

TO: All Upper Peninsula American Legion Posts, American Legion Auxiliary Units and S.A.L Squadrons

FROM: John M. Mella, Past State Commander, Post 50, Iron Mountain

SUBJECT: Transportation for 2018 Boys State and Girls State Attendees

I have again contracted a motor coach to transport the Upper Peninsula students who are attending the 2018 Boys State and Girls State programs. This will be a 56 passenger motor coach from Compass Coach, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. I am currently employed part time by this company as a motor coach operator. As a way to keep costs down, I am volunteering my time and will not be paid to drive on either the trip to or from Boys State and Girls State. Diana Mella has volunteered to accompany me as the chaperone.

The dates of the 2018 Boys and Girls State are June 17-23, 2018. The transportation cost per student is \$100.00. Please make checks payable to: **Compass Coach** and mail to: John M. Mella, 1571 W Ridge Road, Gladwin, MI 48624. Please mail the checks to me **by June 1, 2018**. **Be sure to include, with your payment, the student's name(s) and phone number and indicate the location where they will be picked up, so I can make a roster of who is to be picked up at each scheduled stop.**

Post/Unit/Squadron: It is your responsibility to see that your Girls State or Boys State attendee receives a copy of this schedule!

Please note that all times are approximate but we hope to stay very close to the following schedule:

June 16, 2018 (Saturday) - This is Saturday Evening!

7:00 pm (Central Time)	Load at The American Legion, Post 50, 916 River Ave, Iron Mountain
7:20 pm (Central Time)	Leave parking lot
7:40 pm (Central Time)	Arrive at the gas station at the junction of M-69 and M-95, Sagola
8:00 pm (Central Time)	Leave parking lot

All the below times are **Eastern Standard Time**

9:45 pm	Arrive at the BP gas station, at the junction of M-95 and US-41
10:00 pm	Leave parking lot
11:00 pm	Arrive at the Michigan Welcome Center at the Rest Area just east of Marquette on US-41
11:30 pm	Leave parking lot

June 17, 2018 (Sunday) - This is EARLY Sunday Morning!

12:30 am	Arrive at the MI Carpool Lot behind the Mobil gas station at the junction of US-41 and US-2, Rapid River
12:45 am	Leave parking lot
2:15 am	Arrive at the MI Carpool Lot, junction of M-117 and US-2, near Engadine
2:30 am	Leave parking lot
3:00 am	Arrive at the McDonald's Restaurant on US-2, St. Ignace
3:15 am	Leave parking lot
7:15 am	Arrive at Grand Valley State University, Allendale (Boys State Location)
7:45 am	Leave Grand Valley State University
9:15 am	Arrive at Michigan State University, East Lansing (Girls State Location)

RETURN TRIP

NOTE: Students will be dropped off at the same places where they were picked up on June 16/17th. Unless noted, all times are Eastern Standard Time.

June 23, 2018 ~ Saturday

11:00 am	Pick up the boys at Grand Valley State University, Allendale
4:30 pm	Pick up the girls at Michigan State University, East Lansing
8:45 pm	Arrive at the McDonald's Restaurant parking lot on US-2, St Ignace
9:00 pm	Leave parking lot
10:00 pm	Arrive at the MI Carpool Lot, at the junction of M-117 and US-2, near Engadine
10:15 pm	Leave parking lot
11:00 pm	Arrive at the MI Carpool Lot, behind Mobil gas station, at the junction of US-41 and US-2, Rapid River
11:15 pm	Leave parking lot

June 24, 2018 ~ EARLY Sunday morning!

12:15 am	Arrive at the Michigan Welcome Center at the Rest Area just east of Marquette on US-41
12:30 am	Leave parking lot
1:30 am	Arrive at the BP gas station, at the junction of M-95 and US-41
1:45 am	Leave parking lot
2:00 am (Central Time)	Arrive at the gas station, at the junction M-69 and M-95, Sagola
2:10 am (Central Time)	Leave parking lot
2:30 am (Central Time)	Arrive at The American Legion, Post 50, 916 River Ave, Iron Mountain

*****PLEASE NOTE*****

Because all times are approximate, please plan to arrive at each pick up location at least 15 minutes early. The same applies for parents who are picking up the students on the return trip. That way, if we are running early, we will have the option to continue on without waiting. Also, we will leave each location **exactly** on time. **If you are not at your scheduled pick up location by the scheduled leave time, we will continue on to the next location.** If you arrive too late to be picked up at your scheduled location, you can travel on to the next pick up location. Anyone who misses their scheduled pick up is responsible for their own transportation to Boys State or Girls State. **All fees paid for transportation are non-refundable.**

CONTACTS:

John M. Mella (Organizer and driver) 906-774-0538
Diana Mella (Chaperone and Girls State volunteer) 989-640-0109
Walter Hanson (Boys State Committee member) 906-399-4285
Judy Lynch (U.P. Girls State Chairman) 906-753-2149

ADDITIONAL STOPS AVAILABLE ALONG ENTIRE ROUTE WITH ADVANCE NOTICE

The route downstate from the Upper Peninsula is 75 south to M-55 west to 131 south to 96 east to MSU.
The return route is from GVSU to 96 east to MSU to 127 north to 75 north to the Upper Peninsula.