



Macaë Mickens, Director
Laying a Solid Foundation for a Better Tomorrow

April 15, 2024

Dear ALA MGS 2024 Alternate:

Congratulations on your selection as an alternate to the 2024 session of American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Missouri Girls State (MGS). As many have said in the past, the memories you make at ALA MGS will be with you forever. ALA Missouri Girls State will be held on the campus of Lindenwood University in St. Charles from Saturday, June 22 to Saturday, June 29, 2024.

The American Legion Auxiliary Missouri Girls State committee and staff believe it is in your best interest to receive the same information as our currently selected citizens for the 2024 session. We hope that you will be able to fulfill the role of citizen should someone forfeit her attendance.

The 2024 session of American Legion Auxiliary Missouri Girls State will hold many exciting opportunities for our participants. The ALA MGS Committee has been working tirelessly with Lindenwood University to ensure that you have a premier experience this session, and we can't wait to share the week with you. The 2024 session of ALA Missouri Girls State will mark the program's 82nd session, and the program's third session co-hosted with The American Legion Boys State of Missouri at Lindenwood University. While both programs have their own scheduled events and opportunities for their citizens, there will be speakers and educational opportunities that Boys State and Girls State citizens will attend together. ALA Missouri Girls State citizens and staff will have their own residential facilities, dining hall, and program headquarters for the duration of the program. The 2024 session of ALA Missouri Girls State will, once again, be a phenomenal experience for all involved!

Registration is from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in your assigned residence hall at Lindenwood University, and the first meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. On Friday, June 21st, you will receive an e-mail with your assigned dorm. This will allow you to check in at your specific residence hall. We will also be able to assist you upon arrival if you do not know your assignment.

We would like all citizens to be registered and moved into their residence hall by 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 22nd so the program can begin on time. The ALA Missouri Girls State program will assign a preferred window of time for arrival at registration to accommodate the volume of individuals checking in at one time. Please try your best to arrive during your assigned time window, but if it is not possible, do not feel like you can't come! This is **your ALA Missouri Girls State**, and we want everyone to arrive safely. If you cannot arrive by 3:30 p.m., call the ALA MGS program at **628-252-6471**. When possible, please limit the number of people that you bring with you to registration to one parent/guardian per ALA MGS citizen.

Two (2) or three (3) hours of political science college credit will be offered by Lindenwood University to all ALA MGS citizens who successfully complete the week. One of the University's requirements is participation from Saturday's first meeting to the following Saturday's last assembly/city meeting. This is one of the reasons that all citizens must attend the **entire** session to be eligible for completion of the program and college credit.

To ensure that all citizens and alternates receive the same information prior to attending ALA MGS 2024, ***all citizens and alternates are required to attend an orientation about the program.*** In our program's Code of Conduct, which you acknowledged upon applying for ALA Missouri Girls State, we note the requirement of completing an orientation prior to June 12, 2024, in order to attend our program. **Any citizen who has not completed the orientation process prior to June 12th will forfeit the opportunity to attend the ALA MGS program.** Only alternates who completed the orientation requirement will be contacted for the opportunity to fill vacant positions.

We acknowledge that many families feel more comfortable attending an in-person orientation and have scheduled multiple orientations for this purpose. We also understand that not all citizens will be able to travel to one of these face-to-face options, so there is also an online orientation as well. You can choose to attend an in-person orientation at one of the scheduled events listed below. If you cannot travel to an in-person orientation, you will be required to attend one of the six online options on the specified dates. The orientation dates and locations are included in this mailing.

Finally, the **Citizen Information Packet** is ready to download from the ALA Missouri Girls State website at www.missourigirlsstate.org on the "2024 Session Info" tab. The packet contains documents that must be completed and brought with you on Saturday, June 22, along with crucial information for a successful week. Upon receiving this letter, you should download and print this packet to review with your parent or guardian. Please note that the Citizen Information Packet includes information about applying for ALA Girls Nation and the ALA Samsung Scholarship. Both opportunities require significant work that cannot be completed in the final week or two prior to the session.

Please follow our social media accounts listed below in order to get any other updated information. We will also send emails on a weekly basis to the citizen and parent address included on the citizen's application. These emails will be sent via the iContact email service and may appear in your promotions/spam/junk folder the first time, so please check it accordingly!

Sincerely,

ALA Missouri Girls State Committee

Members: Tina Anderson, Shanna Jelinek, Macae Mickens, Whitney Nolan, Patty Pink, Linda Schaap, Kelsey Whitt

Contact: Linda Schaap, Director of Admissions – linda.schaap@missourigirlsstate.org or 816-863-0503
Macae Mickens, Director – director@missourigirlsstate.org

Important Note:

Alternates may seek out funding sources with the help of family/friends to cover the sponsorship cost to attend ALA MGS 2024. The only exception is that your parent(s) or guardian(s) may not pay the sponsorship fee. If you are interested in upgraded to a citizen status by raising your own funds to pay for attendance, please e-mail headquarters@missourigirlsstate.org for next steps.



**AMERICAN
LEGION**
AUXILIARY
Missouri
Girls State

Your path to success at ALA Missouri Girls State 2024

- Download the Citizen Information Packet at www.missourigirlsstate.org and review it with your parent or guardian!
- Orientation – each citizen is required to attend an orientation by June 12, 2024.
 - o Option 1: Attend an in-person orientation on the dates listed on the reverse side of this document.
 - o Option 2: If you cannot travel to an in-person orientation, complete the online orientation option available on the specified dates. The link for the orientation is available on the “2024 Session Info” page of our website.
- Check your email regularly for program updates, transportation information, and assigned registration times. ***Some of these weekly email updates will include surveys we wish for you to respond to in a timely manner.***
 - o One of these surveys, we will ask those living outside of a 90-mile radius of Lindenwood University about your choice for bus transportation to and from the session in these surveys, which is offered at no additional cost to you.
- Check social media often for program tips, live zoom Q&A sessions, and more!
 - o Facebook: ALA Missouri Girls State (page)
 - o Instagram: ala.missourigirlsstate
 - o Twitter: @ALAMOGirlsState
- Optional: prepare application for the Samsung scholarship and/or ALA Girls Nation if interested
- Review and pack suggested items in the Citizen Information Packet
- On Friday, June 21st, you will receive an email with your residence hall assignment. This is how you will know which residence hall you will report to on June 22nd.
- Arrive at registration on Saturday, June 22nd with the following required items and necessary signatures:
 - o Medical Form
 - o ALA MGS Program Policy Form
 - o Optional – Girls Nation Bill/Resolution

If you find that you can no longer attend ALA MGS 2024, please contact ALA MGS Headquarters at headquarters@missourigirlsstate.org or call Ms. Linda Schaap at 816-863-0503 as soon as possible!

2024 Orientation Schedule

All ALA MGS Citizens are required to complete an orientation by June 12th, 2024. We recommend attempting to attend an in-person orientation if your location and schedule allows. If not, you can attend one of the six online orientation options (across five different dates listed below). The online orientations will be held via a zoom meeting and the citizen must stay online for the duration of the meeting. The links for the online orientation are available on our website at www.missourigirlsstate.org under "2024 Session Info."

Sunday, April 21st, 2024	2:00pm –Lindenwood University – Spellmann Center Anheuser-Busch Leadership Room (4 th floor) John Weber Drive - St. Charles, MO
Wednesday, May 1st, 2024	6:00pm - Online Orientation
Sunday, May 5th, 2024	1:30pm - Disabled American Veterans Building 14605 E US Hwy 40 - Kansas City, MO 64135
Saturday, May 11th, 2024	2:00pm – Springfield-Greene County Library Center 4653 S Campbell Avenue - Springfield, MO
Monday, May 13th, 2024	6:00pm – Poplar Bluff High School Library 3209 Oak Grove Rd. - Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
Tuesday, May 14th, 2024	5:00pm - Online Orientation
Thursday, May 16th, 2024	5:30pm – American Legion Post 287 501 E. Price Ave. - Savannah, MO
Sunday, May 19th, 2024	3:00pm - Online Orientation
Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024	6:00pm – American Legion Post 58 2607 State Route 92 - Smithville, MO
Wednesday, May 29th, 2024	6:00pm – Truman State University Del and Norma Robison Planetarium 100 E. Normal Ave. - Kirksville, MO 63501
Thursday, May 30th, 2024	7:00pm - Online Orientation
Sunday, June 2nd, 2024	4:30pm –Lindenwood University – Spellmann Center Anheuser-Busch Leadership Room (4 th floor) John Weber Drive - St. Charles, MO
Monday, June 3rd, 2024	1:00pm - Online Orientation
Sunday, June 9th, 2024	1:30pm – Roscoe Enloe American Legion Post 5 1423 Tanner Bridge Rd. - Jefferson City, MO
Wednesday, June 12th, 2024	12:00pm & 5:30pm - Online Orientation (two time options) <u>FINAL OPTIONS FOR ORIENTATION REQUIREMENT</u>