

**2024-2025 American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of New York  
The American Legion Family College**

**ALA Chairman**

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The American Legion Family College of New York is a three-day leadership immersion into The American Legion Family's programs and structure. The 2025 session is scheduled for June 6- June 8, 2025, and is being held at SUNY Morrisville.

***Prerequisite:*** Be a current member in good standing of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion or The American Legion Riders.

***Purpose:*** To enhance knowledge and appreciation of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion, The American Legion Riders and their many subordinate programs. The overall expertise gained during the classroom and small group sessions prepares students for leadership positions in posts (units, squadrons, and chapters), counties, districts and department through education, development, and motivation. The curriculum challenges the upcoming leaders to think critically and creatively about issues confronting The American Legion Family.

***College Requirements:*** Each student must arrive on time, stay on campus, and must attend all classes with his/her assigned group in order to graduate and receive a Certificate of Completion and college pin. Each group will be given a Family challenge question to solve collectively and to present the solution(s) to the entire college.

***Cost:*** Tuition is \$300 per student, which includes two nights lodging in college dormitories (single rooms with 4 rooms to a pod, including a kitchenette, and one and a-half bathrooms). Men and women will have separate sleeping areas. All meals are provided from Friday evening through Sunday morning, along with program materials. Tuition may be paid by the student or sponsored by a unit, county, district, etc. Funding can even be paid by Bell Jar or Bingo funds, and fundraisers can be held as a means to pay for one or more students to attend.

**PROGRAM SPECIFICS**

The College begins on Friday afternoon and ends on Sunday at noon. Approximately 15 topic areas are covered in 25–50-minute sessions. The curriculum offers something for all members – regardless of the length of time you have been a member. Curriculum topics include, but not limited to: ALA Programs (including Junior Auxiliary, Warriors Family Assistance, Poppies, VA & R, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Education, Scholarship, Reporting, ALA Academy), Americanism, Children & Youth, Online Membership Tools (ALAMIS), Legislative, Constitution and By-Laws, Duties of Officers, Marketing/ Public Relations, Membership, Service Officer, The American Legion Riders, Sons of The American Legion, Protocols and Procedures. Leadership training is incorporated throughout the curriculum.

***Methods of Instruction:*** Department Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders faculty, staff and past graduates of the College, lead students through a number of classroom lectures and small group discussions. There is a maximum of 100 students divided into ten groups of ten.

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

The most up to date information regarding student application, instructor application, curriculum and deadlines will be located at: <https://nylegion.net/department/american-legion-college/>. Our ALA Department of NY webpage will also link to this page. Also, please check our department newsletters for updates.

Please PRINT, COPY and DISTRIBUTE Application forms in your units, counties, and districts. The application ***must be completely filled out*** – (legibly printed or typed)  
Tuition must be included with the application.

**The deadline for applications is April 1, 2025**, and the college will be limited to a size of 100 maximum to facilitate the learning experience. Send your applications early to reserve your spot!

Once you have been accepted and your tuition has been received, there will be **NO REFUNDS**. In the event you are not able to attend, a substitute may be submitted for consideration, or you may defer your attendance to the next college year, with approval.

**The Nancy Babis Award:** To the County with the largest number of students attending and graduating from the 2025 college.

**THE SHELBY SOBOLOWSKI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD** -The ALA College Alumnae Association is pleased to offer the opportunity for a full scholarship in memory of Shelby Sobolowski to the Department of New York American Legion Family College 2025 session. All applicants must submit a one (1) page essay on why attending the American Legion Family College will enhance their membership with the American Legion Auxiliary. Entries must include name, address, phone number, e-mail address, unit number, county, and district. Entries must be sent directly to Debby Herrmann. Entries must be received by March 1, 2025. The committee will review all applications and notify the selectee no later than March 31, 2025, of the selection.

## CHAIRMAN CONTACT INFORMATION

**Debby Herrmann**

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