

Oklahoma Girls State
Plan of Action
Girls State: May 30 - June 4, 2027

Committee Members: **Jackie Crawford, Chair/Director**
 Tracey Smith, Treasurer
 Diane Doudna, Administrative Assistant
 Susan Engstrom, Committee Member

Website address: www.okgirlsstate.com

The Girls State Committee is excited about the 2027 ALA Oklahoma Girls State Program. Jackie Crawford will serve as the director for the 2027 program. Tracey Smith will be the Girls State Treasurer. Diane Doudna will be the Administrative Assistant. Along with the committee, an advisory council of Girls State staff members, will work alongside this committee to help plan the program.

ALA Oklahoma Girls State is excited to announce that we will host our 2027 session at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Program Overview

American Legion Auxiliary Oklahoma Girls State is a unique and exciting government-in-action learning program in which the American Legion Auxiliary guides young women, who have completed their junior year, to become knowledgeable stewards of freedom, democracy and patriotism.

At Oklahoma Girls State, participants are called "delegates" who establish their own city, county, and state government. They are assigned to a political party – "Boomers" or "Sooners" – these parties are nonpartisan with the goal of educating through experience.

This one-week leadership and citizenship training program was created to educate outstanding high school students about state and local government. Delegates attending Oklahoma Girls State experience governmental procedure by simulating political campaigns, elections, and the political process. They also learn about the principles of citizenship and public service from guest speakers, elected officials, expert panels, and experienced counselors.

Important Girls State Dates

September 1st: Registration opens on the website at www.okgirlsstate.com, early bird pricing \$350.

October 17th: Registration information, including application procedures, will be sent to American Legion Auxiliary units. Committee will be handing out packets at Fall Convention, those who are not at convention will be sent out the following business day.

April 1, 2027: Sponsored student names due on website (www.okgirlsstate.com) and price increases to \$360.

April 1, 2027: Payment sent to Oklahoma Girls State Post Office Box. PO Box 1405 Fort Gibson, OK 74434

April 20, 2027 Delegate registration must be completed online by delegates by 11:59pm.

May 9, 2027: Last day to substitute alternates

May 30 - June 4, 2027: ALA Oklahoma Girls State, University of Central Oklahoma

Delegate Fee: The camp registration fee is \$350 per delegate. Each unit will have a sponsorship code mailed to their Girls State Chair and/or Unit President to share with the students they are sponsoring. This will allow the delegate to bypass the \$350 camp fee and will **help us** keep track of who is being sponsored by your unit and their registration status.

Delegate Selection: We recommend using the sample application located on www.okgirlsstate.com under the unit resources tab. We understand this application will work for some, but not all. It is not required that you use this, but this is what we recommend as a starting point for units.

We will not be collecting the \$25 t-shirt fee from students this year, the unit is responsible for paying the entire \$350/\$360 registration fee and is responsible for collecting a reimbursement t-shirt fee as they see fit.

The deadline for delegate selection and payment is **April 1, 2027**. The last possible day we are able to add any additional delegates is **April 20, 2027**, and alternates will not be accepted after **May 9, 2027**.

Marketing Materials: Marketing materials for ALA Oklahoma Girls State will be located on the website, www.okgirlsstate.com, updated throughout the year. This will include the following:

- Flyer
- Promo Video
- Social Media Toolkit (sample posts and images for recruitment)
- Girls State Power Point to be used for recruitment presentations with talking points for presenter

If you have any marketing questions, please email media@okgirlsstate.com to reach Kristen Nguyen the OK Girls State Marketing Director.

Delegate Registration: (After being selected by your unit)

- **Delegates and their families (not Units/Posts or school officials) must fill out the application at www.okgirlsstate.com as soon as they are selected.** You can give them the Delegate Selection Letter with your Sponsor Code written in the space provided to help them know where to go. This is a document that will be emailed and mailed to you.
- A delegate is only considered registered if they have completed their application on the OK Girls State website.
- **It is IMPERATIVE that the delegates and their family register themselves and that you or their school counselors do not do the registration.** Doing so will lead to significant confusion in many areas, including communications and billing.
- Please note, delegates MAY pay their own fee and apply for selection if the number of Delegates exceed Unit funds/Delegate Sponsorship. They will do this directly on the Girls State website okgirlsstate.com

Unit Reporting: To ensure each of your delegates complete their portion of the registration, we need each unit to complete a sponsorship report at www.okgirlsstate.com. Please note, **this does not register your delegate**, but will allow us to keep track of who is registered from your Unit. **Please complete this form by April 1, 2027.**

- 1.) Go to www.okgirlsstate.com
- 2.) Select the "Unit Resources" tab at the top of the webpage
- 3.) Click the "Sponsorship Report" button on the page and complete the form.

General Girls State Information

Website: www.okgirlsstate.com Many questions may be answered at this website including, but not limited to, dress code, what to pack, and scholarship information.

Scholarship opportunities: There are three scholarships offered through the American Legion Auxiliary Oklahoma Girls State program. Be sure to promote these through your school counselors. Further details may be found on our website.

1. George Nigh Scholarship \$200: For best written legislation.
2. Samsung Scholarship: approximately \$1,000 (amount varies) state winner, competes nationally for larger scholarship.
3. Sarah J. Hummel-Brown Scholarship: \$200 awarded to the elected Attorney General

Oklahoma Girls State Delegate Information: Once the delegates have completed registration, the Girls State Committee will begin communicating with delegates and their parents. This will include: dress code, packing list, required paperwork, check-in details and additional information needed for the 2027 session.

Oklahoma Girls State Checkout: We will be holding a closing ceremony on Friday at 11:30 am for delegates and their families. Delegates will be ready for checkout by 1 pm on June 4, 2027.

Girls State Schedule: The daily schedule for Girls State is not published prior to the girls arrival. If your unit has any specific questions, please have them contact Jackie Crawford at director@okgirlsstate.com.

Girls State Contacts:

The girls state committee is available to answer any questions you may have during this process. Please use the contact information below:

Chair and Director

Jackie Crawford, director@okgirlsstate.com, 405-203-4505

Treasurer

Tracey Smith, treasurer@okgirlstate.com , 918-577-0650

Administrative Assistant

Diane Dounda, admin@okgirlsstate.com , 918-697-6736

Committee Member

Susan Engstrom, admin@okgirlsstate.com , 918-791-8523

Unit information will come from the Administrative Assistant, Diane Dounda, at admin@okgirlsstate.com. Please reach out to this email first, as it is monitored by Diane, Jackie, Tracey and Susan. This will be the quickest way to have your questions answered.

Additional FAQ

- Each delegate must stay for the entire session. If a delegate leaves early, she will forfeit all rights to graduate as a Girls State citizen.

- Stay in touch with your delegate periodically and especially in the week or two prior to Girls State. This helps keep “no-shows” to a minimum and keeps your unit from losing their investment.
- The Girls State Committee will begin communicating the dress code, packing list, required paperwork, check-in details and additional information needed for the 2027 session with delegates upon completion of registration.