

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



Girls[★]
STATE



ARE YOU UP FOR A CHALLENGE?

Developing leadership skills, confidence and action-based understanding of the governmental process gives young women a lasting foundation for personal and professional success.

The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State is a unique and exciting government-in-action learning program in which Auxiliary members guide high school juniors to become patriotic, knowledgeable stewards of freedom and democracy.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

- ★ Develops leadership and pride and an understanding of American traditions.
- ★ Educates citizens about our system of government.
- ★ Stimulates a desire to maintain democratic governmental processes within our republic.

For information on ALA Girls State, visit us at www.ALAforVeterans.org/ALA-Girls-State, or contact your local American Legion Auxiliary unit.

Michigan American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Program

Celebrating 78 years of Developing Leaders

The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program changes lives by bringing together dynamic young women for an intense week of leadership, patriotism and community. A fictional self-governing state of young ladies elect their own leaders, write bills for debate and run a legislative session.

Michigan's ALA Girls State program is currently recruiting female students who will complete their junior year of high school in May or June of 2018. We are seeking young women who have an above average scholastic standing, an interest in our governmental process, and a desire to get involved in their communities.

ALA Girls State Objective:

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State provides an opportunity for superior high school women to experience the "nitty gritty" of state governmental processes - the chance to live outside the text book. This program not only instills in its attendees a sense of pride and loyalty in America, but also prepares these women for a career in politics, public service, and excellence along their career path. It is the chance to plunge head-first into democracy, develop sharp leadership skills, and create the foundation for informed and responsible world citizenship.

We provide you with all the tools you need!

Don't let your students down by not getting the word out about this fantastic opportunity. An ALA Girls State Poster to help boost awareness of our program, a delegate application for students interested in attending to complete, and scholarship opportunities. **The application deadline is May 31, 2018.** Detailed information is available online at: www.michalaux.org, click on Girls State. If you have questions or inquiries, please contact Beryl Robbins, Michigan's ALA Girls State Chairman, at: 313.318.6845 or berylrobbins@comcast.net.

The Selection Process:

Selection of a delegate should be based on her interest in government, along with the important qualities of leadership, character, honesty, moral values, cooperation, and scholarship. Once you have collected names of perspective delegates, contact your local sponsoring organization so arrangements can be made to interview applicants. The Girls State program is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. However, there are many organizations in your neighborhood that are willing to sponsor students such as The American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, Legion Riders, Kiwanis, Lions Clubs, Women's groups, Rotary Clubs, law firms, schools, and individuals including family members.

The cost to send one delegate to ALA Girls State is \$350 paid for by a sponsoring organization. It is important to impress upon your candidates that all delegates are expected to participate in the **entire program** in order to receive their certificate of completion and ALA Girls State pin. Attendance at ALA Girls State is of value when applying for college, employment and military academies.

IT'S A LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE, SELECT YOUR CANDIDATES NOW!

Where and When:

Michigan State University - - Shaw Hall

June 17 through June 23, 2018

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

AMERICAN LEGION SAMSUNG SCHOLARSHIP

Samsung, a worldwide leader in electronics, endowed a scholarship fund of \$5,000,000 to be administered by the American Legion to show appreciation for our U.S. Veterans who aided in the efforts during the Korean War. Participants in ALA Girls State and AL Boys State, who are direct descendants of a wartime veteran, have the opportunity to win a scholarship. The award structure is: \$1,250 for Department Finalists; \$5,000 for ten National Runners-Up, and \$10,000 for ten National Scholars.

Applications are completed on-line and must be completed by June 16, 2018.

The application link is: <https://www.legion.org/samsung-scholarship-application>

Instructions and helpful hints are available on our Department website at: www.michalaux.org, click on Girls State.

Applicants must provide a Veterans Verification Document, such as a DD-214 (proof of honorable discharge) for the relative you qualify under. If you do not have this document available you can apply for a copy at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/index.html>, **please note it takes approximately six weeks to receive your documents!**

The relative you qualify under must have served during one of the periods noted below:

Persian Gulf War - Aug. 2, 1990 - Until cessation of hostilities Includes Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and War on Terrorism

World War I - Apr. 6, 1917 - Nov. 11, 1918

World War II - Dec. 7, 1941 - Dec. 31, 1946

Korean War - June 25, 1950 - Jan. 31, 1955

Lebanon/Grenada - Aug. 24, 1982 - Jul. 31, 1984

Panama - Dec. 20, 1989 - Jan. 31, 1990

Vietnam War - Feb. 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975

The Michigan American Legion Auxiliary supports high-education through our scholarship programs

2018 National Spirit of Youth Scholarship

Five scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 each will be awarded in 2018

Must be a senior in High School and a Junior member of the ALA since 2014, and continued during the four-year scholarship period.

2018 National Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

Five scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each will be awarded in 2018

Must be a current member of the AL, ALA, SAL since 2015 and for calendar year 2018

2018 National Children of Warriors Scholarship

Fifteen scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 each will be awarded in 2018

Must be in their Senior year of high school, and a descendent of a veteran during eligibility dates for membership in the AL

2018 Michigan Past Presidents Parley Medical Scholarship

Scholarships in the amount of \$500 to apply toward the expense of tuition for training men & women for medical careers

Must be a descendent of a veteran during eligibility dates for membership in the AL, and a resident in the State of Michigan

2018 Michigan Non-Traditional Scholarship

One two-year scholarship in the amount of \$500 per year

Must be a descendant of a veteran, student returning to the classroom, over 22 attending college for the 1st time, or 22 attending trade school

2018 Michigan Memorial Scholarship

A scholarship of \$500 to apply toward the expenses at any school, college, or other educational institution in the State of Michigan

Must be a descendant of a veteran and a resident of the State of Michigan

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION VISIT: www.michalaux.org/scholarships



DELEGATE APPLICATION

June 17- June 23, 2018 at MSU

www.michalaux.org



Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender* (circle one): F / M

* The ALA Girls State leadership development program is a weeklong 24/7 program for high school junior girls. Participation is limited to females, as evidenced by her birth certificate or a sworn statement signed by a licensed medical doctor.

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

School: _____ Legal inhabitant of U.S.? Yes ___ No ___

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Grade: _____

Name(s) of Parent/Guardian: _____

Parent/Guardian address: _____

Parent/Guardian Daytime/Evening phone number(s): _____

Please list or describe (attach additional pages if needed):

1. Applicant, please provide a brief bio of yourself, including
 - a. school activities
 - b. outside school interests/hobbies
 - c. awards received in school/community
 - d. work and/or volunteer experience

2. Is any family member currently serving in the military?
 - a. If so, who? _____
 - b. Relationship to applicant _____

3. Are you a direct descendant of a veteran: Yes ___ No ___
 - a. Relationship _____

4. Are you considering a military career? Yes ___ No ___

5. Have you, or do you plan to apply to any of the U.S. Military Academies? Yes ___ No ___

6. What are your future goals:

7. Why do you think you would be a good candidate to represent your community at ALA Girls State?

8. Do you know anyone who has attended ALA Girls State or TAL Boys State; if so, who?

9. Does anyone in your family belong to The American Legion or the American Legion Auxiliary; if so, what Post or Unit?

Section 2 – Applicant Eligibility Verification

Eligibility to participate in ALA Girls State

High school girls eligible to participate in the ALA Girls State/Girls Nation programs must have completed their Junior year of high school and have at least one semester of high school remaining, be a United States citizen or legal inhabitant of the United States as evidenced by a current and/or valid birth certificate, visa, passport, Green Card or other United States government-issued documentation verifying a legal presence in the United States for at least the duration of the ALA Girls State/Girls Nation program.

Applicant Health Information

I certify that a completed medical form (available at www.michalaux.org, click on Girls State) will be completed and turned in on registration day, and if one is not provided, she will not be allowed to take part in ALA Girls State.

Eligibility to participate in ALA Girls Nation

*For any girl to be eligible to take part in the **ALA Girls Nation** program, she must be able to clear a background check by the United States government, the White House and the U.S. Secret Service.*

Eligibility to Serve in an Elected Office

The purpose of the ALA Girls State program is to provide a nonpartisan participatory program that teaches eligible high school females responsible citizenship grounded in ethics, the principles of our nation's founders and respect for God and Country. For consistency among the 50 states presenting ALA Girls State programs, each program should conform to the structure of its corresponding state government as specified by its state constitution. ALA Girls Nation is modeled after the provisions in the United States Constitution.

Documentation Requirements

I attest that my daughter (ward) has a U.S. government-issued birth certificate or legal documentation of her legal presence in the United States provided by the U.S. government (e.g. visa, Green Card, passport).

We both certify that the answer to each question above is correct, and verify that we have read and understand the applicant eligibility requirements.

Applicant's Signature

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Dated:

RETURN THIS APPLICATION TO YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR OR SPONSOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

NOTE TO APPLICANTS: If you are chosen to attend ALA Girls State you will be responsible for paying a \$25 fee to register online with MSU. Your sponsor, who pays the reservation cost of \$350 for you to attend, will make sure you receive your delegate letter (needed in order to register with MSU), and a checklist that contains important information needed before registering and attending. Please retain a record of who your sponsor is, and their contact information so you stay in touch with them! **Students/Counselors/Parents:** If you have questions or need assistance in locating a sponsor, please contact Beryl Robbins at berylrobbins@comcast.net or Rysta Brown at rystab@hotmail.com.