



ALA FLORIDA GIRLS STATE is “Future Florida Women Strong”

American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Florida ALA Girls State Program Action Plan

2020-2021 Session

June 9th-17th

PURPOSE:

To provide a unique and coveted educational opportunity for young women to receive citizenship training through a weeklong hands-on program involving a mock city, county and state government.

QUALIFICATIONS: for ALA Girls State:

Applicants should have a strong interest in the study of government. Leadership, trust, honesty and good academic standings are important and desired. Applicants must be in their junior year of high school and returning to their high school for their senior year. They must be a resident of the state of Florida and be willing to take an oath of office on the bible (or the book of their faith) and salute the American flag.

FINANCIAL Information:

ALA Girls State Unit Registration Completed registration forms for the 2020 session of the Florida ALA Girls State Program are due to the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Florida no later than **January 31st, 2021**. The non-refundable registration fee is 400.00 per delegate. Should your delegate be unable to attend, an alternate will be sent in their place. Please note: Unit Quota amounts and fees cannot be included with the regular registration fees.



NOT INTERVIEW OR SELECT A DELEGATE UNTIL YOU RECEIVE A NUMBERED APPLICATION FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION FROM DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

ALA Girls State Over-Quota Unit Registration All quotas (rehabilitation, education, Girls State, and sock) must be paid to Department of Florida by **January 31st, 2021**. The over-quota registration fee is \$400.00. Please note: Unit obligations must be paid, and unit must be at charter strength (10 paid senior members) to register for ALA Girls State. Only units who have reached the 100% goal in membership by January 31, 2021 are entitled to apply for Over-Quota delegates. Quota amounts and fees cannot be included with regular registration fees.

DO NOT INTERVIEW OR SELECT A DELEGATE UNTIL YOU RECEIVE A NUMBERED APPLICATION FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION FROM DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.

*****Include the following expenses in your Unit Budget*****

1. Registration fee for the 2021 Session is \$400.00 per delegate (this fee includes two (2) polo shirts per delegate).
2. Transportation expenses are to be determined by the District ALA Girls State Chairman.
3. Any spending money for the delegates to be determined by the Unit.



SPECIAL FOCUS FOR ALA UNIT GIRLS STATE CHAIRMAN:

Recruiting:

1. Inform the school district and local schools about the ALA Girls State program including the benefits of the program and eligibility requirements. Distribute information and applications to schools. Check the Department ALA Girls State website for resources.
2. Enlist the help of the former ALA Girls State Citizens to recruit the candidates from their high schools.
3. Reach out to schools that have no active units in their communities. Include Magnet schools, private schools and home-schooled students.
4. If there are other units in your area, please check to see which schools they recruit from, so that you are not recruiting from the same schools

IMPORTANT DATES

First week in November 2020 Registration paperwork mailed to Units.

01/31/2021 Completed registration forms and registration fee (\$400.00 per delegate) MUST be received at Florida Department Headquarters. Check made out to ALA Dept. of Florida

01/31/2021 Deadline to qualify for over-quota delegate MUST be received in Department by deadline date.

03/15/2021 Delegates and alternates on-line registration MUST be completed at Department Headquarters.



05/03/2021 All Orientations MUST be completed.

*****District Orientation sign in sheets MUST be turned in to Department, 7 days after Orientation*****

ALA Girls State Application Process:

Units will mail the \$400.00 application fee for each delegate to Department. Unit will receive an instruction card for EACH delegate to complete the online application. The card will include the website address; a unique username and password for each approved delegate and alternate selectee for the Unit.

Unit is to send Delegate and Alternate name and contact information to Department Secretary upon selection. Once the online application is completed an email will be received by the Unit, so they are aware that the application has been completed. **There will be NO paper applications.**

Delegates and Alternates Registration:

Once again, this year the process for the delegates and alternates to register is being done on the new website. The paperwork that the delegates and alternates normally would bring with them to Girls State now will be uploaded to the website when they register. This will save time when loading onto the bus and checking in when they arrive in Tallahassee. The deadline for registration will be **Monday, March 15, 2021.** As the delegates and alternates register and complete the entire process, Department will let the unit know

Monday, May 3rd, 2021 Orientation completed - All delegates & alternates are required to attend a mandatory Orientation in their District or another scheduled Orientation. Parents and/or guardian must attend an Orientation for the girls to attend Girls State. (Check Orientation schedule for locations.) Call all delegates to confirm attendance and review travel arrangements. Confirm continued availability of all alternates. If a Delegate fails to attend the Orientation, that Delegate will be removed from the program and an Alternate who has attended the Orientation will be sent in her place.



The 75th session of the ALA Department of Florida Girls State is June 9th to June 17th, 2019. Staff Dates: The Staff starts arriving Friday, June 4th. Delegates. arrive June 9th, between 1:00 pm-3:00 pm.

REPORTING

Unit Chairman Mid-Year Report: If you sent your 2020 Year-End Report to your District Chairman, the only thing you would need to report is if you did any type of fundraising or promoting Girls State after that for the 2020-2021 Girls State. Otherwise no reports are needed, Reports Due **December 1, 2020**.

District Chairman Mid-Year Report: Good News, your 2019-2020 Year-End Report is now your Mid-Year, which I have already received. The only reporting that you might send to me is if Units had done anything as far as fundraisers or promoting Girls State. Those reports are due to me by **December 15, 2020**, so that I can add to my Mid-Year. This will be anything that was not reported in the 2020 Year End Report.

Unit Chairman Year-End Report: Must be completed and submitted to District Chairman due by **April 01, 2021**

District Chairman: Complete your District Year-End Report and mail to Department Chairman by **April 15, 2021**.



GIRLS STATE AWARD

Amelia M Reese Award:

A narrative is required by the Unit whose Girls State Citizen(s) participates in the Unit's overall programming upon returning from Girls State. All entries must be typed, using double-space. **See the ALA Department of Florida Unit Guide for complete rules.**

Narrative on the above activities must be double spaced. The Cover sheet must include Unit Number, Unit name, and Girls State chairman. All entries must be sent to Department Chairman 30 days prior to Convention.

ALA Unit Girls State Scholarship:

ALA Department of Florida Unit Girls State Scholarship Opportunity – The Cindy Burroughs Girls State Scholarship was established in 2009 in Memory of Cindy Burroughs to allow a Unit without the financial means necessary to apply to send girls to the ALA Florida Girls State Session.

2020-2021 ALA GIRLS STATE CHARIMAN additional resources:

Please see the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Florida website www.alafl.org under Girls State to access additional information about the Girls State Department Chairman Program. Also see the Unit Guide, The ALA National 2019-2021 Supplement to the Program Action Plan and the ALA National Girls State Program Operations Guide



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