



THE AMERICAN LEGION ~ DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

**Oratorical Contest  
Email Communication Understanding**

~ and ~

**Mandatory Pre-Contest Orientation Attendance  
AGREEMENT**

The **2025** American Legion Department of Illinois Semi-Finals & Final American Legion High School Oratorical Program will be held **February 28-March 1, 2025** in Springfield, IL at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield—DoubleTree by Hilton.

The contestant will receive an email within 5 days after the application certification deadline—*January 24 2025*. Emails will provide the contestant with detailed information regarding the 2025 Department Semi-Finals & Final of The American Legion High School Oratorical Contest Program.

Communications between the contestant and the Department Oratorical Contest Coordinator shall primarily be through email. It shall be the contestants responsibility to read all material emailed, and to **RESPOND PROMPTLY** to all email communications from the Department Oratorical Contest Coordinator.

Furthermore, in order to compete and earn any Department of Illinois scholarship monies it is **MANDATORY** that **ALL** Contestants and Chaperones arrive Friday of the contest weekend to **ATTEND** the scheduled Pre-Contest Orientation.

All contestants and chaperones will stay at the official contest hotel. Reservations will be made in advance by the Department Oratorical Contest Coordinator. Contest details will be emailed expecting your response.

Finally, as a condition of my participation in the Department Semi-Final & Finals of The American Legion High School Oratorical Program—“A Constitutional Speech Contest”, I, the contestant, understand and agree to abide by the contest email communication requirements and Mandatory Pre-Contest Orientation attendance with my signature below.

Contestant (*please print*) \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please Print legibly)*

Parent or Legal Guardian (*please print*) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Legal Guardian Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please Print legibly)*



# THE AMERICAN LEGION ~ DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST APPLICATION

All contestants must complete this form and give to their respective District Americanism Chairman who will then forward it to their respective Division Americanism Chairman. The Division Americanism Chairman shall mail it to: Department Oratorical Contest Coordinator—The American Legion, Department of Illinois P.O. Box 2910, Bloomington, IL 61702 by the contest deadline—**January 24, 2025**

*\*Communication between the contestant and the Department Oratorical Contest Coordinator shall primarily be through email. Failure to communicate via email may result in the disqualification of the contestant. Respond promptly!*

The 2025 American Legion, Department of Illinois High School Oratorical Scholarship Semi-Final/Finals will be held February 28-March 1, 2025 Springfield, IL at the President Abraham Lincoln Springfield—DoubleTree by Hilton. The Department of Illinois winner must be available for the 2025 National Finals held May 16-18, 2025 in Hillsdale, Mich at Hillsdale College. *(Instructions will be provided to the Department of Illinois winner)*

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The contestant shall have ready a (8-10) minute prepared oration on some aspect of the U.S. Constitution with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of a citizens to our government. In addition, the contestant must also be prepared to present a (3-5) minute oration on any one of the (4) four assigned topics \*See Oratorical Brochure during the Assigned Topic portion of state and national contests. *(see Oratorical brochure for copy of Assigned Topics)*

### STUDENT INFORMATION:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please print legibly)*

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Current grade in school: \_\_\_\_\_ 9th \_\_\_\_\_ 10th \_\_\_\_\_ 11th \_\_\_\_\_ 12th *(check one)*

Contestant signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### PARENT INFORMATION:

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Parent Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please print legibly)*

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### POST (Sponsor\*) INFORMATION:

Post #: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Officer name: *(printed)* \_\_\_\_\_

Post Officer signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Sponsor must send the **\$175** fee, Oratorical Application, and signed Communication / Pre-Contest Orientation Agreement to their respective Division Americanism Chairman → ***NO LATER THAN JANUARY 17, 2025***. Checks payable to → **American Legion Department of Illinois**. *(after the January 17 2025 deadline the fee is non-refundable)*