

arlegion.org

## AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE

September 13, 2024

Attention: Arkansas Educators

The American Legion has sponsored the High School Oratorical Contest for 85 years. The purpose of the National High School Contest is to develop knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to speak clearly, intelligently, and acceptance of the responsibilities as well as the privileges of American citizenship. The National Secondary School Principals has placed the program on the NASSP Advisory List of Contest and Activities for 2024-2025.

The Department contest will take place on Saturday morning, March 22, 2025. The following cash scholarships will be awarded:

- **\$2,000 for First Place**
- **\$1,500 for Second Place**
- **\$1,000 for Third Place**

The Department winner will represent The Department of Arkansas at the National level, which includes an all-expense paid trip with a chaperone to Indianapolis, Indiana. The student will receive an additional cash scholarship award of \$1500.00 for attending the Indianapolis Contest. Scholarships are presented to the three finalists in the final round of the national contests as follows: **1<sup>st</sup> place - \$25,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$22,500; 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$20,000.**

For more information you may contact your local American Legion Post or The American Legion Department of Arkansas Headquarters at 1-877-243-9799 (toll free), 1-501-375-1104 and email: [alegion@swbell.net](mailto:alegion@swbell.net), or at our web site <http://www.arlegion.org/programs/oratorical.html>.

Sincerely,



Roger Lacy  
Department Oratorical Chairman

arlegion.org

September 13, 2024

**TO: ALL POST COMMANDERS, ORATORICAL CHAIRPERSONS**

**FROM: ROGER LACY, DEPARTMENT ORATORICAL CHAIRMAN**

**SUBJECT: AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTESTS**

Now is the time to contact the High Schools in your area to see if they have students interested in participating in The American Legion High School Oratorical Contest. **Enclosed is a copy of Contest Application and the Contestant Certification Form**, (Make as many copies as needed). **The 2024-2025 Official Contest Rules and Topics** are only available on line. Please go to [www.arlegion.org/programs/oratorical.html](http://www.arlegion.org/programs/oratorical.html) to download a copy of rules and topics. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact Department Headquarters and we will download a copy for you.

Contest applications must be submitted to the Department Oratorical Chairman, by January 8, 2025.

**Contestants** must be certified to **Department Headquarters**, no later than March 8, 2025, all contestants are required to present their prepared oration to the Post and/or a civic organization a total of three times.

**Department Contest** will be held Saturday, **March 22, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.** – location to be announced.

Please advise Department Headquarters immediately as to **the time and place of your Post Contest**, as we receive many phone calls asking for this information. **Department Winners** will receive:

<b>First Place</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Second Place</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Third Place</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>

The **Department First Place Winner** who participates in the first round of the National Contest will receive a **\$1,500** scholarship. Each first round winner who advances to the second round, but does not advance to the final round will receive an additional **\$1,500** scholarship.

**National Finalists** will receive the following scholarships:

<b>First Place</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>Second Place</b>	<b>\$22,500</b>
<b>Third Place</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

**Duplicate as needed**

DEPARTMENT ORATORICAL CONTEST  
arlegion.org  
CONTEST APPLICATION  
(To Be Completed By Student)

Contestant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a United States Citizen? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ if no, are you a resident alien? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name \_\_\_\_\_ Day Time Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL REPORT**

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone \_\_\_\_\_ School Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Counselors Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I first became interested in the Oratorical Contest when:

I will abide by all the rules of the Department of Arkansas and the National High School Oratorical Contest Committee and follow the instructions of contest sponsors and chairman. I hereby attest that my Prepared Oration and Assigned Topic presentations are my original work.

Applicants Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Sponsored by American Legion Post or District \_\_\_\_\_

Post or District Chairman or Officer \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Students should submit this application by January 8, 2025

TO: Department Oratorical Chairman, Roger Lacy  
PO Box 3280  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

## ORATORICAL CONTEST CERTIFICATION FORM

**This is to certify that the following contestant:**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Street or Box Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Zip Code)

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of High School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Schooled**                      **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

Met certification requirements on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, under the sponsorship of  
Post No. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Arkansas.

Title of Prepared Oration \_\_\_\_\_

Contest according to: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)                                              \_\_\_\_\_  
(American Legion Officer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

Send Certification to Department Headquarters by March 8, 2025.

The American Legion  
Department of Arkansas  
Roger Lacy, Oratorical Chairman  
PO Box 3280  
Little Rock, AR 72203

Duplicate as needed