

## Program Overview:

The American Legion Keystone Boys State (KBS) is conducted on a “**learn by doing**” basis whereby the selected citizens practice the procedures and operations of the various branches of city, county and state legislature. The hands-on format at KBS has the youthful citizens forming and operating *fictitious* cities, four counties, and one state; they also form and operate two *fictitious* political parties; conduct all local and state law enforcement and judicial systems; form and conduct a bicameral state legislature. The statutes and codes of the State of Pennsylvania are used while building our State of Keystone.

Citizens at Keystone Boys State will use knowledge already acquired and new skills that they develop during the week. **The effort to get everyone involved manifests itself** by having every “citizen” elected, selected, assigned or appointed to leadership positions throughout



The curriculum calls for city governments to be formed first (City Council, School Board, Chamber of Commerce, Homeland Security Committee, etc.). With

the election of the city leadership and installation of officers, all branches of the city begin to function **under student leadership**. Political parties are then formed, county and state conventions are convened, and each participant becomes a “**proactive citizen**”. Aspirants to city, county and state offices file for a position and campaign for it, and utilize their respective political parties.

## Benefits of Attending KBS:

- ★ *Highly valued on a college application and earn 3 College Credits (Leadership)*
- ★ 20% of the entering freshmen at the three military academies have been Boys State or Girls State graduates.
- ★ *Become a more active and informed citizen.*
- ★ Develop a working understanding of state and local government.
- ★ *Be part of a talented team of peers working to achieve goals.*
- ★ Meet/visit local state Representatives and Senators in Harrisburg.
- ★ *Develop skills that provide focus and a leadership base for starting your senior year.*

### Contact KBS: (thru the National site)

<http://boysandgirlsstate.org/>  
**View the video & select PA (locator)**

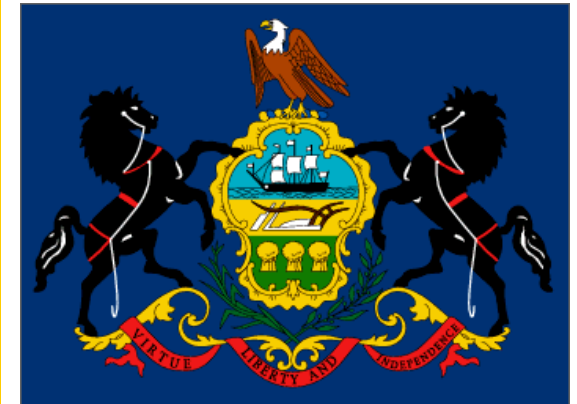
To be nominated and apply to Keystone Boys State, contact your school guidance counselor, coach, GATE or NHS sponsor, etc..., your local American Legion Post or the PA American Legion HQ.

To locate your local Post go to:  
[http://www.legion.org/?section=our\\_legion&subsection=ol\\_posts&content=post\\_locator](http://www.legion.org/?section=our_legion&subsection=ol_posts&content=post_locator).

For more detailed information, please visit the Keystone Boys' State Web site at:  
[www.keystoneboysstate.shtml](http://www.keystoneboysstate.shtml).

# Keystone Boys State

June 23- June 29 , 2013  
at Shippensburg University



*“The week that shapes a lifetime.”*

The American Legion, Dept. of PA  
PO Box 2324  
Harrisburg, PA 17105  
(717) 730-9100

# Keystone Boys State

Est. 1937

The Pennsylvania American Legion Keystone Boys State program is an educational workshop for high school student leaders, such as student government officers, athletic team captains, and prominent student organization officers. Students selected to attend Boys State will have the opportunity to gain leadership skills through a variety of activities and presentations during the weeklong program. The hallmark and focus of Keystone Boys State is its experientially based government exercise, which spans the city, county and state levels of involvement. Participants will take on roles in the organization and operation of a mock city, county and state government.



The American Legion Department of Pennsylvania Commander Pete Wasco swearing in the new 2011 Keystone Boys State Governor Kyle Schwirian.

## From a Citizen:

"The week I spent at Boys State was undoubtedly one of the most unique and important experiences of my life. There was never a dull moment at KBS – from staying up through the early morning to finish legislation with roommates, simulating state



House and Senate meetings, and forming close bonds with those around me. My fellow citizens were all extremely dedicated and passionate about the activities of the week, and still managed to share many laughs and good times. Being organized into separate cities, counties and political parties gave me a chance to interact with many different citizens, as well as experience numerous aspects of the political process."

*Alex Ornik, Radnor H.S., KBS Graduate 2005*

## KBS Facts:

- ✪ Program dates **June 23<sup>rd</sup>-June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**
- ✪ High school students who have completed their junior year and residing in Pennsylvania are eligible.
- ✪ **Cost is free to student citizens (American Legion Post pays tuition – 175.00\*/student).**
- ✪ KBS is non-partisan and non-military.
- ✪ Parliamentary procedure ("Robert's Rules of Order") and Sean Covey's "Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens" are used throughout.

## A Typical Daily Schedule:

- 6:30-7:45 AM** – Wake up & eat breakfast
- 8:00 AM** – Flag Raising/Announcements
- 8:15 AM** – Transition to classrooms
  - Aud. – County A – Covey's 7 Habits
  - LMR – County B – Legislative Coord.
- 9:15 AM** – Party Business: candidate speeches:
  - Federalists in LMR-Nationalists in Aud.
- 10:30 AM** – Elect leadership in caucuses within the House and Senate:
  - House in LMR / Senate in Aud.
- 11:45 AM** – Lunch
- 12:45 PM** – Labor negotiations prep
- 1:30 PM** – House and Senate Committees
- 3:30 PM** – Intramural sports, Band, KTV, Citizens Voice (news) and Honor Guard
- Primary State Elections – 3:30-6:00 PM**
- 5:00 PM** – Dinner
- 6:15 PM** – Flag ceremony/announcements
- 6:30 PM** – House and Senate Sessions
- 8:00 PM** – KTV – Evening News
- 8:45 PM** – City/Party General Work Time (committees/caucuses)
- 11:00 PM** – Lights Out



\*price subject to change