

ARRIVAL and DEPARTURE

- ALL GIRLS must arrive on the campus between 12:00 and 1:30 p.m., Sunday, June 21st, 2026.
- ALL GIRLS MUST depart by noon on Saturday, June 27th 2026. Please arrange this with parents so the campus can be cleared.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Girls who have been selected to attend ALAIGS will receive an e-packet of final instructions.
- The ALAIGS Post Office has post cards, envelopes, and stamps for sale.
- The ALAIGS Shopping Center will sell ALAIGS shirts, merchandise, and souvenirs. Debit and credit cards will be accepted at the ALAIGS Shopping Center.
- Each girl should be provided with a reasonable amount of spending money. ALAIGS assumes responsibility for a girl's money ONLY when deposited in the ALAIGS Bank.
- UPON ARRIVAL at ALAIGS, each girl should have her ALAIGS city and county assignment available for registering.
- The first meal will be served on Sunday, June 21st at 6:00 p.m. The final meal will be Saturday morning June 27th
- Cars are NOT ALLOWED at ALAIGS. In the event of transportation issues prior permission must be obtained from the Director.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

All girls must submit to by JUNE 1st a completed Medical Information Form. We welcome participants with all levels of ability. However, ALAIGS is physically strenuous and intellectually challenging. If accommodations are required to participate, please inform Department Headquarters in advance. We will review requests and determine if they can be met within the structure of our program. If an applicant requires a personal care aide, the student's sponsoring Unit or contributing organization will be expected to furnish a full-time female aide over 21 years of age. The sponsoring Unit or contributing organization must also pay expenses for the aide (including transportation, meals, and lodging.)



Illini Girls State
@ala_igs



ALA Illini Girls State
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**AMERICAN
LEGION**

AUXILIARY

**Illini
Girls State**

**85th SESSION
OF**

**American Legion Auxiliary
ILLINI GIRLS STATE**

SPONSORED BY

**AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY**

DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

JUNE 21-27, 2026

Website:

www.alaigs.org

www.facebook.com/ALAIGS1/

**Held on the campus of:
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois**

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be in their Junior year of High School.
- The application certification must be signed by the school principal, guidance counselor or home school administrator certifying the applicant possesses qualities of leadership, has good character, and is a legal resident of the United States.
- Applicants are expected to attend the entire ALAIGS session and also attend an American Legion Auxiliary sponsored orientation meeting.
- Each applicant must be willing to pledge allegiance to the Flag of our Country and abide by all rules of ALAIGS.
- Any Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary may sponsor one or more girls. Outside organizations or individuals are welcome to fund Unit sponsored girls.
- After the ALAIGS session, each girl will be expected to appear before her sponsoring organization to give a report on her experiences at ALAIGS.
- It is a rule of the ALAIGS committee that the selection of the girl must be based on fairness to every eligible girl and the selection should not be limited to Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary or members of Legion or Auxiliary families.

As a program of an organization standing for God and Country, we may share nonsectarian prayers and religious observations. If religious accommodations are required please inform Department Headquarters in advance; we will review these requests and determine if they can be met within the structure of our program.

PURPOSE and OBJECTIVE

- American Legion Auxiliary Illini Girls State is a simulation patterned after the State of Illinois; it follows Illinois governmental procedure as closely as possible.
 - It is a practical application of Americanism and good citizenship which attempts to teach and inculcate in our youth a love of America and a sense of individual obligation to community, state, and nation.
 - It is a powerful, intense learning experience.
 - Hundreds of girls from various communities throughout the State of Illinois will attend ALAIGS in June.
 - They will learn the way a two-party system works. At ALAIGS we have two fictitious political parties, the Nationalists and the Federalists. They will caucus, have Primary and General elections, and participate in a party Convention.
 - They will elect city, county, and state officials. They will learn the duties of various public offices – their functions, limitations, and powers.
 - They will have their own legislature where they introduce, debate, and pass their own bills. They regulate their own cities, enforce their laws, and prepare county projects.
- Each girl has a chance to learn for herself that her government is just what she makes it. She learns the duties, privileges, rights, and responsibilities as a citizen of ALAIGS that will help her fully participate as an American citizen.

STAFF

The staff includes experienced teachers of civics and government, a counselor in residence for every city, staff advisors for each county, and others qualified to conduct various programs.

The application certification must be signed by the school principal, guidance counselor, or home school administrator certifying the applicant possess qualities of leadership, has good character, and is a legal resident of the United States.

Applicants are expected to attend the entire session.

APPLICATION/WAIVER/FEES

APPLICATION must be submitted to American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Illinois, P.O. Box 1426, Bloomington, IL 61702-1426.

It is important that you select an ALTERNATE at the time you select your applicant to represent your Unit at ALAIGS in case your applicant is unable to attend.

A qualified candidate will be accepted until opening session, Sunday, June 21st at 7:00 p.m. Registration fees WILL NOT be refunded after June 1.

The waiver must be signed by parent or guardian absolving the American Legion Auxiliary of all responsibility in case of accident or injury to the girl while attending ALAIGS. A HIPAA statement must be signed by both the applicant and parent/guardian.

The cost per applicant is \$400 and is to be paid by the sponsoring Unit or contributing organization.

WHAT TO BRING

- Dress Code requires dresses, skirts, or dress slacks/capris for assemblies and meals. Shorts or jeans are allowed only at recreation. All shirts and dresses should be modest and MUST cover midriff and cleavage and not be form fitting. Rompers are not allowed. A semi-formal dress is suggested for the banquet. If there is a concern, please email ilgirlsstate@gmail.com
- Walking shoes and/or tennis shoes are recommended.
- MUST BRING pillows, bed linen (twin sheets, blanket or sleeping bag is suggested) and personal items for the week, including towels, and an alarm clock.
- If interested in participating in the talent show, bring instrument or other required items. ALAIGS does not assume responsibility for these or any other personal items.