

# TAR HEEL BOYS STATE

## THE AMERICAN LEGION

TO: All NC American Legion Posts  
FR: Dustin B Pittman, Program Director  
RE: November THBS Check In  
DA: 4 November 2024

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Greetings American Legion Posts,

My name is Dustin B. Pittman and I am your Tar Heel Boys State Program Director. My team and I are hard at work on the 85th Session of the program and are looking forward to an amazing program. The purpose of this memorandum is to check in and ask for your help in preparing for the 85th Session of THBS. Our 85th Session will be held June 15-21, 2025 at Catawba College in Salisbury.

### **Post Census**

I sent out the Post Census via email back in September and to date, only 30 posts have completed the form. Please do so ASAP. This will greatly improve our processes for obtaining and registering delegates for this session. Completing the census is easy. Go to [www.TarHeelBoysState.org/census](http://www.TarHeelBoysState.org/census) to access the census from your computer or smart phone. Minimal information is needed, but this will allow us to build a better contacts list moving forward.

### **2025 Application Process**

As a reminder, the 2025 application process is all online. **No paper applications will be accepted.** Our application page, [www.TarHeelBoysState.org/apply](http://www.TarHeelBoysState.org/apply) has all the

instructions and links necessary for applying to attend the historic 85th Session of Tar Heel Boys State. The delegate will be sent the application and upon their completion, their parent will be sent the medical form and waivers to complete.

Once the delegate has completed the application online, it is sent to our program staff. If the delegate was referred from your Post, they are asked to list that information on the application and we will forward the application to you with the information provided on the Post Census, above. You will be provided a secure link to access and countersign their application from your computer or smartphone. Once you have met with the delegate and approve of their attendance at the program, you will access the application in DocuSign and sign the form indicating your approval of the delegate.

Please immediately mail your Post check for \$500.00 to Department Headquarters. Please write in the memo line "THBS - DELEGATE NAME". Mail the check to:

American Legion Department of North Carolina  
ATTN: Boys State  
P.O. Box 26657  
Raleigh, NC 27611-6657

We will be tracking the information, but once you have indicated your approval on the digital document, we will begin processing the delegate into the program. Please do not digitally sign their application until you have the funds available to sponsor the delegate. If at any time you find that you have more qualified delegates than funds (or more funds than delegates), please contact me directly (919-750-1330 or [director@tarheelboysstate.org](mailto:director@tarheelboysstate.org))

This process is detailed out in the 2025 THBS Post Handbook that is available on our website on the "For Legion" page at [www.tarheelboysstate.org/for-legion](http://www.tarheelboysstate.org/for-legion)

Please remember that you may raise the funds for the delegate fees from any source including the parent of the delegate, but for legal purposes, the check paying for the delegate must be drawn on the bank account of an American Legion Post. Once the fees are paid your requirements in the application process are complete. The additional

forms you have been required to gather in the past (the medical form and t-shirt form) are now completed by the delegate electronically saving you the additional work.

To date, 40 potential delegates have begun the application process and 12 have completed it. The first 12 applicants were sent out to Posts on 1 November. We will continue to process applications weekly all the way until June. As soon as one comes in for your area, you will receive an email from me with the application. If you are directing anyone to apply, please have them list your post or contact information on the "Recommended by" line of the application to make routing the application easier.

### **Post Follow Up**

One of the comments I have heard most from members statewide is that they don't hear anything back from the program about their delegates. Your comments have been heard and in 2025 we will provide more feedback to you on your delegates. Our staff will complete "Report Cards" where we will tell you how the delegate did at the program. We are not grading them, but merely providing feedback from our team to your team so that you know what is going on at Boys State. It will include an update of what office the delegate obtained at Boys State and staff comments about their participation and involvement in the program. We will send these report cards to the contact provided in the Post Census.

Additionally, if you include the information on the application for your local newspaper, our system will generate a Press Release for you to send to the paper advertising your approved delegates. We will email those to you after the applications are complete with further instructions and again after the program with updates on their performance for publication.

I thank you for your service to the American Legion and the Tar Heel Boys State program and look forward to working with you this year to make the 85th Session of Boys State the best ever. If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call

on my cell phone 919-750-1330 or shoot me an email at [director@TarHeelBoysState.org](mailto:director@TarHeelBoysState.org) I am a practicing attorney and may not answer right away, but I will get back with you as soon as possible.

### **Website Updates**

We have posted a lot more content on the THBS website and will continue to do so as we are generating material for the 2025 session. Our goal is to make sure everyone has access to as much information as possible. The “For Legion” page of our website, [www.tarheelboysstate.org/for-legion](http://www.tarheelboysstate.org/for-legion) contains new information for the 2025 Session to include a 2025 Post Handbook, flyers, memos, and the application one-pager that is included in this mailing.