



EF Youth Programs Sponsored by the League of Women Voters

In addition to Students Inside Albany, local Leagues organize numerous youth leadership and civic engagement programs, such as Take Me to Vote, Student Parent Mock Elections, Kids Voting USA, Running and Winning, and the Working Group on Girls.

For more information on how to participate in the Students Inside Albany conference, or any of our other programs listed above, please contact the League of Women Voters of New York State at 518-465-4162 or e-mail: xavia@lwvny.org or contact your local League representative:

Frequently Asked Questions About Students Inside Albany

How do you choose the students that will attend SIA? Since each student is a representative of a local League and their community, the local League sets the criteria for sending a student. Each student may be asked to write about the conference for their sponsoring local League's bulletin and may also be asked to be a special guest at one of their meetings.

Is there any cost to the student? No, LWVNYSEF, along with our cosponsors, pays for the entire conference, which includes lodging, meals and snacks. The local League that sponsors the student, is responsible for arranging and paying for transportation to and from the conference.

How much time will I miss from school? The conference starts on a Sunday afternoon and ends on Wednesday afternoon. So, the student will miss three days of school.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

League of Women Voters of
New York State
Office: 518-465-4162
Email: xavia@lwvny.org

League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc.

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. (LWVNYSEF) is strictly nonpartisan, and works primarily on projects that enlighten the electorate, i.e., empower through education, without advocating for any particular cause or policy, party or candidate. LWVNYSEF is committed to increasing citizen knowledge of and participation in their government. The LWVNYSEF believes that the basis of a strong democracy is an enlightened, educated citizenry.



Phone Number

+518-465-4162



E-mail Address

xavia@lwvny.org



Our Location

The Blake Annex, 1 Steuben Pl.
Albany, NY 12207



STUDENTS INSIDE ALBANY CONFERENCE

May 17-20, 2026

Sponsored by



What is Students Inside Albany?

Students Inside Albany (SIA) is a conference sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. The program is designed to increase students' awareness of their responsibility in representative government and provide the tools necessary for meeting that responsibility.

This interactive conference brings together high school students from across the state to learn about New York State government and the process by which citizens can participate in the policy making arena.



What are the learning objectives of Students Inside Albany?

- To increase student understanding of public policy in New York State.
- To enhance student understanding of the roles of the various forces seeking to impact New York State legislation and policy development, enactment and change.
- To promote an increased understanding of the New York State legislative process through legislative shadowing experience.

What SIA graduates had to say about the conference:



"This was [incredible and] my favorite part. My representative was very, informative and helped me better understand their specific bills and the legislative process [overall]."- 2025 Participant

"It was extremely interesting and gave real insight to what happens in the NYS government, incredible"- 2025 Participant

"It's an immersive experience that you will not be able to find in any other program. It is a great source of empowerment for anybody that would like to drive change" -2023 Participant

"This program made state government very tangible to me and forced me to leave my comfort zone to make new friends. I will keep these skills with me for my whole life." -2023 Participant

"It was a fun, engaging opportunity that I have loved! I was able to get an experience that unfortunately many students don't get." -2023 Participant

"Everyone should be able to experience and learn about the behind-the-scenes process of their government." -2019 Participant

"It's one of the best things I've ever done. So interesting, so informative." -2019 Participant

"Made me more passionate about politics and gave me confidence to get more involved." -2018 Participant

PAST CONFERENCE AGENDA

Sunday

- Registration
- Welcome
- Overview of Program
- How Does NYS Government Work?

Monday

- Tips for Being a Successful Citizen Lobbyist
- Lobby Role-Playing with Legislators
- Tour of the NYS Capitol
- Students Shadow NYS Assemblymember
- Media Perspectives on Public Policy Issues
- Bowling and Social Activity

Tuesday

- Political Activism: How Citizens Can Make a Difference
- Tour and Introduction to NYS Court of Appeals
- Students Shadow NYS Senator
- Running for Office Panel Discussion
- Social Activity

Wednesday

- Recognition Breakfast
- Voter Registration Basics
- Conference Adjourned

