

READING ASSIGNMENTS & STUDY GUIDE

American Legion Boys State Program 2021



Reference material from
[2019-2020 Tennessee Blue Book](#)
Published by TN Secretary of State

Delegates should review this material in preparation for the
test on Friday, May 28

AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE PROGRAM READING ASSIGNMENTS & STUDY GUIDE

DAY TWO TOPIC: The Legislative Branch of the Tennessee Government

Pages 1-5 **INTRODUCTORY MATERIAL**

Define the term: bicameral

The "General Assembly" consists of what 2 bodies?

Are State Legislators full-time or part-time lawmakers?

What is the primary function of the General Assembly?

What is the total number of House members that serve?

How many Senate members serve?

Who chooses the Secretary of State, Comptroller of the treasury, and the Treasurer?

Once organized, the Legislature is limited to how many "legislative days"?

Where does legislation originate?

What is another name for "legislation"?

What US Presidents formerly served in the Tennessee legislature?

Pages 7-8 **SENATE**

Which house is the "upper house"?

Tennessee consists of how many senatorial districts?

How many years does a Senate term consist?

What is the minimum age for serving in the Tennessee Senate?

What is the residential requirement before being elected to the Senate?

The leader of the Senate is given two names. What are they?

Who currently serves as the Speaker of the Senate?

What is the member called that serves in the absence of the Speaker?

Pages 64-68 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

What is the name for the "lower house" of the General Assembly?

How many districts constitute the House of Representatives?

How many years define the term of a member of the House of Representatives?

What is the minimum age for serving in the House of Representatives?

What is the residential requirement before being elected to the House?

What does the speaker of the House do? What is a "speaker pro tempore"?

Who appoints all House committees?

Which political party currently holds the majority in the House?

Who currently serves as Speaker of the House? Speaker Pro Tempore?

The Legislative Branch of the Tennessee Government (continued)

TOPIC: The Secretary of State

Pages 192-195

TOPIC: The Comptroller of the Treasury

Pages 202-226

TOPIC: Treasurer

Pages 212-214

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DAY THREE TOPIC: The Executive Branch of the Tennessee Government

Pages 223-225 **INTRODUCTORY MATERIAL**

Who directs the administrative divisions of the State Government?
The Tennessee Constitution places the “Supreme Executive Power” into whose hands?
How many people are employed in the executive branch of government?
Approx.
How many Cabinet-level departments and other agencies exist in Tennessee?

Pages 223-246 **GOVERNOR**

Who is the 50th Governor of Tennessee?
What are the administrative priorities of the current Governor?
What is the primary responsibility of the Governor?
To whom does the Governor delegate responsibility?
What are the Constitutional requirements for being Governor?
In the event of a vacancy in the office of Governor, who succeeds to office?

Pages 197-393 **AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS**

Read the Introductory paragraph as it relates to each State Department or Agency. Develop a basic understanding of each department.

DEPARTMENT	Page(s)
Agriculture	253-254
Children’s Services	263-264
Commerce & Insurance	269-271
Correction	277-278
Economic & Community Development	285-286
Education	291-331
Environment & Conservation	333-339
Finance & Administration	343-346
Financial Institutions	349-350
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Health	359-362

Human Resources	367-368
Human Services	373-374
Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities	381-382
Labor & Workforce Development	385-387
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services	393-394
Military	399-411
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Safety & Homeland Security	419-422
Tourist Development	425-426
Transportation	435-437
Veterans Services	441-442

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DAY FOUR TOPIC: The Judicial Branch of the Tennessee Government

Pages 477-479 **INTRODUCTORY MATERIAL**

Which branch of government serves as a “check” on the others?
Which court is the highest court in the state?
What constitutes the fourth level of courts?

Pages 481-485 **SUPREME COURT**

The Supreme Court consists of how many justices?
Name the two appellate courts?
What are the 4 trial courts of Tennessee?
What three cities is the location for Supreme Court meetings?
How often are the Supreme Court Judges elected?

Pages 486-492 **COURT OF APPEALS**

How many members constitute the Court of Appeals?
What type of cases is appealed to the Court of Appeals?

Page 493-500 **COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS**

How many members constitute the Court of Criminal Appeals?
What type of cases is appealed to the Court of Criminal Appeals?