



AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE

DEPARTMENT OF MISSISSIPPI

April 21, 2021

Participants and Parents/Guardians,

In a little over a month, we will be welcoming our Delegates onto the University of Mississippi campus. In preparation for check-in on May 30th, we have a few reminders as well as two new steps that will need to be taken. This letter serves as a quick reference for what you need to know as you prepare for Mississippi American Legion Boys State.

COVID-19 Vaccine

As we have previously communicated, we **strongly** encourage all participants to receive their COVID-19 vaccine in preparation for our program. All members of our staff will be fully vaccinated prior to May 30th. This request will remain a **strong** recommendation.

14 Day Self Screening (May 16, 2021)

Beginning fourteen days prior to the start of Boys State, we request that our participants use extra caution and practice responsible social distancing. Additionally, we request that our participants begin to monitor themselves for any symptoms of COVID-19.

- **Beginning on May 16th, staff and participants will be required to self-monitor for any symptoms** (fever of 100.4 °F or higher, cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, nausea, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, vomiting, etc.).
- **All participants and staff will be required to fill out the Pre-Arrival Health Self-Screening Form.** Delegates and staff are to record any symptoms from their self-monitoring process, their daily temperature, and bring it to campus to be turned into our health staff. This form and all other forms can be found on our website under the "Apply Now" tab.

Mandatory COVID-19 Testing

We will require that each participant and staff member submit to a COVID-19 test within the four-day period prior to their arrival on campus.

- **Bring proof of a negative COVID-19 test result to registration.**
- **Only those who submit a negative test result will be allowed to participate.**

Here is a link to the Mississippi Department of Health website with information on obtaining a free COVID-19 test. https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14.21912.420.874.html

What are our COVID-19 policies and procedures during the week of Boys State?

- Masks will be provided and required when indoors and in situations that do not allow for the safe distancing of three to six feet.
- Outdoor events will be prioritized, weather permitting.



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- Indoor seating capacity will be monitored to allow for appropriate distancing.
- Symptom self-monitoring will continue for the duration of the week at Boys State utilizing a University online portal accessible by smartphone or computer.
- If a participant experiences symptoms of COVID-19, a test will be administered by a campus/local healthcare professional. If the test result is positive, the participant will immediately be isolated until pick-up can be arranged by a parent or guardian.
- Any participant will be dismissed that has had direct (unmasked, undistanced, prolonged) contact with a participant found to be COVID-19 positive.
- A participant that is dismissed due to COVID-19 **MUST** be picked up within six hours of notice. If a participant drove himself, he must leave as soon as possible.

What is required for check-in on May 30th?

- **NEW**: Completed and signed Pre-Arrival Health Self-Screening Form
- **NEW**: University of Mississippi Medical Consent and Waiver
- **NEW**: Results of a negative COVID-19 test, taken within a four-day period prior to May 30th.
- Boys State Medical Certificate Form
- School Counselor and Local American Legion Authorization Form
- Boys State Waiver of Claim Form
- Payment of \$275 received (Mail to Mississippi American Legion Boys State, P.O. Box 688, Jackson, MS 39205.)

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us at info@msboysstate.com

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Milton Robinson".

Milton Robinson, Director
American Legion Boys State
Department of Mississippi