



TEXAS AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE
THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS

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MEMORANDUM FOR POST ADJUTANT
ATTENTION: POST BOYS STATE CHAIRMAN

SUBJECT: Citizens with Disabilities

1. We continue to receive inquiries concerning the appointment of candidates with disabilities to **THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS**. We offer the following information to sponsoring American Legion Posts.
2. The American Legion, Department of Texas, fully supports and endorses equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities. The Department Adjutant and the Department Boys State Committee will not deny admission of an appointee to the Texas American Legion Boys State program solely for the reason of disability. However, the sponsoring post should make important evaluations when considering the appointment of a disabled individual.
3. The extremely fast pace of the Boys State program is physically demanding. The activity we must accomplish in seven days, the physical layout of the host institution, and the obvious requirement to keep teenage boys busy drives the tempo of the program. The sponsoring post should carefully evaluate if the candidate with disability will be able to fully participate in the entire program and not feel left out or slighted because of inability to keep up. To receive the full benefit of American Legion Boys State, it is imperative that all citizens remain totally involved for the entire duration of the program.
4. The sponsoring post will be responsible for any additional expenses incurred when accommodating a citizen with disability. This will include special transportation and housing arrangements required. For reasons of liability, the host institution requires attendants for conferees with certain disabilities. Although not allowed citizen status, we require the attendant to meet the same eligibility requirements and selection criteria established for an appointee. Besides the other incurred expenses, we require the sponsoring post to pay the full \$275.00 registration fee for the attendant.
5. We hope this information is helpful in your appointment process. If you have any questions, please contact the Director of Internal Affairs or the Department Boys State Chairman.

Sincerely;

Robert L. Jackson
Department Boys State Chairman

Michael A. Simon
Director of Internal Affairs

cc: District Commander
District Boys State Chairman