

2010 National American Legion College

I know that just about every Legionnaire in the state is familiar with the Department of North Carolina American Legion College which is held July in Clemmons, NC. The purpose of the NC Legion College is to allow us to come together at a Department level and learn more about this great organization, share ideas with folks from all over the state, and possibly find solutions or at least a different angle on addressing issues confronting us at the post level. Did you know that the education process doesn't stop there?

Several years ago, our National Headquarters set up a one week long American Legion National College to educate the young Legionnaires about our organization and its many subordinate programs to prepare these future leaders to see the American Legion through the 21st Century. The curriculum educates the students on current guidelines, programs, and publications, but also challenges them to think outside the box to resolve issues facing the American Legion at the Post, District, Department, and National levels.

If you are interested in attending American Legion National College, there are a few prerequisites that must be satisfied:

- Be a Legionnaire in good standing with qualifying service during the Lebanon/Grenada (8/24/82 – 7/31/84), Panama (12/20/89 – 7/31/90), or Persian Gulf, Afghanistan/Iraq and later (8/2/90 to present). A candidate from any other war era may be considered based upon the department's successful submission of a candidate with service during or after the Lebanon/Grenada period. The number of candidates from earlier eras may be limited by the availability of seats.
- Have completed the American Legion Extension Institute, which is available through Emblem Sales Catalog or their website. The course is also conducted every other year at our Department Legion College.
- Complete the application for the American Legion National College, which is available on National's website, www.legion.org. This includes an essay telling the selection committee about yourself, why you would like to attend, and how you plan to apply the knowledge that you obtain. This application needs to be submitted to our Department Headquarters no later than May 15, 2010.
- Be able to attend the course in Indianapolis, IN during the period October 24-29, 2010, if recommended.

Our Department Headquarters provides two scholarships to Legionnaires selected to attend. If you would like to be considered for attendance, now is the time to get started! If you have any questions, please contact a member of our Department's National Leadership College Committee. A list of Committee members is available on the Department's website at www.nclegion.org. All committee members are past attendees and would be happy to assist.