



American Legion Auxiliary  
Arizona  
**Girls State**

**June 6-12, 2021**

**A Virtual Session**  
[www.azgirlsstate.com](http://www.azgirlsstate.com)

**American Legion Auxiliary**  
**Department of Arizona**  
*Patricia Lugo*  
*President*

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**  
**ARIZONA GIRLS STATE COMMITTEE**

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## **PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE**

Girls State is a citizenship education program **privately sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona** open to junior girls in high school. The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program is a nonpartisan participatory program that teaches eligible high school females responsible citizenship. It educates young women on the privileges, rights and duties of American citizenship in order to grasp an understanding of the responsibilities they will assume as adults. Girls State is a positive and tangible program in Americanism.

American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State was established by the American Legion Auxiliary in 1947, and is an annual program designed as a practical experience in self-government, based on Arizona State Government. Girls State is non-partisan and non-political, in that no existing party is promoted.

The purpose of American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State is threefold:

- \*\*\* To emphasize the importance of government in modern life.
- \*\*\* To educate young women in the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.
- \*\*\* To awaken a sincere conviction that a well-informed, intelligent, participating citizenry is vitally needed to protect and preserve our American institutions and our democracy.

These goals are achieved by actual participation in a simulation of the political and governmental process.

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State is designed so that each citizen may participate in the programs electoral process, have an opportunity to hold public office and be encouraged to share in the formulation of public policy within the program. Each citizen can be a definite and integral part in the function of American Legion Auxiliary Girls State and will have an opportunity of learning for herself that government is what she makes of it. It is the hope that American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State citizens will complete the program with a mature appreciation for the basic strengths and weaknesses of the American system of government. It is further hoped that these young women will have a firm resolution to make government an effective and responsible servant of the people, and that as citizens, they will exercise the many rights accorded them.

It is an honor and privilege not a **right** to be selected to attend Arizona Girls State. **A girl selected has the right to decline the invitation if uncomfortable with requirements and objectives/observances of the program. A girl is not forced to attend this Auxiliary program and attends with the full knowledge of what will be expected of her as a delegate.**

## **PERSONNEL AND SUPERVISION**

The 2021 American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State program will represent 172 high schools in Arizona. The girls will act as self-governed citizens with adult supervision during the full period of Arizona Girls State. Arizona Girls State personnel are in attendance throughout all virtual sessions. Capable women and counselors will supervise and instruct the delegates in all aspects of the program.

## **SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

### **Eligibility**

Although Arizona Girls State is a program privately sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, eligibility to attend is not confined to daughters or relatives of The American Legion family, military dependents or former alumnae.

**A girl in the junior class of high school that meets the necessary qualifications and requirements is eligible TO BE CONSIDERED for a citizen of Arizona Girls State.**

## Qualification Requirements

The basic qualifications for Arizona Girls State selection are leadership, scholarship and community service. Selection should also be based on character and excellence in leadership, scholarship or extra-curricular activities and achievements.

- \*\*\* A junior (11th grade) who will complete her senior year of high school and have at least one semester of high school remaining.
- \*\*\* May not have participated in a previous session of American Legion Auxiliary Girls State.
- \*\*\* Must be able to participate fully in all phases of the program.
- \*\*\* Must remain for the entire session including the awards ceremony on Saturday morning.
- \*\*\* Should indicate an interest in government; be cooperative and have the ability to follow directives and established rule. Must attend an online orientation
- \*\*\* **Required to report to her sponsoring Unit in writing or in person after attending.**

Since American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State is a privately funded/sponsored program receiving **NO** government funds, we participate in flag education and show respect for non-denominational activity/prayer. If a girl has a problem with these requests, maybe this is not the program for her.

**The Board of Directors of American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State may accept or reject any application for Girls State participation.**

## Activities

Upon registration each Delegate is a Citizen assigned to a mythical City, County and Political Party. There are 3 Counties, each composed of 2 Cities.

The Citizens are instructed in the duties of various public offices, and learn the function of each office, its powers and limitation, including the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches. The citizens then nominate and elect the various City, County and State officials from their peers. It is learning by doing. Arizona Girls State conforms to the structure of state government as specified by Arizona's State Constitution.

Campaigning, Talent Show, Community Service and Blogging are some of the scheduled activities.

## **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY GIRLS NATION**

Climaxing the Arizona Girls State program is American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation. Arizona elects two Citizens to attend this program on the Federal government process. It is held in July.

## **REGISTRATION FEE**

The fee is \$100 from the sponsoring Unit, school or contributor. This fee includes 1 shirt and educational materials, certificate and pin and anything else necessary to conduct the program.

NO ONE on staff receives any compensation from this fee. Selected application material is to be sent to Unit Sponsor or Penny Maklary, Director of Arizona Girls State before **deadline**. Registrations received after deadline may be placed on a waiting list. Alternates are used as delegate replacements when necessary and are vital to the program. Sponsoring Units, schools or contributors will be billed for the registration fee after attendance.

## **SAMSUNG SCHOLARSHIP**

Samsung Scholarship is only available to those girls attending Girls State and qualified.

Samsung Scholarship information:

[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)