AMERICAN LEGION

AUXILIARY

Maryland Girls State

Fall Conference Packet

2027

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Maryland Girls State

ALA Maryland Girls State proudly presents Girls State 2027. Welcome to all of our Unit Chairs, District Reps, Counselors, and Sponsors. How can you help?
Join us and spread the word!

When: Sunday, June 20, 2027 – Friday, June 25, 2027

Where: Salisbury University, 1101 Camden Ave, Salisbury, MD 21801

Who: Rising Seniors in High School – Class of '28

What: ALA MD Girls State – Civic Leadership Program

Why: Because our future depends on it!

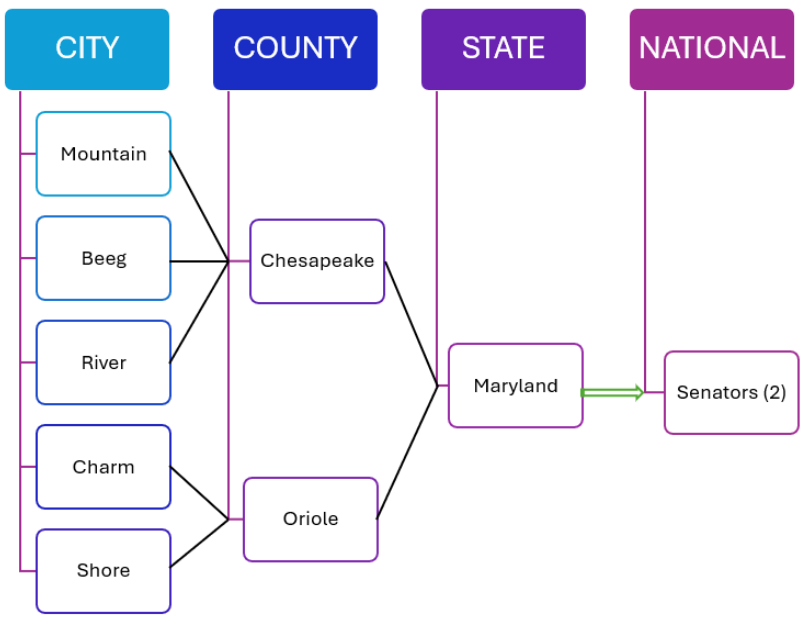
How: By supporters and sponsors like you!

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF GIRLS STATE

For those of you who are new to the Girls State Program in any capacity, the quick and easy definition is that Girls State is a widely and highly regarded civic and leadership program offered to rising seniors only.

The young ladies join the program and on day one of the six-day program become sworn in as citizens of Girls State. From this point on, they mock a "state environment" of 5 cities and two counties with different forms of government and different issues.



They mock elections at each level of government, campaigning, defending bills, participating in a mock trial and wrapping up the week with a talent show, a graduation, an elected Governor and two Senators who will represent Maryland at ALA Girls Nation in July.

We ask that the units sponsor these capable young ladies at a cost of $345 ($300 from the sponsoring unit and $45 registration fee from the applicant). Please include this in your budget! This fee will provide room, board and meals for the duration of the program.

Our sponsors are a key component for the success of this program. You help us recruit, sponsor and fundraise, even collecting change for the Cash Challenge!

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2027

WHEN: June 20 - June 25, 2027

WHERE: Salisbury University Salisbury, MD

COST TO SPONSORING UNIT: $300

COST TO APPLICANT: $45 registration fee

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 1, 2027

APPLICATION WEBSITE: mdboysgirlsstate.org

APPLICATION PORTAL WILL OPEN IN NOVEMBER!!

GIRLS STATE VIP

What is a Girls State VIP? You are! A District Representative, a Unit Chairman, a Girls State Ambassador, anyone who advocates for this amazing program. You're a Girls State POC for your unit or your district. Where do you begin?

- Get to know the program. You have the date, time and place, and the summary.
- Familiarize yourself with the high schools in your area! Try https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of high schools in Maryland.
- Don't forget to reach out to your junior members, private schools and homeschoolers, neighbors, relatives, parents/guardians or grandparents who may have a junior in high school.
- Contact your Girls State District Representative and let her know that you are the POC for your unit. The directors, committee members and district representatives are pictured and named in this packet. Your committee is here for you.
- Email: ***alamdgs@gmail.com*** and let your district rep know which schools you will be visiting so there is no overlap with another unit.
- Try phoning and emailing the schools in your area to schedule a visit with the counselor(s), government/history teacher(s), or JROTC instructor. A brief meeting will allow you to introduce this scholastically recognized leadership program to their school. The application portal will open in November and remain open until May 1.

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- Leave the Girls State recruitment poster (included in this packet) as well as your Unit Contact Card with your area schools, community organizations and associations.
- Beginning in March 2027, review the weekly report for applicants in your area or attending one of the schools you visited. If there is anyone of interest, **let us know** if you'd like to make contact and conduct an interview.
- PLEASE DO NOT REACH OUT FOR INTERVIEWS WITHOUT LETTING US KNOW AT ALAMDGS@GMAIL.COM THAT YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE CONTACT. We try to avoid multiple units pursuing the same student and the confusion that it may bring.
- Once **approved by you for sponsorship**, collect the registration fee and ensure your applicant goes back to her application online to enter your unit's name and # and to select her mandatory orientation type if she hasn't already.
- Close the loop and let the applicant know "she's in!"
- Submit your remittance to Department HQ (the address is on the remittance sheet).
- Stay tuned to bulletins for upcoming VIP meetings/live Q&As and tips on staying in communication with your Girls State Citizen.
- We'll share information about our Alumni Ambassador Program, the Samsung Scholarship, the McDaniel College credit offered to our Girls State citizens, fundraising and sponsorship opportunities, staff recruitment efforts and descriptions of duties, and any other new info on the horizon!
- We hope you'll consider attending an orientation. It is enlightening and informative.
- We also invite you to join us for the Girls State Talent Night and/or Graduation Ceremony.
- Tax Collection and Cash Challenge can start now! All GS citizens and staff are asked to participate. Units can provide collected items to their sponsored citizen(s) to bring to Girls State or arrange pick up/drop off to ALA MD Girls State:
  - *City Tax - Non-Perishable Food Item*
  - *County Tax - Operation "Sock It To 'Em" - Pairs of Socks*
  - *State Tax - $0.25 for each pair of shoes citizens bring to wear at GS*
  - *Property Tax - First Class US Stamp*
  - *Cash Challenge - Spare Change*
- Thank you for all you do!!!!

ALA MD Girls State Committee & District Reps



Brianna Jackson
Director
&
District 3 Rep



Robyn Anzulis
1st Vice Director
&
District 8 Rep



Kristen Barry
2nd Vice Director



Rusty Beeg
Committe Member
&
District 5 Rep



Rocky Berry
Committe Member
&
District 6 Rep



Jaye Cooper
Committe Member



Kyrese Johnson
Committe Member



Stephanie Maceiko
Committe Member



Bree Yotko
Committe Member



Joanne Danchik
District 1 Rep



Paula Leeper
District 2 Rep



Paulette Dorsey
District 4 Rep



Paula May
District 7 Rep

PROGRAM ITEMS SPONSORSHIP TIMELINE

Oct 9 -11 Fall Conference
Sign up begins to Sponsor Program Items
Kick off online donation offers for specific program items

January 15
Push for unsponsored items
MD Girls State to provide list of remaining items and encourage final contributions

March 1
Deadline to sponsor specific items
Final drafts and ordering begins

June 20 - 25
ALA MD Girls State
Thank supporters during session and included in the ALA MD GS Program Book



SIGN UP TO SPONSOR

ALA MD GIRLS STATE WISHLIST

Printed Materials

8' x 8' Backdrop (Photo Prop)
Est Cost: $300

Feather Flags (2)
Est Cost: $100

Table Cloths/Runners (5)
Est Cost: $200 for all 5

Podium Cover or Desk Podium
Est Cost: $ TBD

Program Materials & Give-aways
**200 Attendees (Includes Staff)*

Tote Bags*
Est Cost: $1500

Pocket Notebook/Pen*
Est Cost: $60

Hand Sanitizer*
Est Cost: $150

Mints
Est Cost: $40

Cooling towels*
Est Cost: $130

Highlighter*
Est Cost: $40

Pocket Tissue*
Est Cost: $50

Red/Green Pom Poms (160 of each color)
Est Cost: $160

History of GS Exhibit Showcase

Photo Prints
Display Items
Est Cost: $TBD

Logistics

Transportation of Program and Store Inventory (Penske Rental or Volunteer Transport)
Est Cost: $TBD

Garment Rolling Bars (3)
Est Cost: $45

Refreshment Stations (4)

Individually wrapped item and Water/Juice
$100 per station

Technology

Kahoot! (Educational Training App)
$25

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SPONSORING UNIT TUITION REMITTANCE SHEET

THIS FORM IS **REQUIRED** WITH ANY SPONSORED APPLICANT
Unit President or GS Unit Chair to complete the information below and mail to arrive at the Department office by **May 15, 2027.**

_____Unit# _____ of District _____is sponsoring:

(applicant name) _____@ $345

(applicant name) _____@ $345

(applicant name) _____@ $345

(applicant name) _____@ $345

(applicant name) _____@ $345

to attend ALA Maryland Girls State 2027 for a total of $ _____

Date Unit notified applicant(s) of sponsorship: _____

Method: Phone Email Other _____

SPONSORING UNIT PLEASE NOTE: May 31st is the deadline to send a written request for refund to the Department office for cancellations and no shows of selected applicants who fail to attend a mandatory orientation.

$345 per applicant *($300 + $45 registration)*

☐ CHECK - payable to: ALA, Department of Maryland, Inc. Send to: 1589 Sulphur Spring Rd., Suite 105, Baltimore, MD 21227

Unit Chairman or Unit President:

Name _____ Phone No. _____

For Office Use Only

Date Received: _____ Tuition Check#: _____Transmittal# _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Maryland Girls State

June 20 - 25, 2027
at Salisbury University

Who Can Apply:

- Female 2026 - 2027 HS Junior
- At least 1 semester remaining in senior year

Benefits:

- Leadership
- Americanism & Patriotism
- Hands-on Experience
- Public Speaking
- Scholarship

Contact Us:

- TO APPLY: mdboysgirlsstate.org
- EMAIL: alamdgs@gmail.com
- Facebook - alamdgs
- Instagram - alamdgs

Apply Now

SCAN ME



Application Deadline:
May 1, 2027

ALA MD Girls State

Use the QR code below to obtain the District Rep and Unit Chair Playbook

SCAN Here

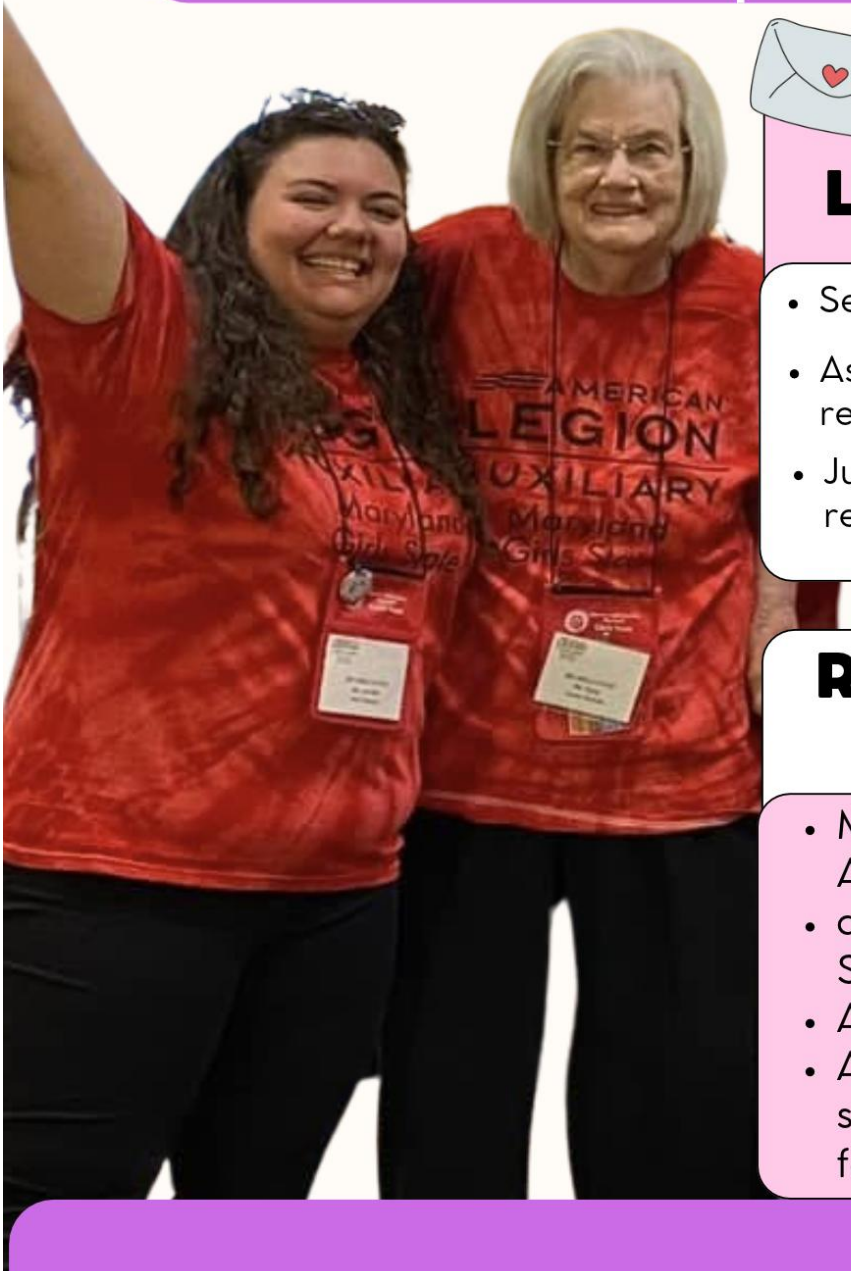
www.mdboysgirlsstate.org



BECOME AN ALA MD GIRLS STATE STAFF MEMBER

SAT., JUNE 19TH THRU FRI., JUNE 26TH

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY
1101 CAMDEN AVE
SALISBURY, MD 21801



WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- Senior Counselors - Aged 21+
- Assistant Counselors - 2+ years removed from attending
- Junior Counselors - 1 year removed from attending

Requirements to Serve:

- Must be a member of the American Legion Family OR
- a graduate of any ALA Girls State program.
- Attend the full week
- Attend the mandatory pre-session training scheduled for early June via Zoom

mdboysgirlsstate.org

alamdgs@gmail.com

ALA MD Girls State

Unit to Unit Advice

1

DISTRIBUTE INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY

Determine how local high schools distribute information to students (counselors, website, etc.) and distribute the Girls State flyers using that platform. Recommend also contacting JROTC units at high schools.

2

INTERVIEW PROSPECTIVE CITIZENS

As you reach out to prospective citizens for sponsorship, be sure to interview them (about 30 min.). Suggested topics: Their interest in Girls State; Their goals; Current knowledge of government.

3

FOCUS ON MOTIVATION, NOT PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

Note that the best Girls State citizens are not necessarily the ones who come in knowing the most about government—but they come to the program motivated to learn.

4

HIGHLIGHT OPPORTUNITIES AT GIRLS STATE AND BEYOND

Highlight important opportunities at Girls State and beyond: Different ways to participate at Girls State (they will receive lots of information about this in their orientation); Samsung scholarship; Girls Nation; Other TAL and ALA programs and scholarships.

5

EMPHASIZE FULL WEEK AND ORIENTATION

Ensure prospective citizens are aware that they must be present for the FULL week of ALAMDGS and that they must complete an orientation.

6

FOLLOW UP BEFORE THE PROGRAM

If possible, reach out to the prospective citizens 1–2 weeks prior to the start of the program to ensure they are clear on requirements, have travel arranged, etc.

7

DEBRIEF AFTER GIRLS STATE

Be sure to let the citizens know of a date to attend your Auxiliary meeting and debrief on a their experience after Girls State.

CHAIR'S NAME: _____

ALA UNIT NAME: _____

UNIT #: _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY Maryland Girls State

_____

_____

mdboysgirlsstate.org

*If you have not received confirmation of selection by April 1st, please contact your unit chair at the number or email above.

CHAIR'S NAME: _____

ALA UNIT NAME: _____

UNIT #: _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY Maryland Girls State

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mdboysgirlsstate.org

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ALA MD

Girls State

MANDATORY ORIENTATIONS

Get informed. Be prepared. Make Girls State amazing!

ORIENTATION SCHEDULE – FOUR OPTIONS

1. **Saturday, April 3, 2027,**
   at Dorchester Unit 91 at 2pm - 4pm
   (East)

2. **Saturday, April 10, 2027,**
   at Gold Star Unit 191 at 2pm - 4pm
   (North/West)

3. **Sunday, April 11, 2027,**
   at Laurel Unit 60 at 2pm - 4pm
   (Central/South)

4. **Online Webinar —**
   Saturday, April 24, 2027, at 2pm - 4pm

If you are unable to attend any of the orientations above, you must email alamdgs@gmail.com to request an accommodation by May 1, 2027.

MANDATORY ATTENDANCE

Mandatory attendance at an orientation for citizens and at least one parent/guardian.

OPTIONAL ATTENDANCE

Optional attendance, but highly encouraged for ALA MD Girls State staff, District Reps, Unit Chairs, and our American Legion family and supporters.