

American Legion Post 61 Invites High School Students To Compete in a Constitutional Speech Contest

<https://txlegion.org/programs/oratorical/>

Winners will earn scholarship money and a chance to compete in National Finals

High school students in Abilene Texas and surrounding area Communities are invited by Marshall Scott Jamar Post 61, Abilene Texas of The American Legion Department of Texas to compete in the 2026 – 2027 annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program.

The subject in the Prepared Oration of the contest must be about some phase of the Constitution of the United States, emphasizing the duties and obligations of a citizen of the United States. The Prepared Oration must be the original effort of each contestant and must be 8 -10 minutes in length. The second speech called the Assigned Topic will be chosen by an audience from one of the four Amendments selected by National. The contestant will be given the Amendment chosen and then 5 minutes to prepare to give their Oration. This speech will be 3-5 minutes in length. In addition to the awards earned by the winners of the various elimination rounds of the competition, college scholarships of \$25,000, \$22,500 and \$20,000 will be awarded to the first through third places in the National Finals. Each state winner who competes in the first round of the National Contest will receive a \$2,000 scholarship.

The American Legion will pay the expenses of state winners to the National Contest. College scholarships in various amounts from \$300 to \$500 will be awarded to the Post, District and Division winners. High School students who are interested in entering the competition will find the complete rules and contest information at legion.org/oratorical.

Students wishing to compete must contact the following Post 61 members No Later than 1 November 2026:

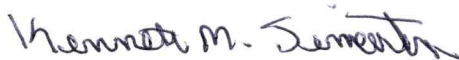
Post 61 Commander Matt Centuori at email: centouri@sbcglobal.net or cell (325) 704 - 2075

Post 61 Oratorical Chair Kenneth Simonton email: kenmsimonton@gmail.com or cell (325) 428 - 9972

Negative replies from High School Staff would be appreciated no later than 1 November 2026.

Thank you

Sincerely


KENNETH M. SIMONTON
Oratorical Chair Post 61