



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
EVERGREEN GIRLS STATE
Director; Terri Campbell

*****HIGH ALERT*****

ALA Evergreen Girls State (EGS) has recently discovered that there are social media messages going viral stating it was from walagion-aux.org (ALA Department of WA) Evergreen Girls State – American Legion Auxiliary. **The message is an AI Overview.** This is **NOT FROM** the ALA Department of WA nor from Evergreen Girls State Committee.

ALA Evergreen Girls State (EGS) never sent this message out which is circulating on social media and this may be confusing Junior Girls, School Counselors, Organizations, ALA Units, who may be working to register girls and may not be sure which program to sponsor. The Social Media message from AI that we did not send out is as follows:

For 2026, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Girls State program in Washington is evolving into a co-educational format known as Evergreen Boys & Girls State taking place June 21-27th, 2026, at the Warm Beach Conference Center in Stanwood. The message goes on to explain the program.

This was also stated in writing in social media from Units supporting Boys and Girls State that as co-educational “Beginning with the 2026 session, the Boys and Girls State program will be conducted as a fully co-educational experience under the authority of The American Legion Department of Washington”

At convention in July 2025, the American Legion Post members voted to do a co-educational program even though most Auxiliary members were not in favor of this.

*Our ALA Evergreen Girls State Committee has worked so hard preparing and hopes to remain running the **ALA EGS program**, that the Auxiliary is hopefully supporting, which **this year will be held in Ellensburg,***

***WA at Central University on from June 21st thru June 26th with a tuition of \$530.00. Our program is NOT a co-educational program.** It is for Junior high Students who are female who are eligible to have the greatest opportunity to experience a week full of campaigning for offices, leadership training, and much more educational opportunities along with meeting wonderful girls from the State and making life changing memories. Yes, our program is intense, but well worth spending a most valuable week.*

Due to this change, Junior Girls are asked to registrar and attend the Evergreen Boys and Girls State program even though our committee has worked hard to bring the program back to life after COVID19. We have been diligent getting the message out to schools, organizations, and our community asking the Junior Girls and Units to support our ALA EGS program through the Auxiliary. After getting our attendance numbers up since COVID19 we have had a very successful program. But this year, this change has hurt our turnout for our EGS program supported by the Auxiliary. The number of girls that have signed up now is the lowest we have had in the last few years. The EGS committee feels that there may be great confusion which program the Junior Girls should attend due to the social media output. The Junior Girls, and Units who sponsor the ALA EGS program may not be aware that our program is the only ALA

EGS program where they can run and be Governor, or the two Senators which who get the opportunity to attend Girls Nation in Washinton DC. They also do not get credit for attending the Boys and Girls state program. **The ALA National Auxiliary states in their Guidebook, that the program cannot be combined,** the ALA must have their own program. Yes, Girls can attend the Boys and Girls program but they will not receive credit without going through the Auxiliary Girls State program.

Please, take the time to look into this. The Girls will only benefit if they attend the ALA Evergreen Girls State program.

For our ALA Evergreen Girls State program to succeed, we need the support of our Auxiliary members, Units, and sponsors.

Please, see our website (Evergreengirlsstate.com), it has everything you need to know in what the ALA EGS offers. We also have zoom meetings to answer any questions you may need answered or help with to enable a junior member to have the opportunity to attend.

On a side note, at our EGS program last year the counselors questioned the girls if they would be in favor of a co-educational program. More than the majority stated *"No, it would not be as comfortable and they love getting to know other girls from other cities in our state and hanging out with other girls with no boys around is a lot of casual and fun."*

Thank you, and please support our ALA EGS program by encouraging a Junior Girl to attend our wonderful program, we really need you.