

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Massachusetts
Sponsor of: Massachusetts Girls State**

2022 Program Registration Packet

DATES: JUNE 11th - JUNE 17th 2022

LOCATION: STONEHILL COLLEGE, EASTON MA

Please send only the pages marked "TO DIRECTOR" to:

**Andrea Pelletier
Director Massachusetts Girls State
PO BOX 128
Wilbraham MA 01095
OR
director.massgirlsstate@gmail.com**

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT REGISTRATION: MAY 14, 2022



GENERAL INFORMATION FORM

Please type or write clearly!

Legal Name: _____
Last First Middle Initial

Preferred Name for Name Badge: _____

Preferred Pronouns: _____ Age: _____

Home Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Personal Email (not school): _____
*they block us **(PLEASE CHECK REGULARLY)**

Emergency Contact Info: _____
Name Relation to student Daytime phone number

Name of School: _____

Name of Sponsoring Organization: _____
(Ex: American Legion Post 275, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 430, Wilbraham Monson Academy, Lions Clubs)

Preferred T-shirt Size: S M L XL XXL
(This will be the shirt you are required to wear during the week, choose accordingly.)

TO DIRECTOR

Massachusetts Girls State Questionnaire

1. Girls State will be held from June 11th - June 17th 2022. Once you have signed in, you are not permitted to leave campus, will this be a problem? Please explain.
2. If chosen for Girls Nation, you must provide legal inhabitant documentation (see page 9) signed by your parent/guardian. Will this be a problem? Please explain.
3. As the American Legion Auxiliary is the largest patriotic women's organization, it is required that flag etiquette be adhered to. Will this requirement be a problem for you? If yes, please explain.
4. As part of the American Legion Auxiliary's mission statement, we believe in "God and Country." Will you be respectful of this belief?
5. Do you have any relatives that are veterans or currently serving in our military?
6. Are you a member of ROTC? Would you like to participate in our Flag Day Ceremony? (If yes to any, please bring your uniform)
7. Our food is provided by the college cafeteria, do you have any dietary restrictions? If yes, please explain.
8. You will be sharing your living space with 1-3 roommates in a closely knit community of about 30 citizens. Will you be respectful of the variety of differences throughout your Girls State community?
9. What are your expectations for your week at Girls State?
10. Are you willing to involve yourself in this week, to the best of your abilities, in order to take advantage of this program?

Signature of Citizen

Parent/Guardian Signature

TO DIRECTOR



Girls State Pledge

As a citizen of Massachusetts Girls State, a program of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Massachusetts, I voluntarily make the following pledge for God and Country, and Massachusetts Girls State:

- I pledge to follow all the rules of Massachusetts Girls State. (These rules can be found on the website.)
- I will obey the code of conduct for Stonehill College.
- I will be present for the **ENTIRE WEEK** of Massachusetts Girls State.
- I will obey the **NO SMOKING, NO DRINKING, NO DRUG** policies of both Massachusetts Girls State and Stonehill College.
- I will take an active part in the activities of the program and will take a serious and conscientious interest in fulfilling my responsibilities as a “citizen” of Massachusetts Girls State in any capacity in which I may be privileged to serve.
- I understand that this is an Americanism program of the American Legion Auxiliary and that it is a study of city, town, and state government as well as good citizenship.
- I will respect the judgement and authority of the Massachusetts Girls State staff, and those responsible for this program.
- I will participate in all patriotic and flag ceremonies.
- I will be fair, honest, and cooperative in all my dealing with my fellow citizens.
- I will make a report (written or oral) for my sponsor(s) and to my high school to tell of my experience at Massachusetts Girls State.

After Massachusetts Girls State is over, it is my duty to constantly put into practice the principles of good citizenship and patriotism, which I have learned and experienced.

I have read and understand the above statements:

Signature of Girls State Citizen

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

TO DIRECTOR

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS:
MASSACHUSETTS GIRLS STATE CONSENT AND WAIVER

The following **must** be signed by a PARENT/GUARDIAN and mailed to the DIRECTOR with your registration packet by the deadline. **This is mandatory; citizens will not be allowed at the program unless the waiver and consent is signed and returned BEFORE the program.**

This certifies that I, _____, am the legal parent/guardian of _____, who will be attending the Massachusetts Girls State program and is under the age of 18. They will be _____ years of age at the start of the program.

I understand and confirm that participation in the ALA Massachusetts Girls State program is voluntary, and hereby consent and grant permission for the above mentioned minor to participate in all activities in conjunction with this program. I further understand that my child's participation may involve risk of injury and loss, both to person and to property. On behalf of my child, I assume all risks in any way connected with said participation and I accept personal responsibility for any liability, injury, loss, or damage, in any way connected with said participation.

This will further certify that I, the undersigned, in consideration of the benefits and opportunities derived by my child, who is a participant in the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Massachusetts' Girls State program, (which will be held in Easton, Massachusetts on the campus of Stonehill College between the dates of June 11th 2022, through June 17th 2022) do hereby release and discharge the American Legion Auxiliary and Stonehill College, along with their officers, agents, staff, and volunteers from any and all claims, demands, suits, and courses of action which may result in illness, injury, or accident incurred or suffered by my child while in attendance of the program, or traveling to and from the program, no matter how it was caused or occasioned.

I understand and acknowledge that neither basic accident and health insurance, or personal property insurance will be offered or provided by the American Legion Auxiliary in connection with ALA Massachusetts Girls State, and that the provision of such insurance is my/our own personal responsibility.

I do hereby certify that the information provided in this form is true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge.

Signature: _____

Dated this _____ day of _____ 2022.

INSURANCE INFORMATION

Name of medical insurance carrier: _____

Policy or certificate number: _____

Name to whom the policy was issued: _____

TO DIRECTOR



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS GIRLS STATE**

*****MEDICAL CERTIFICATE*****

Name: _____
(Name of Girls State Citizen)

Address: _____
(Street, City/Town, State, Zip)

Date of Birth: _____
(mo/day/yr)

Current State of Health: (Include any existing medical conditions (including allergies) or prescription medications)

I certify that I have examined the student named above and that they are in good health.

Date of examination (must be no more than 1 year prior to program):

(Name of Physician)

(Physician Signature)

(Date)

****IF PHYSICIAN IS UNAVAILABLE, PLEASE PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION OF LATEST PHYSICAL EXAMINATION WITHIN ONE YEAR OF PROGRAM****

TO DIRECTOR



**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Girls State**

Policy on ALA Massachusetts Girls State Social Networking and Media Use

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Massachusetts recognizes and supports its ALA Girls State participant's right to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of online social networks. In this context, however, each delegate must remember that participating in the ALA Massachusetts Girls State program is a privilege, not a right. As a delegate, you represent the American Legion Auxiliary, and you are expected to portray yourself, the American Legion Auxiliary, and your school in a positive manner at all times. Any and all online postings must therefore be consistent with local and state laws, Stonehill College rules, and ALA Girls State rules, regulations and policies. (including guidelines below)

Guidelines:

If you participate on a social media networking site, or use social media, you must keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Everything you post is public information - any text or photo you post is out of your control the second you post it - even if you limit access to your site. Information (including pictures, videos, comments, or posts) may be accessible even after you remove it.
- Think before you post. If you are angry or passionate about a subject, it is wise to delay posting until you are calm and clear-headed. Post only pictures and comments that you would feel comfortable sharing with the public.
- Use caution when adding someone or inviting someone to be a friend. (This includes American Legion Massachusetts Boys State citizens.)
- Limit information about your whereabouts and plans in order to minimize the potential for being stalked, assaulted, or the victim of other criminal activity. Post about where you have been, not where you are going.
- What you post may affect your future. Many college admissions officers, and potential employers review social networking sites as part of their overall evaluation of an applicant. Carefully consider how you want people to perceive you, before you give them a chance to misinterpret your information. (including pictures, videos, comments, and posts)
- Similar to comments made in person, you should be respectful online. The American Legion Auxiliary will not tolerate disrespectful comments and behavior online, such as:
 - Derogatory or defamatory language and or images;
 - Comments that create a serious danger to the safety of another person or that constitute a credible threat of serious physical or emotional harm to another person.
- Take the high ground; Don't pick, or engage in, fights online.
- Respect yourself, respect others, and respect the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program.

Policy on ALA Massachusetts Girls State Social Networking and Media Use

Monitoring and Consequences:

The American Legion Auxiliary reserves the right to have ALA Girls State staff members review and/or monitor delegate's social networking sites and postings. Any violation of law or of Stonehill College or the American Legion Auxiliary Massachusetts Girls State's regulations and policies, or evidence of such violation in your online content is subject to investigation and possible immediate censure by the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State staff and/or law enforcement agencies. Internal consequences may include, but are not limited to, notice to remove the content, and dismissal from the ALA Girls State program.

As an American Legion Auxiliary Girls State participant, I attest that I have read, agree, and will abide by this policy:

Print name of participant

Signature of participant

Print name of parent/guardian

Signature of parent/guardian

Date

A signed copy of this is required prior to participation, and a copy will be retained by the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program

TO DIRECTOR



**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Girls State**

Documentation Requirements

High school girls eligible to participate in the ALA Girls State/ Girls Nation programs must have completed their Junior year of high school and have at least one semester remaining, be a United States citizen or legal inhabitant of the United State as evidence by a current and/or valid birth certificate, visa, passport, Green Card or other United States government-issued documentation verifying a legal presence in the United State for at least the duration of the ALA Girls State/Girls Nation programs. For any girl to be eligible to take part in the ALA Girls Nation program, she must be able to clear a background check by the United States government, the White House and the U. S. Secret Service. This documentation must be provided at registration or will result in ineligibility to participate in the program.

Please do not bring these documents to the ALA Girls State program! They will only need to be presented if you are sent to ALA Girls Nation.



**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Girls State**

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State/Girls Nation leadership development programs are week long, 24/7 programs based on diversity and inclusion. We strongly encourage any 11th grade student who feels that they would enjoy the week at the Massachusetts Girls State program to attend. To be more explicit, ALA Massachusetts Girls State does not, and shall not tolerate any discrimination based on disabilities, race, religion, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. We, as a program, are actively engaging in efforts to make our Girls State a safe and inclusive space for all. If at any point during the week you are uncomfortable with any part of the program, please bring your concerns directly to the nurse, or the Director of the program, Andrea Pelletier.

I have read the above statement and understand that if I am found in violation of this policy, it may result in disciplinary action, including expulsion from the program, as deemed appropriate by the Director.

Participant's name: _____

Participant's signature: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Date: _____

TO DIRECTOR



**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Girls State**

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING A BILL

Each citizen is invited to submit one bill prior to the start of the program. A form can be found on the website under the **Registration** tab and **registration forms** link. We prefer it to be sent this way, however a paper copy sent to the director will also be accepted. If you are sending a paper copy, please make sure your writing is legible; it must be in the Director's mailbox by June 1st to be considered.

Make sure your bill is in support of something you can explain, sell to others, and defend against any opposition. Of the bills submitted, about five will be selected, edited, and potentially combined with one similar. They will be discussed in the cities/towns and debated in the ALA MAGS House and Senate to either be passed or rejected. They will also form the basis of the party platforms.

If you are sending in a hard copy, please make sure it is legible and use the format shown below.

SAMPLE FORMAT

Section 1: *State the new policy in a brief declarative sentence, or as few sentences as possible.*

Section 2: *Define any ambiguous terms inherent in the first section.*

Section 3: *Name the government agency that will oversee the enforcement of the bill, along with the specific enforcement mechanism.*

Section 4: *Indicate the implementation date/time-frame.*

Section 5: *State that all other laws that are in conflict with this new policy shall be declared null and void.*

Submitted by: _____

Registration Checklist

Please use this checklist below for your own reference in completing all parts of your registration. This does not need to be submitted with the paperwork. It is just for you to stay organized and on top of what you have not completed, and when the deadlines are.

- Personal information page
- Questionnaire
- Pledge
- Parental Consent
- Medical form
- Social Media Use Policy
- Discrimination Policy

****All above documents must be in the Director's mailbox by May 31st.**

- Bill for legislation: Due June 1st in Google Form.

- Samsung Scholarship: If you qualify for the Samsung Scholarship, the application is due by 11:59 pm on Saturday June 11th.

*****This scholarship is a lengthy application, and requires a number of signatures, please DO NOT put it off as it is a chance at a \$10,000 National prize.*****