

American Legion Jersey Boys State Coronavirus Pandemic Update #4-April 15, 2020

We continue to be amid an unprecedented national health crisis. The leadership team at American Legion Jersey Boys State monitors this situation daily. The well-being, health, and safety of our delegates, staff, speakers, and everyone else who supports ALJBS is of the utmost importance to us. We will very shortly be making a final decision regarding our 75th annual session originally scheduled to take place from June 21-26, 2020. We continue to work with public health officials, the State of New Jersey, the American Legion, and Rider University to closely monitor how the coronavirus pandemic affects this year's session. Please continue to monitor our website (www.aljbs.org) for the most up-to-date information regarding this year's session. We will inform you here once we make a final decision regarding this year's session.

- **Effective today, April 15, 2020, all in-person County orientation meetings are cancelled.** We will post a "virtual" county orientation on our website at www.aljbs.org by May 1st. We will also provide a link to enable parents to ask questions about this year's session.
- **We have put on hold posting the link to Campdocs for delegates to submit their medical information until we make a decision about this year's session.** If you have already completed your application other than your medical information, a link will be emailed to you at some point in the future. If you have any questions about Campdocs or submitting your medical information, please send them to: medical@aljbs.org.
- **We will make an important announcement regarding the 2020 session no later than April 18, 2020.** We are exploring a number of alternatives for our 2020 session and want to be able to address as many of your questions as possible regarding our plans when we announce them. We do not take this decision lightly and want it to be informed, well-thought out, and as thorough as possible.
- Should you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us at www.aljbs.org.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation and support as we continue to monitor the coronavirus pandemic and how it affects American Legion Jersey Boys State. Once again, the well-being, health, and safety of our delegates, staff, and everyone who supports American Legion Jersey Boys State is of the utmost importance to us. For those of you directly or indirectly affected by the virus, our thoughts are with you and your family. Please stay healthy and safe.

Post and County Jersey Boys State Chairman Information

We are getting questions from Post Chairman regarding prospective delegate interviews. Our guidance at this time is to **NOT** conduct in-person interviews under any circumstance for the well-being of yourself, your family, the potential delegates and their family. In lieu of in-person interviews, we suggest either interviewing the delegates individually or in a group setting via Skype, Zoom, Facetime, or a phone call. In the event that may not be possible, we recommend having your delegates complete and return a questionnaire created by utilizing the questions found in our ALJBS Post Chairman SOP (www.aljbs.org/legion). Regardless of how you decide to select your delegates, **the respective American Legion Post must make the final delegate selection.** Please reach out to us if you have any questions or need assistance.

In the event that this year's session is not held, please rest assured that you will not lose your delegate fees paid for 2020. You will either receive a credit towards the 2021 program or you will receive a refund. **Please continue to send in your checks to headquarters as you usually would.**

IMPORTANT: We would like to emphasize the importance of selecting delegates to attend this year's session. Selection to attend ALJBS is an honor and is very important to these students. Being selected to ALJBS helps the delegates in the college application process, is important if they are applying to one of the service academies and helps them on their resume for their career. **Please continue to move ahead with your delegate selection process.**

VERY IMPORTANT: The most important thing that our Post and County Chairman can do right now is stay in touch with your high schools, delegates, and parents keeping them up to date on the status of this year's program. Please give them our website address (www.aljbs.org) and ask them to monitor the website for the most up-to-date information on the status of this year's program and anything related to the program such as the status of in-person county orientations. You should also assure the parents and guardians of your delegates that we will have a comprehensive safety plan, with consultation from public health experts, in place prior to this year's session.

If you have any questions, please contact either President Ted Howarth (856-571-4441) or Executive Director Dave Bagatelle (646-408-1032).