

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FLORIDA GIRLS STATE GOVERNMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

You are about to take part in a program designed to build good citizenship and increase your knowledge of Government. You will learn about your state and local governments at Florida Girls State, but the knowledge you gain by completing this questionnaire will be an essential step to being successful during your time at Girls State.

You are encouraged to visit your local city and county officials, tell them you have been selected to be a citizen of Florida Girls State, and let them know that you wish to interview them about their position. Give them plenty of notice so that you have a better chance of fitting in with their busy schedule.

The Government Questionnaire attached has been designed to help you record the knowledge gained from the classes you have taken at school and the interviews you conduct with your local officials **PRIOR TO COMING TO GIRLS STATE.**

Completion of this questionnaire is mandatory. If you do not fully complete this questionnaire, you will not be able to register upon arrival at Girls State. You will submit this Government Questionnaire to your City Advisor in order to receive your voting credentials at Girls State. Please have this completed document in hand when you board the bus to Tallahassee.

GOVERNMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Name _____

Sponsoring Unit # _____ Address _____

Girls State Chairman _____

1. When and where will you register to vote? _____

CITY GOVERNMENT

2. Select two (2) city officials you are interested in and list the duties of the officials who hold these offices in your city or a city near you.

a) _____

b) _____

3. Explain the difference between a Council-Manager form of government and the Strong Mayor-Council form of government.

Council-Manager _____

Strong Mayor-Council _____

4. How are funds generated to conduct the business of a city? (Build or repair roads, maintain city parks, etc.) _____

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

5. What form of Government does your County have? _____

6. Select one of your County officials and interview him/her using the questions below.

Name of official interviewed: _____

A. What are the duties of their office? _____

B. What were their goals when they ran for office? _____

C. Have they accomplished these goals? _____

D. What advice would they give someone running for a public office? _____

7. Describe each of the Courts listed below:

A. County/Small Claims Court _____

B. Circuit Court _____

C. Federal Court _____

8. Explain the procedure for drafting a county budget. Where do the funds come from for the budget?

STATE GOVERNMENT

9. Explain the differences between "Bicameral" and a "Unicameral" Legislature and give an example of each:

10. How long is a Legislative Session? _____

11. Under what conditions can a Special Session be called? How often? _____

12. What is the term of office for each of the following:

Governor _____

Senator _____

Representative _____

Cabinet Member _____

13. Why are terms of each office limited? Do you agree or disagree with this limitation of terms?

14. Select an elected official at the state level and explain his/her term of office and major duties. What are the qualifications for this office? _____

15. How and for what reasons can an elected official be removed from office? _____

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

16. What Congressional District do you live in? _____

17. Name the two (2) United States Senators from your District:

a) _____

b) _____

18. Name all of the Representatives from your District:

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

g) _____

WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

19. Interview a woman in government, either elected or appointed. Interview questions might include the following, but should not be limited to:

A. Why did you choose this position? _____

B. Were concessions made during the campaign or selection process because you are a woman?

C. What advice can you give a young woman seeking a government position?

Please read the blue Legislative Organization and Procedure Handbook included in this packet and answer questions 20 through 31.

20. Name the elected and appointed positions in the Senate and the House of Representatives used by Florida Girls State in the State of Seminole. Give the duties of each.

21. Name the six (6) Legislative Committees:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

22. Who may attend a Committee meeting?

23. Who may speak in a Committee meeting?

24. Who may vote in a Committee meeting?

25. Explain the procedure for reading bills. What is the purpose of each reading?

26. Name and describe the forms an amendment may take.

27. What is the purpose of using Parliamentary Procedure in conducting a meeting?

28. Name the motions, which do not require a second.

29. Which motions are not debatable?

30. When can a motion interrupt a speaker?

31. Name the motions, which can be amended.

32. Write a motion you might make as a senator.

33. Define the following terms:

a) Previous Question: _____

b) Lay on Table: _____

c) Second: _____

34. Prepare a Bill (sample bill and form included in your Packet), a Joint Resolution, or a Memorial to be considered at Florida Girls State for the Legislative Session. This is a requirement to participate in Girls State!