

March 2014

To the High School Superintendent, Administrator, Principal, Head Teacher, Director, or Counselor:

The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Alaska is proud to announce the 46th annual session of Alaska Girls State, which will be held at the Salvation Army Kings Lake Center in Wasilla, Alaska on Sunday, June 1, 2014 through Saturday, June 7, 2014.

If you have not had the opportunity to work with the Girls State program, this is a very worthwhile program and a great opportunity for junior girls (going to be a senior) to participate in a weeklong session learning about city and state government, in a hands on manner. Please look at the national boys and girls state website to get some more incite on the program. This benefits the young men and woman for their senior government classes. Girls State is a work and study program in functional government AND NOT a forum for discussion of political Philosophies. Current issues are discussed in group sessions and during the legislative process. Each citizen is required to write at least one bill to go through the legislative process and required to run for one state office as we hold primary and general elections. Two citizens are chosen to attend Girls Nation in Washington DC during July.

We would appreciate it if you would assist us by forwarding this on to young ladies who are interested and/or excel in leadership, citizenship and government. For rural Alaska school districts and high schools, the Department American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State will pay for ~~transportation~~ and the sponsoring fee. The food and supplies are provided also.

We provide a shuttle van from the Anchorage airport and return the citizens to the airport Sunday morning for their return flight home. We do not want anyone to miss out on this once in a life time opportunity because of no funds.

A Girls State Citizen is one who accepts our traditional form of government and relates with other girls with a positive attitude getting to know each other on a one-to-one basis is one of the great values of Girls State. These facts will be stressed to the candidate at the time she is notified of her selection. Upon return from Girls State, The Girls State Citizen should share the beneficial results of her experience with her school and community, emphasizing the sense of civic responsibility, which is stressed at Girls State.

On behalf of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska, Alaska Girls State, I thank you very much for your cooperation.

ALASKA GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR
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Questions?

Call Lynn at 259-4049 if/when you need to

Why Attend the American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State.....

As a leader and active member of your student body we know there are many opportunities available to you, and lots of activities pulling at your time for the summer. Here are just a few reasons to spend a week with us. The 46th Annual American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State is June 1st- 7th, 2014 at the Salvation Army Kings Lake Camp in Wasilla, Alaska.

At Girls State you will meet and live with approximately 25-40 other outstanding young ladies from around Alaska. All participants are selected by the American Legion Auxiliary and are leaders in their own right and a willingness to learn. You will experience an unparalleled learning experience; have opportunities to challenge yourself as you never thought possible and leave with friendships and contacts that will last a lifetime. A diverse staff (volunteers) will lead you in fun, hands-on learning experiences that will give you a new appreciation for living as a citizen of Alaska and the United States.

You may be eligible for many scholarships including the Samsung Scholarship which is only available to Girl and Boys State delegates, who are a direct descendants, i.e. child, grandchild, great grandchild, etc. or a legally adopted child, of a U.S. wartime veteran who served on active duty during one or more of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion by the United States government: WW I -April 6, 1917 -November 11, 1918; WW II --December 7, 1941 -December 31, 1946; Korean War --June 25, 1950 -January 31, 1955; Vietnam War --February 28, 1961 -May 7, 1975; Lebanon and Grenada --August 24, 1982 -July 31, 1984; Panama --December 20, 1989 January 31, 1990 and Persian Gulf War --August 2, 1990 to cessation of hostilities as determined by the United States government. DD214 for the veteran must be with the application.

You will have the opportunity for a chance to attend the Girls Nation program, as an Alaskan Senator, July 18th-26th, 2014 in Chevy Chase, Maryland. As participation in Girls State is limited, attendance and completion of the program is prestigious. Selection for Girls Nation is based on participation in sessions, group interaction, etc. We select two citizens to attend this all expense paid opportunity.

As a Girls State citizen, you are entitled to participate in the University of Colorado on line college courses at a much discounted price. These are college Elective Leadership Credits, 3-credit Citizenship Course (LEAD 152): 1-credit College Options Course (LEAD 161). You must complete the full week of Girls State to be able to take advantage of this. Information for the on line college courses will be in your registration packet.

You will be held in high regard within your community and as you enter college or the workforce.

You never know when you will encounter someone who is a former Girl or Boys Citizens. Girls State has provided a valuable learning ground for hundreds of thousands of accomplished women. Whether you have long-term goals are in government or not, this experience is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity.

www.alaskagirlsstate.org

What You Will Do All Week?

From the moment you arrive at Kings Lake Camp for the week long event, you will be part of a community and an experience that often is described as "life-changing."

As stated above, Alaska Girls State provides young women the opportunity to learn about state government, citizenship and how they

can positively affect their communities by forming and running a mock

government, both city and state.

- Actualize government. Much of the week is spent creating a mock government in an exciting, fun way. To begin, all the citizens are divided

into two political parties, Nationalists and Federalists and then divided

into cities. Then there is the division between House and Senate.

You will learn by doing.

- Run for office. From the first day of Alaska Girls State and throughout

the week, citizens will develop city and state mock governments and each

citizen is required to run for a legislative office. You may also be

appointed to an office in all of these levels. As a candidate you will be

required to file a slip, give speeches, address true-to-life issues that

affect the level of office you are seeking and interact with your constituents.

- Become informed. As a part of actualizing government, one of the most important roles citizens can play are that of an informed voter.

Listening to speakers address issues and voting appropriately is a life skill

that will serve you well in all aspects of your future.

- Practice citizenship. Leadership skills will be honed as you cooperate

with other citizens to accomplish both serious and fun tasks.

- Listen and learn. Each day you spend time in assemblies listening to

and learning from distinguished speakers.

- Make friends. From the time you meet your roommates, to the closing

ceremonies, you will have the opportunity to make lifelong connections

with other young leaders from Tennessee.

- Talent Show. We encourage each citizen to partake in the talent show.

This can either be by you, with a group or a city. You may bring props,

musical instrument or whatever you need for your talent.

PLEASE KEEP IT APPROPRIATE!!!!

And of course there is the physical training each morning and chores after

meal.

What's In It for Me?

As staff and counselors, we firmly believe that this program is life-changing.

You will you experience cooperation among the citizens to build a working

government and make new friends from across Alaska. Attending the session

will entitle you to put Alaska Girls State on your college applications, job

applications, etc. It will also allow you to take advantage of the online college

leadership courses that are offered at a discounted price.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY ALASKA GIRLS STATE

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2013 Dept. of Alaska GIRLS STATE APPLICATION

DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2014

DATE _____ HIGH SCHOOL YOU ATTEND _____

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____
(street or box No.) (City) (Zip)

PHONE _____ Cell #: _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN _____ ADDRESS _____

ARE YOU A U.S. CITIZEN _____ ARE YOU A JUNIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL NOW _____

TO WHAT HIGH SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE YOU BELONGED? _____

OFFICES HELD IN THE ABOVE ORGANIZATIONS _____

LIST OTHER ACTIVITIES THAT YOU PARTICIPATE IN OUTSIDE SCHOOL _____

LIST HOBBIES AND/OR INTERESTS _____

CHURCH AFFILIATION OR PREFERENCE _____

HEALTH: HAVE YOU HAD MEDICAL TREATMENT IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS _____
REASON _____

DO YOU HAVE ALLERGIES? _____ ASTHMA? _____ HEART AILMENT? _____

SKIN DISEASE _____ VEGETARIAN? _____ OTHER _____ EXPLAIN PROBLEMS ON BACK

GIVE 2 PERSONAL REFERENCES (NOT RELATIVES) PHONE # AND ADDRESS:

SIGNATURE _____

On back explain briefly why you wish to attend Girls State