

# 2019

## AMERICANISM PROGRAMS & SCHOLARSHIPS

The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin  
2930 American Legion Drive  
Portage, WI 53901



The Department offers a number of scholarships to assist young people in their pursuit of higher education. There are opportunities for everyone, including relatives of wartime veterans and participants in Legion programs.

### Important Events, Dates and Deadlines

Oratorical – Regional and State Finals at Ripon College  
Jr. Shooting Sports Postal Match ends  
Scouting Scholarship "Eagle Scout of the Year" Application deadline  
Schneider-Emanuel Scholarship Application deadline  
Americanism & Government Scholarship Test  
Oratorical—National Finals in Indianapolis, IN  
Badger Boys State Session  
Samsung Scholarship deadline  
Wisconsin American Legion Law Enforcement Academy  
Baseball Scholarship Application deadline

February 9, 2019  
March 1  
March 1  
March 1  
April 1, 2019—April 12, 2019  
April 5, 2019—April 7, 2019  
June 8, 2019—June 15, 2019  
June 8, 2019  
June 24, 2019—June 28, 2019  
July 15

**American Legion Baseball:** American Legion Baseball enjoys a reputation as one of the most successful and tradition-rich amateur athletic leagues. The program registers more than 200 teams in Wisconsin with over 3,000 athletes participating. Wisconsin baseball is the only state that has 5 leagues, Class AAA, AA, A, 17 and under and 16 and under; and ranks 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the Nation in the number of participating teams and ball players.

#### Scholarship Opportunities

- Department Baseball Scholarship (Match) \$500
- National Baseball Scholarship \$500

The Department Winner is also considered for additional scholarship money at the National level.

- 8-American Legion All-Academic Team \$2,500
- 1-Captain All-Academic Team \$5,000

**Americanism & Government Scholarship Contest:** Students from Wisconsin in grades 10 through 12 take the on-line Americanism and Government Scholarship test during a 2-week window in April. This is a timed test and is available to all students that have access to the internet. Students are tested on their knowledge of U.S. Government, Wisconsin Government, County Government, the Constitution and flag etiquette. Students are also required to answer an essay question to qualify.

#### Scholarship Opportunities

- (11)-\$250 scholarships to students in Grade 10
- (11)-\$300 scholarships for students in Grade 11
- (11)-\$750 scholarships for students in Grade 12

To access the test, students click on the link found on the [www.wilegion.org](http://www.wilegion.org) website. NOTE: Test is only available during the time frame stated above.

**Badger Boys State:** This unique week long educational opportunity at Ripon College teaches high school boys the workings of the government structure and the principals of our great American heritage—justice, freedom and democracy.

Every year the Department selects two outstanding Boys State graduates to represent them at American Legion Boys Nation held in Washington, D.C. It is here that they are introduced to the structure and function of the federal government.

#### Scholarship Opportunities

- Keith Kreut Scholarship \$500
- Clyde Kniox Scholarship \$500
- Badger Boys State Governor Scholarship \$1,000
- Samsung Scholarship \$1,000 (subject to change)
- National Samsung Scholarship \$10,000 (subject to change)

We rely heavily on the Post representatives to foster contact with schools and spread excitement for this tremendous program. Information about the program can be found at [www.badgerboysstate.org](http://www.badgerboysstate.org)

**County Youth Government Day:** The school, in cooperation with county and American Legion officials, arranges a date for the American Legion County Youth Government Day. A date in February, March, or early April is suggested, so as not to conflict with elections. The Legion Posts sponsor this event beginning with a general assembly, luncheon and recognition before returning to school.

The goal of this program is to increase student interest in government and citizenship. Students are paired up with County officials to get a behind-the-scenes look at County Government and learn about the various offices and their responsibilities.

Every participating school selects students to represent the different offices (sheriff, district attorney, register of deeds, county clerk, etc.). Students will have an informative day and will gain a deepened understanding of the government process because they have experienced it.

#### Wisconsin American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy:

The Wisconsin American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy (WALLECA) is a program for high school students who are between their junior and senior year and are in good academic standing. The program provides a first-hand experience and insight into the operations of law enforcement agencies.

The program will offer physical fitness training coupled with classroom instruction and hands-on training. Topics of instruction include criminal law, constitutional law, patrol procedures, criminal investigation procedures, traffic crash investigation, evidence gathering techniques, arrest techniques, taking fingerprints, testifying in court, public speaking, leadership skills, report writing, interviewing techniques, crisis intervention, use of control and firearms training.

**Jr. Shooting Sports:** Is a three-part program that combines the Basic Marksmanship Course, Qualification Awards and Air Rifle Competition to athletes of any gender, through the age of 18.

Annually, the Department conducts a 3-Position Air Rifle "Postal" tournament in the "sporter" category. A Postal Match is a match in which competitors fire on their home ranges using targets which have been ordered from Headquarters.

Entry in either the Individual or Team Postal match is limited to competitors who are active members of a Junior Shooting club (4-H, Boy Scouts, etc.) affiliated with a Post; or members of a Jr. Shooting Sports program that is run by the Post.

#### Scholarship Opportunities

Postal Match—"Sporter" Senior category	1st Place	\$1,000
Postal Match—"Sporter" Senior category	2nd Place	\$750
Postal Match—"Sporter" Senior category	3rd Place	\$250

**Oratorical Scholarship Contest:** The Oratorical Contest presents participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Young orators earn some of the most generous college scholarships available to high school students. Students begin competition at the Post level and progress through County, District, Regional and State Finals.

#### Scholarship Opportunities

- Participants eliminated from competition at the Regional level receive \$600
- 3 Regional Winners receive \$1,000 and compete for the State title
- State 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up receives an additional \$1,000
- State 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up receives an additional \$1,500
- Department winner receives an additional \$2,000

The Department Winner also competes for additional scholarship money at the National level in Indianapolis, IN.

- Every contestant that participates in the first round receives \$1,500
- Second round eliminations from competition receive an additional \$1,500
- National 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up receives \$14,000
- National 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up receives \$16,000
- National winner receives \$18,000

**Schneider-Emanuel Scholarship:** Three scholarships are awarded to students that best meet the criteria outlined in the application. They must have participated in at least one American Legion sponsored activity and have family ties to a living relative that is currently a member of The American Legion or Auxiliary. The applicant may also be a member of The American Legion, an SAL member or member of the Auxiliary.

#### Scholarship Opportunities

- 3 - Scholarships \$1,000

The application is available as a fillable form on-line. Eligibility requirements may be downloaded from [www.wilegion.org](http://www.wilegion.org)

**Scouting:** The Scout who best meets the qualifications outlined in the Nomination application will be selected as The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year by the Department Scouting Committee.

#### Scholarship Opportunities

- Department Eagle Scout Scholarship \$1,000

The Department Winner is also considered for additional scholarship money at the National level.

- National Eagle Scout Scholarship \$10,000
- 3-Runner-up scholarship awards \$2,500

Eligibility requirements and application for Eagle Scout of the Year may be downloaded from [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

Looking for More Information on any of these Programs? Please visit the Department website at [www.wilegion.org](http://www.wilegion.org) or call the office: (608)745-1090.