



American Legion Auxiliary  
Arizona  
**Girls State**

Dear Unit Girls State Chairmen and Schools without Unit Participation,

If you are no longer the Unit Chairman, would you please make sure the proper person receives this information. I have had contact with some of you already and this letter is a follow up.

We thank you for your patience as we transition from personal to virtual Girls State. Last year we had everything in place for personal Girls State as we had done in the past and just converted to virtual. This year we are starting off virtual and forms and documents needed to be changed and current to the program we are now presenting.

Arizona was one of 3 Departments that held a week long session. Some Departments held a one day event. Last year we were able to elect a Governor and Secretary of State and have recommendation for Junior Counselors that can help us this year. The foundation for Girls State is in place and with addition of what was learned from last year's session, we have made the necessary changes for this year.

Some of you may be wondering why virtual? After many discussions and shared thoughts, we settled on going virtual again this year because there are still many variables within the requirements of holding activities, numbers that can be involved and most of all safety of all participating. The cost of insurance was also another definite factor. We could not continue to wait to make plans and get involvement from schools.

Girls State will be held virtually from June 6-12. The hours will be 9 to 1 each day. The extra time will open up more means for personal interactions. The cost will be \$100 per delegate and Units will be billed only for the girls completing the program. This will avoid sending refunds to Units and paying for anyone (No Show) not attending. Since the cost is \$100, we ask that this be a goodwill gift from your Unit to the delegates attending.

Attached you will find the Units assigned to you and the number of delegates they may have. Numbers were decreased this year for many schools in order to stay with the best way to have everyone participate virtually. You will also find attached information that used to be in the brochure and goes out to schools and delegates with general purpose of the program updated.

What we need for you to do now is to contact each of your schools and find out who is in charge of the Girls State program. We need name, email address and a phone number in order to send information to the right person. Please email me all the information by March 1<sup>st</sup>. I sent most of the information by email last year so this will not be new to some of them.

School District policy determines if schools are now virtual, personal or some form of hybrid. This means most of your communication will be through email or by phone message. Some of your contacts will remain the same and others may have changed. Since we cannot get into schools and counselors do not have personal contact with many of the students, the usual hard white card, needing a notary signature will be extremely hard to obtain, so a different application form will be sent to schools. Schools will be sending me the information on delegates selected. In the past you have been responsible for all signed papers, forms, picture and other information that will not be possible to obtain this year. All information will come to me, we will put it in the data base and then we will get in touch with delegates for all the required information by google docs.

We are still working on all the information that will go out to the schools as soon as we receive the names from you. Please remember we have set a March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for those names and email information to be back to me.

Thank you for your belief in the Girls State program and for your dedicated time and effort. Please know it definitely makes a difference in the lives we touch.

We are looking forward to receiving names and hearing from each of you. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me by email or phone. We want to make sure you have all the information needed this year and how it will work for you.

Thank You so very much!

Penny Maklary...Director  
[ahhpenny@aol.com](mailto:ahhpenny@aol.com) or [alaazgirlsstate@gmail.com](mailto:alaazgirlsstate@gmail.com)  
520-364-5038

**NEEDED**

Unit Name and Number  
Your Name-Email-Phone Number

Each School  
Name-Person in Charge-Email and Phone