

American Legion Outreach Program:

American Legion Texas Boys State seeks to increase its reach to High Schools all across the State of Texas.

The Program is blessed to receive a grant from the Sumners Foundation for \$50,000.00. The Sumners Foundation requests that these funds be used to expand the enrollment to new schools and new areas of Texas. In 2024, Sumners provided the Program a \$75,000.00 grant. We believe that the grant may have been reduced, in part, because the funds were not all used for tuition for new students.

The grant covers the cost to send 125 students to Texas Boys State. It is believed that a self-sustaining outreach program to get these 125 students will enhance the chance of getting additional funds in grants from Sumners in future years.

The proposed Outreach program for the Sumners scholarships is as follows:

There are 23 Districts within the department of Texas, that is basically five students from each district. The criteria for students to receive a Sumners scholarship is that they are fully qualified as a student to attend Texas Boys State, that they attend a high school that either has never sent a student to Texas Boys State or has not sent a student for the past five years.

The Outreach program is to be managed by District Commanders in the manner they deem appropriate with the goal to find five Sumners Scholarship recipients from qualifying students with the District.

The District Commander is best situated to determine the direction of the District's outreach.

The District Commander can assign the outreach program to an individual within the District, may select individual posts to receive the Sumners scholarships, may select High Schools that will receive the scholarships, may offer the Sumners scholarships for Posts to request for new High Schools in their purview, or any other process that fits the District.

The Texas Boys State executive staff is available to provide High schools that fit the criteria, manpower to contact said schools, or to assist in any manner requested. The staff requests feedback on how to implement the outreach program so that it endures year after year for continued growth and proper use of the Sumner's scholarships.