

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
GEORGIA GIRLS STATE
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, STATESBORO, GEORGIA**

INFORMATION FOR UNITS: June 11 – 16, 2017

WEB: More information is available at www.georgiagirlsstate.org, please refer to it for more information and necessary forms.

SPONSORSHIP:

- Girls will be accepted for enrollment when sponsored directly by a unit of the American Legion Auxiliary or approved by a unit for sponsorship by another organization.
- Every unit of the American Legion Auxiliary in Georgia is urged to sponsor one or more citizens.
- It is expected that most of the citizens will be sponsored by units. However, sponsorship of some citizens by civic, fraternal, and patriotic organizations is highly encouraged, provided the citizens are enrolled through a local unit.
- Any organization wishing to sponsor one or more citizens should contact the president or Girls State Chairman of the unit.
- Likewise, units are encouraged to contact community organizations most likely to sponsor a citizen.
- **The fee shall not be paid by citizens, parents or any family member of a citizen.**
- All organizations paying citizens' registration fees will be listed as sponsors, and they will receive recognition for full participation in the program.
- All citizens sponsored by organizations other than units will be selected in the same manner as those sponsored by Auxiliary units.
- Enrollment is limited. Therefore, Auxiliary units and other organizations desiring to sponsor citizens should make plans early to do so, sending fees at the earliest convenient date.

SELECTION OF GIRLS:

- It is recommended that selection of girls be made by a committee, consisting of the high school principal or counselor, unit president and the Girls State chairman, in addition to the head of any other organization sponsoring the citizens.
- Girls State is intended for the most outstanding girls, from the standpoint of leadership, character, and scholarship in the high schools.
- Only those girls who will enthusiastically devote their **FULL TIME** to increasing their knowledge, while at the same time advancing the whole Girls State Program, should be chosen.

REGISTRATION FEES:

- **The registration fee of \$275.00 is to be paid to the Department by April 20, 2017.**
- **APPLICATIONS, completed MEDICAL History/ Consent form/Parent Waiver** are due by **May 10, 2017** to the Director. Call the director if the unit has a late payment or late application.
- **The fee does Not Include Spending Money.**
- Substitutions (Alternates) accepted up to the last minute with appropriate approval from the Director.
- There will be NO refunds on Girls State Registration Fees.
- If you need a substitute (alternate), contact the Director.

INFORMATION PACKETS:

- **Once the girls' applications have been received, an information packet will be mailed to each girl.**
- This Packet Includes Very Urgent Information, complete instructions on rules and regulations, general information, what to bring from home and other facts citizens should know before leaving home for Girls

State; Georgia Southern Waiver, Key Agreement, Scholarship Information and the Girls State Pledge. It also contains information about writing a bill. The packets may be downloaded from the Girls State website at <http://www.georgiagirlsstate.org/forms.htm>. (These Must Be Turned In During Registration On Sunday.)

- Do Not Delay in sending in their applications. Delays cause girls representing your unit to start the week behind.
- The forms must be filled out in a timely manner.
- The Girls may submit a bill for debate. Girls will need adequate time for preparation of their bill.
- If the girls have not received their Packet by May 15th, at the latest, Please Contact us at the numbers or the Email Addresses listed below.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE:

- Citizens must report to Kennedy Hall (191 Knight Drive Statesboro, GA) on the campus of Georgia Southern University between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 11 and they will depart on Friday, June 16 at 1:00 PM.
- **LUNCH will Not** be provided on **Sunday**; arrangements must be made prior to arriving at Girls State.
- **Once the citizen has registered, they are not allowed to leave to eat lunch. Make sure the citizens have eaten before arriving on campus.**
- Inauguration and Graduation is held at The Nessmith Lane Theater (847 Plant Drive, Statesboro, GA) June 16, 2017 at 8:45 AM. Doors open for guests at 8:15.
- The sponsoring American Legion Auxiliary Unit is responsible for arranging transportation to Girls State and back home. Some units require parents to provide transportation.

ORIENTATION

- Have an orientation or have the girls attend a district or another unit's orientation!

GIRLS STATE STORE:

- Girls are allowed to shop during free time. We have Girls State items available for purchase. The girls will want to bring money from home to buy Girls State items and snacks.

WITHDRAWALS:

- If a girl notifies you they will be unable to attend, notify the Director, Deedy Harrell at the email or cell phone listed below ASAP. Notifications are encouraged through Sunday, June 11, 2017, 5:00PM. We call all girls who do not show for safety reasons; this will prevent unnecessary calls to parents.

GIRLS NATION:

- Two outstanding citizens of the American Legion Auxiliary Georgia Girls State session will be selected by delegates and staff to attend Girls Nation.
- The Girls Nation session will be held at the National 4-H Center, Chevy Chase, MD, July 22– 29, 2017.
- All expenses of the two citizens will be paid from the Girls State Fund.

ADDRESS ALL INQUIRIES AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE TO:

- The Director, Deedy Harrell, 800 10th Avenue, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169, 770-337-7997 (Cell Phone: Call or Text) or email at georgiagirlsstate@gmail.com Or the Assistant Director, Gabriele Barnett At: Cell 706-951-3906 (call or text) or email: barnettgabriele@hotmail.com