publishes a newsletter will submit their newsletter for competition at the Department Convention. Newsletters submitted for competition should be hand delivered to the Department Convention Office before 9:00 am Friday, July 12, 2024 or must be mailed to The American Legion, Department of Missouri, ATTN: Media and Communications Commission, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0179 so they arrive NLT July 7, 2024.

For information concerning this program, contact Commission Chairman Theadore McCart (314)550-9791.



YOUR SUMMARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BENEFITS

Reserved for Members

RETAIL DISCOUNTS



OFFICE DEPOT/OFFICE MAX -

Members receive significant discounts on over 93,000 items online or in-store with a purchasing card printable online. Next day delivery is free on purchases of \$50 or more for American Legion members.



LIFESTATION - Members can receive special discounted rates on a medical alert system and a free extra item.

ADDED MEDICAL BENEFITS



DISCOUNTS ON HEARING AIDS

Members, family, and extended family are eligible for hearing care discounts from Amplifon Hearing Health Care. Benefits include: hearing aid low-price guarantee; convenient locations nationwide; risk-free 60-day trial period; 1-year free follow-up care; free 2-year supply of batteries (160 cells).

INSURANCE



LIFE INSURANCE THROUGH MUTUAL OF OMAHA -

Members aged 45-85 are eligible for guaranteed issue whole life policies. (May not be available in all states).



USAA -

Provides a full range of financial products including: insurance, banking, investments, and financial advice. As an American Legion member, you are eligible to join. There are no membership fees to join USAA, and when you sign up, your eligible family members can join USAA as well.

AUTO RENTAL, RELOCATION, AND TRAVEL



AUTO RENTALS - Members can receive special discounts with ALAMO, NATIONAL, and ENTERPRISE.



NORTH AMERICAN VAN LINES AND



ALLIED VAN LINES - Preferred savings on interstate (state-to-state) moving and in-transit storage.



GOV VACATION REWARDS -

Members can get the best discount available on travel including airfare, hotel, car rental, vacation packages, cruises, and more.



VETERANS HOLIDAYS -

This program offers members the opportunity to rent a furnished condominium for 2-8 people, for an entire week, for less than they would pay for a single hotel room.



THE AMERICAN LEGION TRAVEL CENTER

POWERED BY HOTELPLANNER

American Legion members can save on hotel stays by searching for name brand hotels in their desired area at discounted rates.



MOTEL 6 - Members receive a preferred discount at any of the 1,100 pet-friendly Motel 6 locations in the U.S. and Canada.



WYNDHAM HOTEL GROUP -

Special savings off the best available rate at thousands of participating hotels throughout the world!



NOTE: These discount offers are valid at participating locations and are not valid with any other discounts or special prices. The American Legion does not guarantee any discounts.

ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR VETERAN BENEFITS

BENEFIT ASSISTANCE - The American Legion helps all veterans obtain full medical, career, and education benefits, as well as assistance in preparing VA claims applications.

VETERANS' REPRESENTATION - The American Legion is the nation's largest and most effective advocate in Washington, D.C., for veterans, troops, and their families. The American Legion fights every day on Capitol Hill and across the country for a quality VA health-care system, improved benefits processing, and a decent quality of life for active-duty military personnel.

ACCREDITED SERVICE OFFICERS - The American Legion has nearly 3,000 trained experts in veteran benefits nationwide. Visitors of www.legion.org can search online for the service officer nearest to them.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR VETERANS - The American Legion works closely with numerous employers, lenders, and agencies, including the Department of Labor and the Small Business Administration, to produce hundreds of career events across the country each year. The Legion is also the nation's leading advocate for veteran entrepreneurs and job candidates who have service-connected disabilities.

TOP-RANKED MEMBER MAGAZINE - You'll receive a full year's subscription to *The American Legion Magazine*, the nation's most widely circulated publication for veterans and top-ranked magazine, among all titles, for readership. Each issue is packed with features, commentaries, interviews, military history, photos, and more of interest to America's veterans.

The American Legion ★ P.O. Box 7017 ★ Indianapolis, IN 46207

**MAKE SURE YOU ARE RECEIVING
ALL THE BENEFITS AS A MEMBER OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION!**



Call For Distinguished Service Award Nominees

The Distinguished Service Award Committee is seeking nominations of individuals to be considered for the 2023 Distinguished Service Award.

- A resolution approved by the 1966 Department Convention authorized this award. The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor The American Legion Department of Missouri can bestow upon a Missourian, other than being elected Department Commander.
- The Award is presented to Missourians who have through-out the years rendered dedicated and exceptional service to their community, state, and nation.
- The recipients need not be a member of The American Legion, nor a Veteran of the military service.
- Only one award may be made each year to a living person, but more than one posthumous award may be made in any one year.
- Deadline for the receipt of nominations is February 5, 2024. The Committee will meet during the 2023-24 Spring meeting to determine their recommendation to the Department Executive Committee for approval.

Please mail nominations to The American Legion Department of Missouri, Attn: Adjutant, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102 or to the Committee Chairman, George E. Scarborough, 331 Hwy K, Iberia, MO 65486.

"VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA"



2023-2024 Department Commander's Project

The American Legion Foundation of Missouri, Inc.

The American Legion Foundation of Missouri, Inc. originally obtained our 501(c)(3) status in Mar 1997. The intent at the time was to be the charitable donation arm of the American Legion Department of Missouri. In February 2012, the Department Executive Committee (D.E.C.) formally recognized our Foundation and we began providing funds for various scholarships under our umbrella. Scholarships for veterans and veteran's families was its primary purpose at the time, but that's not all the Foundation can do for this Department.

The Foundations mission statement says: *The American Legion Foundation of Missouri Inc. is organized exclusively for the following charitable and educational purposes: to receive and administer donations gifts and bequests from any source and in addition any donations gifts or bequests given in the name of The American Legion Department of Missouri Inc. when forwarded by the Missouri Department Executive Committee DEC; and to administer any trusts and endowment funds created for the benefit of The American Legion Department of Missouri Inc. when requested to do so by the DEC. Provide scholarships for students.*

Methods of Giving

All gifts of the Foundation are tax deductible as allowed by the United States Tax Code and U.S. Internal Revenue Service. Your attorney or financial advisor can advise you on the tax advantages of each of the methods of giving: Checks and Investments, Bequest, Life Insurance Policy, or Charitable Trust.

Please make your tax-free donation to the Foundation by sending a check to The American Legion Foundation of Missouri, PO Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102. Your donations will help us grow and provide even more assistance to our Department.



Department Shirt Contest

- Do you have a creative mind, if so, we need your help in designing the Department's new membership shirt.
- The winner will receive a free shirt and bragging rights. The winner will be selected during the February Department Executive Committee meeting. **All entries must be received by January 15, 2024.**



Contest Rules :

- ✓ Designs must be in accordance with the National Emblem Use Guidelines
- ✓ Must be able to get shirts with and without pockets
- ✓ A Female version of the shirt must be offered
- ✓ Shirts with personalization should cost no more than \$50.00

To save on shipping shirts will be order in bulk – all order will go through the Department and shirts will be available at Department Convention for pick up. You must provide the name and contact information for the vendor at time of submission of your entry. Entries will be sent the judges anonymously so that everyone has a fair chance at winning. If you provide a picture with a name or Post on it that information will be blacken out prior to sending it to the judges.

If you have any questions please contact the Department Adjutant Lowry Finley-Jackson at 573-893-2353.



ANNOUNCING!!!!

DISTINGUISHED LEGIONNAIRE AWARD

Deadline Feb. 6, 2024

Eligibility: Living members of The American Legion Department of Missouri, who have rendered and continue to render outstanding and even sacrificial service to The American Legion and its programs for "God and Country." No Past Department Commander, Past National Executive Committeeman or Alternate National Executive Committeeman shall be eligible for the award.

Source of Nominations: Nominations may come only from Districts of the Department of Missouri. Nominations must be approved by Districts action. Each District may submit no more than one nomination annually.

Method for Nomination to be written: They should state the branch of service and period of time during which the nominee served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. The nomination must give, in detail, the history of service the nominee has rendered to The American Legion on the Post, District, and Department levels, giving dates of such service. Nomination should be accompanied with other supporting material.

Deadline for Nomination: Nominations must be received at The American Legion Department of Missouri Headquarters by February 6, 2024.

Post Awards: No award will be made posthumously unless death occurs after nomination of Legionnaire has been received at Department Headquarters.

Distinguished Legionnaire Award - Rules and Regulations

Eligibility: Living members of The American Legion, Department of Missouri, who have rendered and continue to render outstanding and even sacrificial service to The American Legion and its programs for “God and Country.” No Past Department Commander, Past National Executive Committeeman, or Alternate National Executive Committeeman shall be eligible for the award.

Source of Nominations: Nominations must come from a Post or District that is a member of the Department of Missouri. A nomination submitted by a Post must be submitted to their District for approval/disapproval. Nominations approved by District action may be submitted to the Department of Missouri. Each District may submit no more than one nomination annually.

Method for Nominations: Nominations will be written in the form of a resolution (See Attached Example). They should state the branch of service and period of time during which the nominee served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. The nomination must give in detail, the history of service the nominee has rendered to The American Legion on the Post, District and Department levels, giving dates of such service. Nominations should be accompanied with other supporting material(s).

Deadline for Nominations: Nominations must be received at The American Legion, Department of Missouri Headquarters by February 10 of each year.

Selection of Recipients: The Distinguished Legionnaire Committee shall meet prior to the spring meeting of the Department Executive Committee and evaluate the nominations presented. The committee will select the Legionnaire, whom they feel is most worthy to receive the award and present his/her name to the Department Executive Committee at the spring meeting for their confirmation/approval. One Legionnaire will be selected to receive the Distinguished Legionnaire Award each year.

Posthumous Awards: No award will be made posthumously unless death occurs after the nomination of the Legionnaire has been received at Department Headquarters.

Presentation of the Award: The Distinguished Legionnaire Award will be presented with due ceremony at the next Department Convention, following the meeting of the Department Executive Committee at which the award was approved. In the event of extenuating circumstances, and at the discretion of the Department Commander, the award plaque may be presented at another time and place.

Amendment of Rules: These rules may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Department Executive Committee, by a majority vote of those members of that body present. Such amendment, if any, shall not be effective until the close of the next succeeding Annual Department Convention.

EXAMPLE of RESOLUTION Format

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Department of Missouri

Full Name of the Post and Post Number

_____, Missouri _____

WHEREAS, The Distinguished Legionnaire Award, Department of Missouri, The American Legion, is awarded to living members of The American Legion who have rendered and continue to render outstanding and even sacrificial service to The American Legion, and its programs for “God and Country”; and,

WHEREAS, _____ Post _____, _____, Missouri, of District _____, has an exceptional Legionnaire who is deserving of consideration for the award of Distinguished Legionnaire for 20_____; and,

WHEREAS, Legionnaire _____ served in the U.S. _____ during (the Vietnam era, World War II, etc.) by enlisting / by being drafted in 19____, and serving our great nation honorably for over _____ years, and he/she joined The American Legion becoming a member of _____ Post _____, _(CITY)_, _(STATE)_ in 19____; and,

WHEREAS, Legionnaire _____ has served Post _____ as (List offices, committees and other duties); and,

This is used only if the Legionnaire served in any Post capacities, otherwise omit this Whereas.
(USE WHATEVER SPACE YOU NEED TO DESCRIBE)

WHEREAS, Legionnaire _____ has served the _____ District as (List offices, committees and other duties); and,

This is used only if the Legionnaire served in any District capacities, otherwise omit this Whereas.
(USE WHATEVER SPACE YOU NEED TO DESCRIBE)

WHEREAS, Legionnaire _____ has served the Department and National headquarters as (List offices, and committees served on at department and national levels); and,

This is used only if the Legionnaire served in any Department capacities, otherwise omit this Whereas.
(USE WHATEVER SPACE YOU NEED TO DESCRIBE)

WHEREAS, Legionnaire _____

Describe in full detail the history of service the nominee has rendered to The American Legion on the Post, District and Department levels other than offices/committees held described above that this legionnaire created, supported, participated in or has been involved in that makes him/her an outstanding and distinguished candidate deserving of the Distinguished Legionnaire Award; and,

(USE WHATEVER SPACE YOU NEED TO DESCRIBE THIS LEGIONNAIRE’S ACCOMPLISHMENTS. IF THERE IS SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION/MATERIAL, PLEASE ATTACH IT).

WHEREAS, Legionnaire _____ has unquestionably demonstrated his qualities of leadership and devotion to The American Legion; and,

THEREFORE, Be it resolved that the members of _____Post _____, unanimously approved this candidate,_____, for the Distinguished Legionnaire Award, Department of Missouri, for the year 20_____; and let it be,

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be included in the Post minutes and a copy be forwarded to the _____ District for approval and endorsement at the next regular meeting; and be it further,

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution if endorsed by the _____ District be forwarded to the Department of Missouri.

Unanimously approved this____day of _____20_____, by _____Post _____, _____, Missouri, in a regularly scheduled membership meeting as duly assembled.

Post Commander

Post Adjutant

Unanimously approved this____day of _____20_____, by the _____District, Department of Missouri, in a regularly scheduled membership meeting as duly assembled.

District Commander

District Adjutant



Call For Distinguished Service Award nominees

The Distinguished Service Award Committee is seeking nominations of individuals to be considered for the 2024 Award.

A resolution approved by the 1966 Department Convention authorized this award. The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor The American Legion Department of Missouri can bestow upon a Missourian, other than being elected Department Commander.

The Award is presented to Missourians who have throughout the years rendered dedicated and exceptional service to their state of Missouri and to the nation.

The recipients need not be a member of The American Legion, nor a Veteran of the military service.

Only one award may be made each year to a living person, but more than one posthumous award may be made in any one year.

Deadline for the receipt of nominations is February 6, 2024. The Committee will meet during the 2024 Spring DEC meeting to determine their recommendation to the Department Executive Committee for final action.

Please mail nominations to the **Department of Missouri** PO Box 179 Jefferson City, MO 65102 or to the **Chairman George Scarborough**, 331 Highway K, Iberia, MO 65486 email to gscarborough1@att.net.

District Commander's Challenge

- ✓ **100 % Membership by July 1 of the current membership year**
- ✓ **100% - Consolidated Post Report (CPR) by July 1 to National**
- ✓ **100 % - Annual Post Data Reports by April 15 to Department**
- ✓ **100% of Post Constitution and By Laws on file at Department by July 1**
- ✓ **Bonus (\$50.00) - 100 % Post Officer Reports for your respective district by July 1**

Any District Commander who accomplishes all the above task will receive an all-expense paid trip to the Department Convention.

WHO'S UP FOR THE CHALLENGE!!!!!!!

TRAVEL PROTECTION WHEN YOU NEED IT!

Emergency Assistance Plus is a plan that protects you and your family if you get sick or hurt while traveling in the U.S. or abroad. Available for Legionnaires and their families, EA+ gives you access to 24-hour emergency medical assistance services that your primary insurance typically will NOT cover!



EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE
PLUS



From Your American Legion Department

HERE ARE JUST SOME OF THE EA+ SERVICES AVAILABLE TO YOU*

MEDICAL EVACUATION



Emergency Medical Monitoring by an EA+ medical expert to make sure you get the best care in a medical emergency.

Air Ambulance or Emergency Medical Evacuation if deemed medically necessary to get you to a more appropriate medical facility quickly if your current facility can't properly treat your medical condition.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE



Prescription Replacement Assistance if your medications are lost or stolen.

24-Hour Doctor/ER/Dentist/Attorney Locator

Assistance to help you quickly find a professional no matter where you are in the world.

ASSISTANCE FOR COMPANIONS



One Round-Trip Economy-Class Airline Ticket to bring a loved one to your bedside if you're traveling alone and become hospitalized.

Airfare Home for Dependent Children or Grandchildren who are left unattended if you're unable to care for them due to your hospitalization.

Ticket Home for a Traveling Companion if you are evacuated, transported home or pass away while away from home.

TRANSPORTATION HOME



Transportation Home after hospitalization via a one-way airline ticket, arranged and provided by EA+.

Nurse Escort provided if deemed medically necessary to help ensure you get proper medical care during your trip home.

Return of Deceased Remains service to bring your body home if you pass away while traveling.

Vehicle Return if you can't drive your vehicle back home because your medical condition prohibits it AND your companion can't drive it either.

OTHER VITAL TRAVEL ASSISTANCE



Destination Intelligence regarding weather, travel, health, inoculations, travel restrictions, and special events.

Real-time Security Intelligence in the event you feel threatened by political unrest, social instability, weather conditions, or health hazards.

Lost Luggage Assistance helps you track down any lost luggage, personal items or documents.

Language Interpretation Assistance to connect you with an interpreter over the phone.

AND SO MUCH MORE ...

If you get sick or hurt away from home, Legionnaire Emergency Assistance Plus® (EA+®) gets you the help you need!

*This is only an outline of the plan's features. Hospitalization is a requirement to be eligible for some services. All services must be arranged and provided by EA+. Please read your Member Guide carefully to understand all the services available to you, as well as any rules and regulations. Visit www.theLIT.com/Emergency-Assistance-Plus to view a sample of the EA+ Plan details.



THE AMERICAN LEGION & SCOUTING



Square Knot

AWARD

This award is designed to recognize American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion members who are actively involved in the Scouting program. This award is not meant to be a selective or limited award, but one that is available to any American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion member who completes the requirements for the award. The award is meant to recognize dedication and work required by an American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion member to assist in furthering the Scouting program in The American Legion.



The award includes a gold and purple square knot, which may be worn on the Scout uniform. A certificate and congratulatory letter from the national commander of The American Legion are also included as recognition for the award.



To be considered for The American Legion Square Knot, it is expected that American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion members will work to provide the maximum impact of The American Legion's support of the Scouting program and to achieve maximum visibility.

A. Service

1. Be a current member of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion.
2. Be a current registered Scouter in a leadership position at the unit, district or council level; or as a Chartered Organizational Representative (COR); or as a district, council, area or regional member-at-large; or as a commissioner at any level.

B. Training

If serving as a unit leader complete five of the following:

1. Complete your unit leader Position-Specific (Role-Based) Course (Scoutmaster Position-Specific, Venturing Advisor Position-Specific, Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster Position-Specific, or Sea Scout Leader Position-Specific).
2. Complete "Youth Protection" training within the past 24 months.
3. Complete a certified "First Aid and CPR" certification within the past 24 months through either the American Red Cross or Emergency Care & Safety Institute.
4. Earn the Scouter's "Training Award" for your position.
5. Complete a Woodbadge, Powderhorn or Seabadge training program.
6. Attend a national training conference at either Bechtel Summit's John D. Tickle Training Center, Florida Sea Base or Philmont Training Center.

If serving as a Chartered Organizational Representative (COR), or as a district, council, area or regional member-at-large, or as a Commissioner at any level, complete three of the following:

1. Complete the Position-Specific (Role-Based) Course for your position (Commissioner Position Specific Basic Training or Chartered Organization Representative Position Specific Training).
2. Complete a Woodbadge training program.
3. Complete a council or area specific degree program through the College of Commissioner Science or University of Scouting.
4. Attend a regional or area training conference such as the OA National Leadership Seminar or Regional/Area Commissioner Conference.
5. Attend a national training conference at either Bechtel Summit's John D. Tickle Training Center, Florida Sea Base or Philmont Training Center.

C. Tenure

1. Serve a total of three consecutive years in a Scouting leadership position at the unit, district or council level; or as a Chartered Organizational Representative (COR); or as a district, council, area or regional member-at-large; or as a commissioner at any level.

D. Performance

While serving in a Scouting leadership position at the unit, district or council level; or as a Chartered Organizational Representative (COR); or as a district, council, area or regional member-at-large; or as a commissioner at any level, complete a minimum of five of the following:

1. Serve a minimum of two years as a Post Chartered Organizational Representative for Scouting or Scouting





unit leader and demonstrate success with your unit(s) in terms of growth in membership.

2. Assist your post, district or department to raise funds to support Scouting. Participate with a local BSA district or council friends of scouting fundraising effort.
3. Participate as member of a BSA District or council membership/relationships committee and represent The American Legion.
4. Assist in organizing or reorganizing a cub pack, Scout troop, sea scout ship or venturing crew chartered by an American Legion post.
5. Participate in the Eagle Scout of the Year program at the post, district or department level.
6. Make contact with Scout troops and venturing crews in your area through visits, roundtables or other means and solicit their participation in the National High School Oratorical Contest, Junior Shooting Sports Program, Boys State, American Legion Baseball and other Americanism programs and document the results of your efforts.
7. Recruit manpower from your post or district to support a Scout activity such as a camporee, bicycle rodeo, merit badge day or other related event to help further American Legion recognition in support of the Scouting program.
8. Develop and carry out or participate in an American Legion program to recognize the leaders of Scouting programs in your post, district or department.
9. Promote and coordinate the development of a network of department American Legion Scouting Team members to assist in the development of Scouting within The American Legion.
10. Earn the Den Leader Training Award or Scouters Training Award.

11. Earn the Unit Leader Award of Merit or District Award of Merit.
12. Earn any Scouter's Key Award.
13. Earn the Distinguished Commissioner Service Award or Commissioner Award of Excellence in Unit Service.

E. Approval

1. Submit appropriate documentation (photocopies of membership card, course completion certificates, memorandum/letters signed by Scouting leadership highlighting accomplishments, etc.) in order to fully document the attainment of the requirements as outlined in sections A, B, C and D.
2. Obtain the written endorsements of your American Legion post commander, American Legion Auxiliary unit president or Sons of The American Legion squadron commander and the department Scouting chairman, department adjutant and department commander that you have satisfactorily completed the requirements for this award. (A website link to department headquarters addresses can be found on the back of the brochure to assist in obtaining the written endorsements of the department Scouting chairman, department adjutant and department commander.)
3. Submit the appropriate documentation and written endorsements to the Americanism Commission online at www.legion.org/scouting.
4. Note: Application packets that lack the appropriate documentation or written endorsements will be returned.

F. Awarding Process

The department would arrange for presentation of The American Legion Square Knot, certificate and congratulatory letter at an appropriate place and time.





American Legion department (state) contact information is online:
 **www.legion.org/departments**

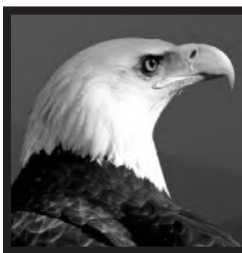


THE AMERICAN LEGION

P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
(317) 630-1204
scouting@legion.org
 **www.legion.org**

Follow The American Legion online:

 **www.legion.org/facebook**
 **twitter.com/AmericanLegion**



THE AMERICAN LEGION EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

 AMERICAN
LEGION



Name: _____

Address: _____
(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Date of birth: _____

Telephone number: () _____

Email: _____

Is your Boy Scouts of America Unit chartered to an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) unit or Sons of The American Legion (SAL) squadron? _____

If yes, please complete the following:

(Post/Unit/Squadron Number)

(Street)

(City) (State) (ZIP)

For members of BSA units chartered by an American Legion post, ALA unit or SAL squadron, the affiliation of the Scout to the Legion Family must be certified.

Are you the child/grandchild of a Legionnaire, Sons of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary member?
_____ **If yes, please complete the following:**

(Name of Member)

(Relationship) (Membership No.)

Eligibility Requirements

THE NOMINEE MUST:

- Be either a registered active member of a Boy Scouts of America unit that is chartered to an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit or Sons of The American Legion squadron.

OR

- Be a registered active member of any chartered Boy Scouts of America unit and have a parent or grandparent possessing up-to-date membership in The American Legion or Sons of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary, and in the case of a recently deceased member, their membership for the year immediately prior to the current year may be used.

AND

- Received the Eagle Scout Award.
- Received a Scouts BSA or Venturer Religious Emblem.
- Have demonstrated practical citizenship in church, school, Scouting and community.
- Have reached their 15th birthday and be enrolled in high school at the time of selection.
- Applied through the department (state) in which their Scout unit is chartered.
- Provide documentation of current BSA membership. (Membership must be valid for the year in which you are applying.)

**APPLICANTS: DO NOT SEND THIS APPLICATION
DIRECTLY TO NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS. SUBMIT
TO YOUR AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT (STATE)
HEADQUARTERS.**



THE AMERICAN LEGION EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR

NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS



The Scout who best meets the qualifications outlined in the nomination application will be selected as the annual American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year by the National Americanism Commission.

Each year the American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year will travel to join the youth champion delegation of The American Legion for participation in the annual National Convention of The American Legion.

Scholarships

The American Legion provides for a national scholarship to be awarded to the Eagle Scout who is selected The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year.

The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year will receive a \$10,000 scholarship. Three runner-up scholarship awards will be granted in the amount of \$2,500 each.

The scholarship recipients will be eligible to receive their scholarship immediately upon graduation from high school (public, parochial, military, private, or home school) and must utilize the total award within four years of their graduation date, excluding active military duty or religious mission.

The scholarship may be used to attend a school selected by the student provided it is state accredited, above the high school level, and within the continental limits of the United States, except in the case where the student may be from a possession of the United States, in which case the student can select a school in that possession or in the continental United States.

Disbursement from the scholarship fund will be made jointly to the student and the school at the beginning of each semester or quarter. **Only one request will be honored per semester or quarter.**

DO NOT SEND THIS APPLICATION DIRECTLY TO NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

Applicant should type or print all information.

Section A – High School Record

Note: Please attach a copy of your official high school transcript.

Grade: _____ Name of high school: _____

Grade point average: _____ In upper _____ % of class. Number in class: _____

On **one additional page (500 words)** list activities participated in during high school and also list awards, honors and recognition received. And include a copy of school transcripts.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first page of Attachment A if more than one page is submitted.

Section B – Scouting Record

Note: This section will be reviewed closely by the selection committee.

	Years	Unit No.	Sponsor
Cub Scout	_____	_____	_____
Scouts BSA	_____	_____	_____
Venturing Crew	_____	_____	_____
Eagle Award Received:	_____	Palms:	_____

Section B – Scouting Record (continued)

On **two additional pages (1,000 words total)** (1) List leadership positions held in your Cub Scout Pack, Scouts BSA Troop, Varsity Scout Team, and/or Venturing Crew; (2) List other Scouting activities you may have participated in (Jamborees, Order of the Arrow Conferences, etc.).

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first two pages of Attachment B if more than two pages are submitted.

Section B1 – Eagle Scout Project

On **two additional pages (1,000 words total)** succinctly describe your Eagle Scout Project.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first two pages of Attachment B1 if more than two pages are submitted.

Section C – Community Participation Record

On **one additional page (500 words)** list community organizations in which you have held membership **excluding high school and Scouting**. Additionally list other activities that you were involved with that directly or indirectly improved life in your community.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first page of Attachment C if more than one page is submitted.

Section D – Religious Award

Denomination: _____ Name of Religious Institution: _____

Name of BSA Religious Emblem (Award) Received: _____

Month and Year Received: _____

On **one additional page (500 words)** list religious youth organizations, clubs, groups that you have been involved in, to include honors awarded and offices held.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first page of Attachment D if more than one page is submitted.

Section E – Career Interests

On **one additional page (500 words)** describe your career interests and/or goals. The selection committee realizes that in many cases, applicants will not have decided on career goals; however, complete this section to the best of your ability.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first page of Attachment E if more than one page is submitted.

Section F – Letters of Recommendation and Testimony

One letter each from your **religious institution, school, your community and Scouting must be included**. Two additional letters of recommendation and testimony may also be included. Please keep in mind that the letters of recommendation are an important part of this application and will be carefully reviewed by the screening committee.

Note: The screening committee will only consider the four required letters and the two additional letters of recommendation of Attachment F if more than the six required letters of recommendation are submitted. Letters of recommendation will be limited to one page.

Authorization

CERTIFICATION BY EAGLE SCOUT

I certify to the accuracy of the foregoing facts. If selected, I will be free to travel to The American Legion National Convention and participate as a member of the youth champion delegation, representing The American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America.

SIGNATURE OF EAGLE SCOUT: _____ DATE: _____

PARENTAL CONSENT

I hereby certify that the information on this application pertaining to my Scout's age and grade in school is correct. I am willing and desirous that my Scout become The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year. In consideration of the benefits derived from this honor, if selected, I hereby voluntarily waive any, and all, claims against The American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America totally and all representatives thereof.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: _____ DATE: _____

Authorization (continued)

SCOUT UNIT LEADER

The above named applicant is qualified in every respect to represent The American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America, and has our recommendation.

SIGNATURE OF SCOUT UNIT LEADER: _____

DATE: _____

AMERICAN LEGION SELECTION COMMITTEE APPROVAL

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT/SCOUT CHAIRMAN SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS REVIEWED BY DEPARTMENT SELECTION COMMITTEE: _____

Selection Process

DEPARTMENT

- **Nominations must be received by department headquarters no later than March 1.**
- The application judged best in the department and a list of the members of the Department Selection Committee should be emailed to: americanism@legion.org, Subject: Eagle Scout of the Year Nomination.
- For additional information, applicants should contact their department headquarters.
- Please be sure that the application packet is complete upon receipt. Missing documentation will not be requested.

NATIONAL


- **Nominations must be received by national headquarters no later than April 1.**
- The National Americanism Commission's Youth Activities Subcommittee will review all department nominations, and, in their judgment, select The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINALIST

The selection will be announced in the Americanism Commission report to the National Executive Committee during The American Legion's annual Spring Meetings in Indianapolis, each May.

American Legion department (state) contact information is online:
 **legion.org/departments**



P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
(317) 630-1203
americanism@legion.org
 **legion.org**

Follow The American Legion online:

 **legion.org/facebook**
 **twitter.com/AmericanLegion**

CAREER FIRE FIGHTER/ CAREER EMT
VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER /VOLUNTEER EMT ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY:

To be considered for this most prestigious award, all nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a citizen of the United States of America.
2. Be a Career Fire Fighter or Career EMT, or a Volunteer Fire Fighter or Volunteer EMT, personnel, who swore an oath to protect the lives and property of the citizens of their respective jurisdiction.
3. Consideration for posthumous award is permissible only when the recipient has died subsequent to selection for the award and prior to its presentation.
4. Be assigned as a Career Fire Fighter or Career EMT, or a Volunteer Fire Fighter or Volunteer EMT, personnel, representing within the State of Missouri:
 - A Municipality (City)
 - County
 - State Fire Fighter
 - Private communities that have paid Fire Departments
 - Federal Fire Fighter
5. Reside and serve with in the State of Missouri.

Note: An individual can only be considered for one award and cannot be submitted under the guidelines for both career (paid) and volunteer services.

NOMINATIONS:

The following rules apply to all nominations for this most prestigious award. All candidates:

1. Must meet the guidelines spelled out in the beginning of the letter.
2. Period of **2023** Nominees service: January 1, **2023**-December 31, **2023**.
3. Must be nominated using the official form provided; copies of which can be obtained from the department website : www.missourilegion.org
Please contact Department at 1-800-846-9023
4. Nominations for a Career Fire Fighter or EMT must be accompanied with a copy of the nominee's certificate of graduation from an accredited fire academy, Should the volunteer Fire Fighter or EMT have a certificate, please include that also.
5. Must be recommended by his/ her commanding officer
6. Nomination Applications shall have the following: **(1)** a completed application form.
(2) A total of 12 pages of service documentation. The first 6 pages will be one-sided 8 ½ "x 11" bond paper and include press articles. (Specific acts of community service;heroism and meritorious performance recognized by his/her fire agency should be included and documented.) **(3) A 5x7 color photograph of the nominee in uniform must be submitted for packet to be considered.**
7. Nominations shall be submitted to their local post
8. All nominations shall be submitted with the official cover sheet as the top page of the application.

Mail to: Kenny Goth, Chairman
 Law & Order and Public Safety
 P.O. Box 179
 Jefferson City, MO 65102
 (660) 351-2184

Deadline **February 6th, 2024**

CAREER FIRE FIGHTER/ CAREER EMT **VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER /VOLUNTEER EMT ELIGIBILITY**

Judging Criteria:

Many Fire Fighters/ EMT personnel exemplify themselves with a single act of bravery or distinguishing event. However, Community Service will count significantly in the overall selection criteria and will make up fifty percent of the criteria for The American Legion Career Fire Fighters/ EMT's or Volunteer Fire Fighters/ EMT's awards. Volunteers also distinguish themselves by attaining additional training and studies (College) towards degrees and studies within their own Agency to advance in the Volunteer ranks of their agency.

Specific Act of Heroism or Meritorious Service (20 Points):

Citations for acts of heroism or meritorious service must be provided including a description of the act that was performed in detail, the medal or the award that the individual was recommended for and received. The award or citation must have been awarded within the time frame designated by the Standing Rules. Any supporting documentation such as newspaper accounts of the act or of the individual receiving the award, certificates and letters of recommendation and commendation should be submitted.

Community Service (50 Points):

Career Fire Fighters/ EMT's or Volunteer Fire Fighters/ EMT's personnel provide service to their communities as First Responders on a daily basis at their local Volunteer stations. These activities must be performed within the time frame set by the Standing Rules and must be described in detail and must be substantiated by official letters from their agency, community or county officials, citizens associations, American Legion Post or other recognized private or civic organizations.

Community service typically has been performed over an extended period of time. Those activities, in addition to those described above, should be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter from the city or county officials, Missouri State Officials, citizens associations, American Legion Posts, county, or district, or other officially recognized private or civic organizations. Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings must be included.

Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recommendation or commendation and newspaper clippings must be provided.

Note: Any full time paid Fire Fighter/ EMT personnel that volunteers at a local Volunteer Fire Station and is being considered for The American Legion Career Fire Fighters/ EMT awards, under the guidelines of the full time personnel, cannot also be considered under the Volunteer Fire Fighter/ EMT guidelines and have two applications submitted.

Career Achievements (25 Points):

Many Fire Fighters/ EMT, Career or Volunteer, personnel excel in their careers over the years by continuing their education and training to better themselves in the performance of their daily duties. Education leading to a degree in fire service and promotions and specialized training to enhance their job performance is relevant and should be included. These achievements must be substantiated by official letters or other official documentation from the Agency he/she is a volunteer for, and should be included.

Committee Preference (5 Points):

The Committee will be given the option to award five points to the candidate that exhibits the best letters of recognition and news clippings and has the best overall record in their opinion.

Judges:

A panel of six committee members shall judge all entries. All entries shall be judge based upon criteria specified herein. A quorum shall constitute four committee members.

To: The Missouri Firefighter or EMT (Career/Volunteer)

From: The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Re: **2024** Firefighter/EMT Award

The purpose of this letter is to make everyone in Missouri's Firefighter/EMT community aware of our Department's annual Firefighter/EMT Award, which is to honor a Missouri Firefighter/EMT for his/her career in serving the general public.

Every Missouri Firefighter/EMT who is affiliated with a tax-supported entity and reside and serve within the State of Missouri is eligible for this award. **We request that only one (1) Firefighter/EMT from your agency be submitted for the award.** Should there be more than one (1) Firefighter/EMT involved in an incident, submit details on those involved.

Our Law & Order/Public Safety Committee will select one (1) as Missouri's Firefighter/EMT recipient for **2024**. That person will be invited to the Department Convention, **July 13th, 2024**, in St. Louis, to receive the award. The Missouri winner will then be nominated for the National Firefighter/EMT Award of The American Legion.

Please note the enclosed application requires the signature of the Post Commander, if there is not an American Legion Post in your jurisdiction contact the Law & Order and Public Safety Chairman, Mr. Kenny Goth at (660) 351-2184.

The Chairman must receive nominees by **February 6th, 2024**. Please complete and submit all information and documentation to:

Kenneth Goth, Chairman
Law & Order and Public Safety
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(660) 351-2184

***Regards,
The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.***

The American Legion Department of Missouri

Fire Fighter/ EMT Award Nomination

1. Name of Nominee _____ Age _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Recommended by _____ Post No. _____
2. Present Position (i.e., Lieutenant, Captain, Fire Chief, etc.) How long as a Fire Fighter/
EMT?

3. List of previous experience: _____

4. Give a brief biographical sketch of nominee, including, but not limited to education, family,
church affiliation (if any), fraternal or social organizations including youth groups worked
with.
5. Just what, in your opinion, makes this nominee an outstanding Fire Fighter/ EMT?

6. List any honors or awards for outstanding work.

7. If this nominee is declared the winner, will he or she appear at our Department convention? Yes___ No___

8. Has the nominee’s superior been informed of this recommendation? Yes___ No___

Please attach hereto a letter of recommendation from the nominee’s superior.

9. If additional space is needed for further comments on anything pertaining to this nomination use the remaining space or attach additional sheets with comments.

Deadline February 6, 2024

Mail to Kenny Goth, Chairman
Law & Order and Public Safety
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102

(Post Commander)

(Post Adjutant)

**FUTURE CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION
DATES AND CITIES**

FALL CONFERENCE

2023 - 10/27 to 10/29	Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO
2024 - 10/18 to 10/20	Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO
2025 - 10/17 to 10/19	Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO

Capitol Plaza Hotel 1-573-635-1234 Toll Free Reservation 1-800-338-8088

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

2024 - 7/11 to 7/14	Hilton St. Louis Airport, St. Louis, MO
2025 - 7/10 to 7/13	Drury Plaza Hotel, Cape Girardeau Conference Center, Cape Girardeau, MO
2026 - 7/9 to 7/12	Oasis Hotel and Convention Center, Springfield, MO
2027 - 7/8 to 7/11	Marriot St. Louis Airport, St. Louis, MO

NATIONAL CONVENTION

2023 - 8/25 to 8/31	Charlotte, NC
2024 - 8/23 to 8/29	New Orleans, LA
2025 - 8/22 to 8/28	Tampa Bay, FL
2026 - 8/28 to 9/3	Louisville, KY
2027 - 8/27 to 9/2	Kansas City, MO
2028 - 8/25 to 8/31	Columbus Ohio



LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Nominations:

The following rules apply to all nomination for this most prestigious award. All candidates:

1. Must meet the guidelines spelled out in the beginning of the letter.
 - a. The American Legion Posts present their selections to Department Chairman of the Law & Order Committee.
 - b. The Chairman must receive the agencies nomination by February 6th, 2024.
Only one nomination will be accepted from each agency. Each Troop of the Missouri State Highway Patrol can submit one nomination.
2. Period of Service for this award shall be specified under the Standing Rules of the National criteria. (2023 Nominees service: January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023).
3. Must be nominated using the official form provided; copies of which can be obtained from The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc. Jefferson City, MO. 1-800-846-9023
4. Nominations must be accompanied with a copy of the nominee's certificate as a law enforcement officer.
5. Must be recommended by his/her commanding officer or supervisor.
6. Nomination Applications shall have the following: **(1)** a completed application form. **(2)** A total of 12 pages of service documentation. The first 6 pages will be one-sided 8 ½ "x 11" bond paper and include press articles. (Specific acts of community service; heroism and meritorious performance recognized by his/her law enforcement agency should be included and documented.) **(3) A 5x7 color photograph of the nominee in uniform must be submitted for packet to be considered.**
7. Nominations shall be selected by the Law & Order Committee, where a final selection will be made prior to the State Convention.
8. All Nominations shall be submitted with the official cover sheet as the top page of the nomination package.
9. All candidates must agree and be granted prior permission to attend The American Legion National Convention if selected to receive the National Award.

Mail to: Kenny Goth, Chairman
 Law & Order and Public Safety
 P.O. Box 179
 Jefferson City, MO 65102
 (660) 351-2184

Deadline February 6th, 2024.

The American Legion Department of Missouri

Law & Order Award Nomination

1. Name of Nominee _____ Age _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Recommended by _____ Post No. _____
2. Present Position (i.e., Patrolman, Chief of Police, Deputy, etc.) How long in Police service?

3. List of previous Police experience: _____

4. Give a brief biographical sketch of nominee, including, but not limited to education, family, church affiliation (if any), fraternal or social organizations including youth groups worked with.
5. Just what, in your opinion, makes this nominee an outstanding Police Officer?

6. List any honors or awards for outstanding police work.

7. If this nominee is declared the winner, will he or she appear at our Department convention? Yes___ No___

8. Has the nominee’s superior been informed of this recommendation? Yes___ No___

Please attach hereto a letter of recommendation from the nominee’s superior.

9. If additional space is needed for further comments on anything pertaining to this nomination use the remaining space or attach additional sheets with comments.

Deadline February 6, 2024

Mail to: Kenny Goth, Chairman
Law & Order and Public Safety
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102

(Post Commander)

(Post Adjutant)

LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Judging Criteria:

The emphasis of The American Legion Department of Missouri Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Program is not a single act of bravery or a single distinguishing event. Community Service will count significantly in the overall selection criteria and will make up fifty percent of the criteria for The American Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. While those acts in themselves count significantly in the overall selection criteria, they constitute only twenty percent of the total. Many Law Enforcement Officers excel in the daily performance of their duties demonstrating a distinct pattern of dedication and professionalism. They further distinguish themselves through extra curricular service performed for the community, state and nation. The following will be considered for judging:

Specific Act of Heroism or Meritorious Service (20 Points):

Citations for acts of heroism or meritorious service must be provided including a description of the act for which the citation was issued. The citation must have been presented during the time period described under Standing Rules. Any supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings should be included.

Community Service (50 Points):

Community services provided while on or off duty, which contributed significantly to the well being of his/her community must be provided. These activities for the time frame designated under Standing Rules, must be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter from city or county officials, Missouri State Officials, citizens associations, American Legion Posts, county or district, or other officially recognized private or civic organization. Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings must be included.

Community service typically has been performed over an extended period of time. Those activities, in addition to those described above, should be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter from the city or county officials, Missouri State Officials, citizens associations, American Legion Posts, county, or district, or other officially recognized private or civic organizations. Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings must be included.

CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS (25 Points):

Many law enforcement officers excel in the daily performance of their duties exhibiting a distinct pattern of dedication and professionalism. Career achievements should be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter or other official documentation, and/or newspaper clippings and must be included. Education leading to a degree in law enforcement or special training that has enhanced professional and job performance is considered relevant and should be included.

JUDGES PREFERENCE (5 Points):

Judges will be given the option to award five points to the candidate that exhibits the best letters of recognition and news clippings and has the best overall record in their opinion.

Judges:

A panel of six judges shall judge all entries. All entries shall be judged based on the criteria specified herein. A quorum shall constitute four judges.

MISSOURI VETERANS' HALL OF FAME, INC.

(MVHoF)

NOMINATION INFORMATION

CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

(Recommend reading the complete package before you begin)

- Nominations: The Missouri Veterans' Hall of Fame, Inc. (MVHoF) was organized to honor those who have honorably served in the US Armed Forces, and have contributed exceptionally to community, state and/or nation.
- Criteria:
 - Eligibility: The nominee must be:
 - A veteran, living or deceased, who wore the uniform of this nation's Armed Forces, performed his/her military duties, and received a discharge under honorable conditions from U.S. military service.
 - A Missouri connection - Either born in Missouri, entered military service from Missouri, or lived in Missouri for a minimum of eight years.
 - Contributed exceptionally to the Community, State, and/or Nation before, during or after service.
 - Additionally, the veteran must be of good character; and have no felony convictions.
 - NON-Eligibility: To preclude conflict of interest or the appearance thereof, the following individuals are not eligible for nomination:
 - MVHoF Board members, Advisors or Employees of the MVHoF.
 - Members of MVHoF Selection Committee (SC).
 - MVHoF members may be eligible three (3) years after they have ceased service therewith.

- Letters that simply recommend the nominee for inclusion will not be considered.
- Multiple nominations for a single individual are discouraged.
- The deadline for submitting or mailing the Nomination Package is April 30th of the year for which the veteran is being nominated.
- General guidelines and required documents for Nomination:
 - Nomination Form: Signed and dated before April 30th. Please be accurate and sign the form indicating your validation of the data.
 - Cover Letter that provides a summary of the nominee's Military Service branch, service time, rank, military duties and any highlights or special awards while serving. Also include a statement on how the veteran meets the Missouri connection criteria. See eligibility requirements.
 - Nominee's Discharge Orders (DD Form 214, NGB Form 22, or a Report of Separation).
 - If the veteran does not have a copy of his/her Discharge Orders, he/she (or if deceased, relatives) may request the Discharge Orders and/or the nominee's decorations on SF Form 180, Military Record Requests by going to one of two websites www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/ or www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/.
 - Summary of why the nominee should be inducted into the MVHoF. Describe the veterans contribution to Community, State, and Nation in an exemplary manner, valor, achievement or service. Create a

synopsis of the Nominee's life accomplishments. Some suggested areas are provided below. (Must not be longer than one page).

- Military Awards and Decorations, highlights and/or special awards.
 - Civilian and military education.
 - Professional employment history.
 - Describe the veteran's advocacy contributions and include the Nominee's active involvement with veteran service or support organization.
 - Present the Nominee's civic affiliations and contributions (e.g. Rotary, Kiwanis, schools, public service, fraternal, etc.).
 - Discuss civilian awards, honors, or publications about the Nominee (e.g. Presidential awards, Who's Who, Citizen of the Year, books, newspaper or magazine articles, etc.).
- Recommendation Letters: No more than two Letters of Recommendation should be submitted from people not immediately related to the nominee and will be submitted at the discretion of the nominee or nominator.

- Mailing Instructions: Mail completed package to:

Missouri Veterans' Hall of Fame
911 N. Simpson
Warrensburg, MO 64093

- \$50.00 Nonrefundable Nomination Processing Fee.

Make Check out to: MVHoF Processing Fee

- All Nomination Packages MUST be postmarked no later than April 30. Any package postmarked after this date will be considered by the Selection Committee during the following year.
- Please **DO NOT** send original documents as nothing will be returned to sender.
- Selection Process:
 - MVHoF Executive Board will appoint a "Selection Committee" (SC) in April of each year. The SC will be comprised of selected veterans from across the state. The SC may also include previously inducted members of the MVHoF.
 - The SC, following the criteria and guidelines of the MVHoF Bylaws, will review all nomination packages, and compile a recommended list of no more than 10 nominations for the MVHoF Board's final approval. Veterans who are approved for induction into the MVHoF will be notified in late June.
- Annual Induction

Each year, the MVHoF will hold an Induction Ceremony. The time and place will be advertised on the MVHoF website. Please see our website for additional details.

Questions – please go to Website: www.mvhof.org, email missourihalloffame@gmail.com or leave a message at 314-580-9782.

Missouri Veterans' Hall of Fame (MVHoF)
Nomination Form

For detailed information regarding nominations please read the **Missouri Veterans' Hall of Fame Nomination Information** Criteria and Guidelines.

Nominator's Information

Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Nominee's Information

Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Email Address: _____

City & State of Birth: _____ Service Branch: _____

Missouri connection: _____

Dates of Service: _____

Is the Nominee Deceased?: Yes ___ / No ___ Rank at Separation: _____

Military Duties: _____

AFFIDAVIT and AUTHORIZATION

I hereby affirm that the information contained in this Nomination Package is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and in conformance with **Missouri Veterans' Hall of Fame Nomination Information**. I agree to provide additional information if requested by the Missouri Veterans' Hall of Fame (MVHoF). I acknowledge that all provided documents will not be returned.

Signature of Nominator: _____ Date: _____

Nomination Checklist

Note: Please black-out the Social Security Number on all documents that are submitted.

Please include all the completed items in the Nomination Package:

1. **Completed MVHoF Nomination Form** (1 page)
2. **Copy of DD Form 214** (Or equivalent separation/discharge document)
3. **Summary of Nominee's Life Accomplishments** (No more than 1 page)
4. **Letters of Recommendation** (Optional – but no more than 2)
5. **\$50.00 Nonrefundable Nomination Processing Fee** - Please make check payable to: "MVHoF" for: **Nomination Fee**

Mail Nomination Packet before April 30th of the year being considered to:

**Missouri Veterans' Hall of Fame
911 N. Simpson
Warrensburg, MO 64093**

Website: www.mvhof.org



**NATIONAL COMMANDER DANIEL J. SEEHAFFER'S
2024 MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE DOG TAG COIN
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.
ONE TO REPLACE YOU AND ONE FOR GROWTH.**

**(A NEW MEMBER IS DEFINED AS ANY ELIGIBLE VETERAN JOINING FOR THE 2024
MEMBERSHIP YEAR WHO WERE NOT A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DURING
THE 2023 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, 2024, 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**

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. Coring	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

The American Legion

DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, Inc.

Ninetieth Annual
High School
Oratorical Scholarship
Program

A CONSTITUTIONAL SPEECH CONTEST

2023-2024



Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Oratorical Commission, P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City 65109 (800) 846-9023
programs@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 Dr. Ashland 65010

ZONE II

Marvin E. Harper (660) 652-3291
202 McCandles. Barnard 64423
Kerry L. Boardman (913) 206-0466
1008 SW Shorthorn Dr. Grain Valley 64029

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) give additional scholarships based on participation in the Oratorical Contest.

SCHEDULE OF CONTESTS

Contest	Date
High School	Before November 30, 2023
County	Between December 9 and 22, 2023
District	Before January 22, 2024
Zone	Before February 12, 2024
State Finals	On Sunday, February 25, 2024
Most Contests are on a Sunday Afternoon	

NATIONAL CONTESTS

National contests are May 17 - 19, 2024, 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 – 2024

AMENDMENT II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

* * * * *

AMENDMENT XXIII

The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the State, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

* * * * *

AMENDMENT XXV, SECTION 3

Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

* * * * *

AMENDMENT V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, not be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

* * * * *

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 February 25, 2024. 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.

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 <http://www.missourilegion.org/oratorical>

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 ★

MARK CLARK
COMMANDER
1308 NW BASSWOOD CT
GRAIN VALLEY, MO 64029

GEORGE SCARBOROUGH
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN
331 HIGHWAY K
IBERIA, MO 65486

JOHN BUCKWALTER
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
2602 N NEW ST.
KIRKSVILLE, MO 63501

LOWRY A. FINLEY-JACKSON, DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

90th ANNUAL

2023-2024 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 <http://www.missourilegion.org/oratorical>

School administrators and educators have supported this program for the past 89 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

2023-2024 High School Oratorical District Chairs- As of 8/01/23

District	Chairs	Email	Phone
1 st District	Ed Anderson, 602 S. Campbell St., Edina MO 63537 [Ralls, Schuyler, Scotland, Clark, Adair, Knox, Shelby, Lewis, Macon, Marion, Monroe]	eanders1@sbcglobal.net	(660) 341-1416
2 nd District	Kenny Stark, 24455 Halley Rd, Brookfield, MO 64628 [Mercer, Putnam, Grundy, Sullivan, Livingston, Linn, Carroll, Chariton, Randolph]	Family.stark@live.com	(660) 258-6306
3 rd District	Jeffrey Benes, 4934 Norwood St, Westwood, KS 66205 [Worth, Harrison, Gentry, DeKalb, Daviess, Clinton, Caldwell, Clay, Ray]	jefferybenes@skcschool.org	(913) 334-8722
4 th District	Marvin Harper, 202 McCandles, Barnard MO 64423 [Atchison, Nodaway, Holt, Andrew, Buchanan, Platte]	marehar@grm.net	(660) 562-8770
5 th District	Kerry Boardman 1008 SW Shorthorn Dr, Grain Valley, MO 64029 [Jackson County]	kerryboardman@yahoo.com	(913) 206-0466
6 th District	Patricia C. Olmstead, 1005 S. Main St., El Dorado Springs MO 64744 [Cass, Johnson, Bates, Henry, Vernon, St. Clair, Cedar]	patriciaolmstead@hotmail.com	(417) 684-7512
7 th District	Stephen Olson, 4236 E North St., Marshall, MO 65340 [Lafayette, Saline, Howard, Pettis, Benton, Hickory]	stephen.j.olson@hotmail.com	(660) 831-0982
8 th District	Christine Sapp, 608 Appaloosa Dr Ashland, MO 65010 [Callaway, Cooper, Boone, Morgan, Cole, Osage, Camden, Miller, Moniteau]	csapp88130@gmail.com	(573) 469-3461
9 th District	Larry DuFour, 106 Mill Run Ln., St. Peters MO 63376 [Audrain, Pike, Montgomery, Lincoln, Warren, Gasconade, St. Charles, Franklin]		(636) 441-7102
10 th District	Scott Owen 2042 Hilltop Dr, Arnold, MO 63010 [St. Louis County]	voiceovers4u@gmail.com	(314) 277-0621
11 th /12 th District	Darlene Coats, 5389 Wells Ave, St. Louis MO 63112 [St. Louis City]	darlenecoats@sbcglobal.net	(314) 367-1173 (314) 477-6841
13 th District	Duane DeClue, 108 Virginia Ave., Crystal City MO 63019 [Jefferson, Washington, Iron, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Perry, Madison, Reynolds]	duanedecclue@earthlink.net	(636) 208-9097
14 th District	James Walton 618 West Salcedo Rd, Sikeston, MO 63801 [Bollinger, Carter, Ripley, Butler, Stoddard, Cape Girardeau, Pemiscot, Dunklin, New Madrid, Mississippi, Scott]	jwaltonin12@hotmail.com	(573) 815-9233
15 th District	Kim Bell, 99 Valley View Ct., Pineville MO 64856 [Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, McDonald, Barry]	Kimberly.bell2014@gmail.com	(417) 850-3966
16 th District	David E. Shafer, 14325 Camden Ln., Dixon 65459 [Oregon, Maries, Pulaski, Phelps, Laclede, Crawford, Dent, Wright, Texas, Shannon, Howell]	shaferde@windstream.net	(573) 759-6874
17 th District	Bill Roark, 3712 W. Morningside St., Springfield MO 65807 [Polk, Dallas, Greene, Webster, Christian, Douglas, Stone, Taney, Ozark]	bill@billroark.com	(417) 207-0038

**2023-2024 High School Oratorical
District Chairs- As of 8/01/23**

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. Have your Post order a bronze medal for the winner at the local high school, from Department Headquarters, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 - Cost is \$12.50.
- _____ 4. 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.*
- _____ 5. Volunteer to help—if asked by the high school—to furnish judges, timekeepers, and other helpers.*
- _____ 6. 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.]
- _____ 7. 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://www.missourilegion.org/oratorical>
- _____ 8. 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.

Date _____

**The American Legion
Department of Missouri, Inc.
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102**

Please send the following supplies for the 2021-22 American Legion High School Oratorical Contests:

_____ 2021-22 Missouri Oratorical Contest Rules

SEND TO: NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____
 EMAIL: _____

2023-24 Reminders & Upcoming Events

December 2023

1	Be The One Day
7	Pearl Harbor Day
13	75% National Membership Target Date
9-22	High School Oratorical County Contest Window
20	Space Force's 4 th Birthday
25 – Jan 1	Department Headquarters Closed
29	Membership cutoff date for Lincoln Pilgrimage

January 2024

1	New Years Day Office Closed
1	Be The One Day
15	Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday – Department Office Closed
18	80% Membership Target Date
28	Coast Guard's 109 th Birthday
29-30	Veteran's Days at the Capitol

February 2024

	(Americanism Month)
1	Be The One Day
4	Four Chaplains Sunday
6	Law & Order/Fire Fighter Nomination due to Department
6	Distinguished Legionnaire Nomination due to Department
6	Distinguished Service Nomination due to Department
11-12	Lincoln Pilgrimage -Springfield, IL
14	Valentines Day & Ash Wednesday
17	Department Executive Committee Meeting – Harry B. Pryor Post 152, 123 E. Broadway, Ashland MO 1:00 p.m.
19	President's Day – Department Headquarters Closed
25	Oratorical Contest – Southern Boone County High School, Ashland, MO 1:00 p.m.
25 – 26	National Washington Conference

March 2024

1	Be The One Day
1	Eagle Scout Application Dues to Department Headquarters
6-10	National Vice Commander Vail visit to the Department of Missouri (Schedule Pending)
13	90% Membership Target Date
15	American Legion's 105 th Birthday
24	Palm Sunday
25	Registration For State Youth Government Day due to Department
29	Vietnam War Remembrance Day
29	Good Friday
31	Easter Sunday

April 2024

	(Children & Youth Month)
1	Be The One Day
6	15 th Annual Missouri Boy State Trust Trivia Night

9	State Youth Government Day
10	95% Membership Target Date
15	Annual Post Data Report Due to Department
20	All Scholarship applications are due to Department
27	American Legion Family Day

May 2024

1	Be The One Day
6 -9	National Spring Meetings – Indianapolis, IN
7-8	Truman Pilgrimage – Independence, MO
8	Truman Holiday - Department Headquarters Closed
10	2024 Membership Award forms due to Department
15	100% Membership Target Date
17-19	85 th High School Oratorical Contest – Hillsdale College Michigan
24	National Poppy Day
27	Memorial Day - Department Headquarters Office Closed

June 2024

1	Be The One Day
9	Cutoff for Department Convention Registration
14	Flag Day
14	Army's 249 th Birthday
15	Post Consolidate Data Reports due to Department Headquarters if you are filing a paper form.
16	Father's Day
19	Juneteenth Day – Department Headquarters closed
22-29	84th Missouri Boys State
22-29	Missouri Cadet Patrol Academy (Pending)
28-30	Missouri American Legion Legacy Ride
24	JROTC applications are due to Department Headquarters
25	Korean War Remembrance Day
30	Toot Your Horn entries due to Department

July 2024

1	Be The One Day
1	Post Consolidate Data Report due to National if you are filing an electronic report through MyLegion
4	Independence Day – Department Headquarters Closed
7	Newsletter Competition Entries due to Department or can be hand delivered to the Department Convention office NLT than 9:00 am July 12, 2024
11 -14	Department Convention - Hilton St. Louis Airport
19	Cutoff for National Convention Registration
25-27	National Membership Workshop- Indianapolis, IN

August 2024

1	Be The One Day
8 -18	Missouri State Fair -Sedalia
15-20	97 th American Legion Baseball World Series – Shelby, NC
18 – 22	National American Legion Legacy Run
23-29	105 th American Legion National Convention, New Orleans, LA

September 2024 **(American Legion National Disaster Preparedness)**
1 **Be The One Day**
2 Labor Day - Department Headquarters Closed
11 Patriot Day
16 American Legion Day
16 Fall Conference -Cutoff Date for Room Reservations
20 POW-MIA Recognition Day
20-29 Combined Americanism Conference – Indianapolis, IN
24-28 80th Cotton Carnival Celebration – Sikeston, MO

October 2024 **(National Disability/Employment Awareness Month)**
1 **Be The One Day**
7-10 National Fall Meetings, Indianapolis, IN
12 Eisenhower Pilgrimage – Abilene Kansas
13 Navy's 230th Birthday
14 Columbus Day
18-20 Fall Conference -Capitol Plaza

November 2024 **(Membership Retention Month)**
1 **Be The One Day**
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends (Clocks back an hour)
5 Election Day
10 Marine Corps' 226th Birthday
11 Veterans Day – Department Headquarters Closed
28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2024
1 **Be The One Day**
7 Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance Day
20 Space Force's 5th Birthday
31 Membership Cutoff for Lincoln Pilgrimage



THE AMERICAN LEGION
STATE YOUTH GOVERNMENT DAY

TEACHER / STUDENT REGISTRATON

(Submit to District Commander/Chairman by March 15, 202)

DISTRICT	DISTRICT COMMANDER / CHAIRMAN NAME		
E-MAIL ADDRESS		PHONE NUMBER	

PARTICIPANT'S NAME	SCHOOL NAME	TITLE T - Teacher S - Student D-Bus Driver	TEACHER'S CELL PHONE <small>IMPORTANT - TO NOTIFY YOU OF CHANGES WHEN ENROUTE</small>
TOTAL NUMBER ATTENDING			
<input type="radio"/> Payment arranged by _____ (Post or Dist.) <input type="radio"/> Payment Enclosed LUNCHEON IS \$20.00/PERSON TOTAL AMOUNT			

(COPY / ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY)



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 ★

To: All Missouri High Schools

From: The Department of Missouri American Legion

Subject: Missouri State Youth Government Day

It is time to begin planning of our 36th Annual Missouri State Youth Government Day, conducted at the Missouri State Capitol. The 2024 State Youth Government Day will be held on **April 9, 2024**.

Our Purpose is to provide Missouri youth with the opportunity to witness their state government in action. Never in the history of the world has there been a greater need for highly educated and involved students of Democracy than now. With this in mind, The American Legion is proving a forum allowing young adults to participate in the governmental process with officials of the three branches of government.

The American Legions State Government Day should not detract from any other organization's Government Day but should be an additive so increased youth involvement will result. Organizations wishing to participate should contact their local American Legion Post.

SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. — REGISTRATION
The American Legion Department of
Missouri Headquarters

9:45 a.m.— Tour Missouri House
With Representative Dave Griffith
After the tour, feel free to listen to any
debates that may be going on or tour
the Missouri State Capitol

12:00 p.m. — LUNCHEON
To be Determined

2:30 p.m.— SUPREME COURT VISIT
207 West High Street



36th Annual
**Missouri State
Youth Government Day**



*Thank you for participating in
this memorable day.*

*Wishing you success in all your
future endeavors and a safe
trip home.*

*~The American Legion
State Youth Government Committee*



The American Legion
Department of Missouri
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65101-0179
573-893-2353
800-846-9023



36th Annual

Missouri State Youth Government Day



*Conducted at the
Missouri State Capitol*

April 9, 2024

*An Americanism Activity
Of The American Legion
Department of Missouri*

The American Legion



DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI INC.



In Memoriam

The State Youth Government Day Program is a result of the efforts of the late Lawrence F. Bonderer, Past Commander of Vern R. Glick Post 25, The American Legion, Chillicothe, Missouri.

Commander Bonderer's tragic death occurred just days before the first State Youth Government Day held in April 1988. In appreciative memory, a Resolution was unanimously adopted during the 1988 Department Convention naming the program for him.



Purpose

Our purpose is to provide Missouri youth with the opportunity to witness their state government in action. Never in the history of the world has there been a greater need for highly educated and involved students of Democracy than now. With this in mind, The American Legion is providing a forum allowing young adults to participate in the governmental process with officials of the three branches of government. The heritage of freedom, liberty, and justice gained through the sacrifices of our forefathers cannot be lost nor taken for granted through complacency. We, the people, must make every effort to insure understanding and dedication to these principles.



We hope that the young men and women who participate in State Youth Government Day will witness the professionalism and dedication of our government officials in action and will have their pride in America strengthened.

The American Legion's State Government Day should not detract from any other organization's Government Day, but should be an additive so increased youth involvement will result. Organizations wishing to participate should contact their local American Legion Post.



THE AMERICAN LEGION
STATE YOUTH GOVERNMENT DAY
DISTRICT CONTACTS

DISTRICT 1

Terry McCameron, Chairman
18073 Monroe Road 851
Paris MO 65275
573-931-1239
Outdoorsman117@yahoo.com

*District 1 counties include:
Schuyler, Scotland, Ralls,
Clark, Adair, Knox, Lewis,
Macon, Shelby Marion,
Monroe*

DISTRICT 2

Phyllis Campbell, Chairman
3112 County Road 1140
Clifton Hill, MO 65244
660-261-4218
tom@cvalley.net

*District 2 counties include:
Mercer, Putnam, Grundy,
Sullivan, Livingston, Linn,
Carroll, Chariton, Randolph*

DISTRICT 3

Edward A. Weaverling,
Chairman
101 E Samuel St.
Hamilton, MO 64644
816-805-2319
edwardweaverling@centurytel.net

*District 3 counties include:
Worth, Harrison, Gentry,
Davies, Dekalb, Caldwell,
Clinton, Clay, Ray*

DISTRICT 4

Jim McCall, Chairman
6118 NW Pine Ridge Circle
Parkville, MO 64152
816-803-1846
Jmccall411@yahoo.com

*District 4 counties include:
Atchison, Nodaway, Holt,
Andrew, Buchanan, Platte*

DISTRICT 5

Tom Tanner, Chairman
2361 Englewood Court
Independence, MO 64052
816-674-9347
Tatanner2003@gmail.com

District 5 - Jackson County

DISTRICT 6

Gerald Seelinger, Chairman
705 Shamrock Ln.
Warrensburg, MO 64093
660-238-0994
seelinger@gmail.com

*District 6 counties include:
Cass, Johnson, Bates, Henry
St. Clair, Vernon, Cedar*

DISTRICT 7

Stephen J. Olson, Chairman
423 E North St
Marshall MO 65340
660-831-0982
Stephen.j.olson@hotmail.com

*District 7 counties include:
Lafayette, Saline, Howard,
Pettis, Benton, Hickory*

DISTRICT 8

Christine Sapp, Chairman
608 Appaloosa Dr
Ashland, MO 65010
573-469-3461
Csapp88130@gmail.com

*District 8 counties include:
Cooper, Boone, Morgan,
Moniteau, Cole, Callaway,
Osage, Miller, Camden*

THE AMERICAN LEGION
STATE YOUTH GOVERNMENT DAY
DISTRICT CONTACTS

DISTRICT 9

Larry Dufour, Chairman
106 Mill Run Ln
St. Peters, MO 63376-7106
314-441-7106

*District 9 counties include:
Pike, Audrain, Lincoln
Montgomery, Warren, St.
Charles, Gasconade, Franklin*

DISTRICT 14

Tom Giles, Chairman
2720 Jewell Dr
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
573-335-0513
Tagiles8292@gmail.com

*District 14 counties include:
Cape Girardeau, Carter,
Ripley, Butler, Bollinger,
Stoddard, Scott, Mississippi,
Dunklin, New Madrid,
Pemiscot*

DISTRICT 10

James Christman, Chairman
1384 Westbrooke Meadows Ln
Ballwin, MO 63021
314-779-8431
Jimchristman1484@gmail.com

District 10 - St. Louis County

DISTRICT 15

Mark Maples, Chairman
14074 LAW 2160
Mount Vernon, MO 65712
417-440-9337
stevenmmaples@gmail.com

*District 15 counties include:
Barton, Dade, Jasper,
Lawrence, Newton, Barry,
McDonald*

DISTRICT 11 / 12

Christopher Schwarz,
Chairman
2358 S 12th St
St. Louis, MO 63104
314-398-4779

christopher.b.schwarz.mil@mail.mil

District 11 / 12 - St. Louis City

DISTRICT 16

David Shafer, Chairman
14325 Camden Ln
Dixon MO 65459
573-759-6874
shaferde@windstream.net

*District 16 counties include:
Maries, Pulaski, Phelps,
Crawford, Oregon, Laclede,
Texas, Dent, Wright, Shannon,
Howell*

DISTRICT 13

Duane DeClue, Chairman
108 Virginia Ave
Crystal City MO 63019
636-208-9097
duanedecclue@earthlink.net

*District 13 counties include:
Jefferson, Washington, Iron
St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve,
Madison, Reynolds, Wayne,
Perry*

DISTRICT 17

Mark W. Reed, Chairman
27494 Crow Lane
Flemington MO 65650
417-234-9390
Markwr45@yahoo.com

*District 17 counties include:
Polk, Dallas, Greene,
Webster, Christian, Douglas,
Stone, Taney, Ozark*

The American Legion



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 ★

TO: District Commanders, District Chairmen, and Post Adjutants

FROM: Lloyd Miller, Chairman State Youth in Government

SUBJECT: Thirty-Sixth Annual Missouri State Youth in Government Day

DATE: December 7, 2023

The 36th Annual State Youth in Government Day Program is scheduled for **April 9, 2024**, at the Missouri State Capitol. A busy schedule is planned for the day.

9:00 a.m. - Registration --- The American Legion Headquarters Office 3341 American Ave, Jefferson City, MO 65109

9:45 a.m. Tour Missouri House with Representative Dave Griffith

12:00 p.m. Luncheon – To Be Determined

2:30 p.m. -- Visit Supreme Court ** With the exception of cameras, absolutely no electronic devices permitted. Cell phones, pagers, games should remain in your mode of transportation or at home.*

ALL EVENTS AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

All participants and chaperones should report to The American Legion Headquarters Office at 3341 American Ave Jefferson City, MO, at 9:00 a.m. for registration. Sponsor packets containing nametags, certificates, and a map The Missouri State Capital and the Supreme Court will be distributed at that time. Should your guest list change after being submitted to Department Headquarters it is important you contact Theresa Boss by phone, 800-846-9023, or send e-mail to services@missourilegion.org to advise her of any changes.

Registration forms must be submitted to your District Commander/Chairman by **March 15, 2024**. This list must include all Legionnaires, Auxiliary Members, Chaperones, Teachers and Students attending. Please include **\$20.00** per person for the luncheon with your list of names. Don't forget to include bus drivers.

District Commanders/Chairman should submit their list and luncheon money to Department Headquarters **no later than March 25, 2024**, to meet deadlines for preparing necessary packets and luncheon arrangements.

Any questions you may have should be directed to your District Commander/Chairman. **Please encourage all schools to participate in this program.**

Teacher/Student Registration and Chaperone Registration Forms are on this webpage under 'Programs' and 'State Youth Government Day'



THE AMERICAN LEGION
STATE YOUTH GOVERNMENT DAY

CHAPERONE REGISTRATION

(Submit to District Commander/Chairman by March 15, 2024)

DISTRICT	DISTRICT COMMANDER / CHAIRMAN NAME	
E-MAIL ADDRESS		PHONE NUMBER HOME ○

NAME	TITLE <small>i.e. Commander, Member, President, Teacher</small>	POST / SQUAD / UNIT / SCHOOL	CELL PHONE <small>Important for Dept. Staff</small>
TOTAL NUMBER ATTENDING			
LUNCHEON \$20.00/PERSON ○ Payment Enclosed TOTAL AMOUNT			

“TOOT OUR HORNS AWARD PROGRAM”

A project of the Media and Communications Commission, Department of Missouri

This program is to encourage each post in Missouri to promote the American Legion in local and state media; to increase participation in district and department functions; to improve public relations with non-members; to encourage posts to set and attain goals they can be proud of in support of American Legion and veteran programs; to encourage non-member veterans to join the American Legion, and to encourage posts to develop a line of communication between them and their members.

A ‘TOOT OUR HORN plaque’ will be presented to each post qualifying with “BARS” to be added for each completed membership year that the post participates in this program. This application **MUST BE RECEIVED NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30th** of the membership year that this award is being applied for. Posts qualifying for the TOOT OUR HORN award will be announced at the Department Convention and the awards will be presented at the Fall Conference. Listings of all Post(s) receiving their award for the current year will also be published in the “*Missouri Legionnaire*.”

REQUIREMENTS

Complete a minimum of 5 out of the following 10 categories:

- ☐ At least 6 advertisements, notice of meetings, or listing in local media (newspaper, television, radio, etc.) announcing post meetings.
- ☐ Publish a Post newsletter. This may be paper or emailed. (attach copy of newsletter)
- ☐ At least 2 post members attend the State Convention (provide a list of those who attended, signed by Post Commander or Adjutant)
- ☐ At least 2 post member attend the State Spring DEC meeting or Fall Conference (provide a list of those who attended, signed by the Post Commander or Adjutant)
- ☐ Post participation in a community event (parade, fair, troop rally, etc) (Attach a photo, newspaper clipping, etc.)
- ☐ Philanthropic activity (e.g. benefits, fund-raisers for a charitable cause, food pantry collections, bell ringing for Salvation Army, etc.)
- ☐ Conduct a new member recruiting campaign or Post revitalization campaign
- ☐ Conduct a complete Buddy Check
- ☐ Attain 100% or membership goal for current year by the May National target date.
- ☐ Maintain a post web presence (webpage, Facebook, centennial page)

Complete a minimum of 3 of the following categories

- ☐ Conduct monthly meetings
- ☐ One or more members of the Post is a District Officer (provide name(s) and office(s) held
- ☐ One or more members of the Post is a Department Officer (provide name(s) and office(s) held
- ☐ Host a District meeting
- ☐ Submit the Consolidated Post Report for current year (attach copy)
- ☐ Submit Certified Post Officer list to Department within 30 days of Department Convention

Reporting is to be done on this form as soon as requirements are met but no later than June 30th of the current membership year.

Copies of substantiating materials must accompany this application.

Post Name and Post Number: _____

Membership year submitted for: _____, Date submitted: _____

SIGNATURE OF POST COMMANDER OR ADJUTANT: _____

SEND THIS APPLICATION AND SUBSTANTIATING MATERIAL(S) TO: The American Legion, Department of Missouri, ATTN: Media & Communications Commission, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0179