



Utah Girls State Orientation

2017

We look forward to seeing you
June 5th-10th. Need to check
in at Stewart Wasatch Hall
between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

The ALA GS Program

- The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors Utah Girls State. Our organization believes in God and Country and respects all religions.
- Utah Girls State is a week of education where you will learn about our government. You will experience mock City, County, and State level government. You will be assigned to 1 of 2 parties--the Nationalist or the Federalist.
- You will also be assigned to 1 of 12 cities which are named after past governors of Utah. You will have an amazing city counselor to help you all week long. She will send you an e-mail or letter in May introducing herself and telling you which city you are in.
- There's more...you will hear speakers, campaign for offices, build patriotism, experience fun activities, and create lasting friendships. We encourage you to get involved in everything you can while at Girls State. The more you get involved, the greater the experience.

Attendance

- Remember you must attend the whole session of Girls' State!!
- Full attendance is required to graduate and to receive your WSU College Credit (Poli Sci 2920, 3credits).



Dress Code

- You **DO** have to wear dresses or skirts and blouses every day.
- Modest dresses please. No short dresses or skirts. Longer than where the bottom of fingers reach when standing up. Even if you are wearing leggings, your dresses/skirts cannot be short.
- The sleeves of your shirts must be at least as wide as your hand. You must wear a shirt with sleeves under narrow sleeves or spaghetti straps. No belly shirts.
- No pantsuits are allowed.
- You will be allowed to wear jeans or capri pants at the Wed. and Thurs. evening activities.
- A nice dress will be needed for the Friday night banquet and for graduation on Saturday. Many (most) of the girls wear a formal/prom dress to graduation.
- **Comfortable shoes are strongly recommended.** Flip flops can only be worn in the dorms and at the Wed. and Thurs. evening activities.
- You will be allowed to wear shorts, pants or pajamas in the dorms only at night.



Additional Items To Bring

- Clothing as listed above plus a jacket or sweatshirt. The evenings may be cool.
- Optional: Extra towel(s). You will receive 1 towel and 1 washcloth on Monday and a 2nd set on Wednesday.
- Optional extra blanket and pillow. One blanket and one pillow will be provided.
- Personal Care items. (Shampoo, soap, make-up, deodorant, etc.)
- Feminine items. **(Even if you don't think you'll need them!)**
- Spending money if you wish to purchase items at the bookstore or from the vending machines in the dorms.
- Medications.
- Backpack or bag to carry items for the whole day. We leave early and do not return to the dorms until late each day. You are not allowed to return to your dorm during the day.
- Notebook, pencil, pen, and highlighter.
- Snacks for the evenings. Although, there are vending machines in the dorms.
- Alarm Clock. (You may use your phone, iPod, etc.)
- Flashlight. (You may use your phone, iPod, etc.)
- Camera. (You may use your phone, iPod, etc). We do take pictures and provide a yearbook that we will mail to you later in the summer.
- Stamp to mail a graduation announcement/ticket. The on-campus bookstore does sell stamps and will mail letters for you. This announcement will be the ticket for 2 people to attend graduation. Due to seating, we are only going to be able to allow 2 guests per girl.
- Samsung Scholarship Forms (if you choose to apply).
- Updated Medical Form if needed (see below).
- If you have a family member that has served or is serving in the Military we encourage you to bring a small picture to add to our military service board.
- Something red to wear on RED Friday – Remember Everyone Deployed.
- A pair of new socks – men's or women's – for donating to the VA Hospital.

Samsung Scholarship



Samsung: Bring completed scholarship pages and required forms with you. They cannot be faxed or mailed after you get to Girls' State. Please make sure they are originals, except for the Discharge Papers or DD 214, which should be a copy. Go to <http://www.legion.org/scholarships/samsung>. You will be downloading information. Turn it into your counselor when she asks for it. (for 2016 add that they can get the DD214 at va.gov).



Marilyn Houser – GS nurse

Medical

- If you have had medical problems or have new/different medication since you submitted your original registration forms, please have your completed Updated Medical Form with you when you check in on Monday morning. Find it on-line at utlegion.org, Auxiliary, Girls State, 2016 Girls State, Updated Medical Form. The nurse will go over this with you when you check in.
- If you become ill at Girls' State, you will be directed to our nurse. You will not be allowed to return to your dorm until everyone does.



College Credit Requirements

- To receive the 3 Political Science 2920 College Credits from WSU you must:
 - Attend the full session of Utah Girls' State.
 - Participate in activities as a Utah Girls' State citizen.
 - Vote in all Girls' State elections.
 - Make a minimum of 1 public speech or presentation.
 - Be appointed or elected to a minimum of 1 Girls' State position.
 - Maintain standards of honesty integrity, and abide by Utah Girls' State and WSU regulations
 - You agreed to these rules when you registered.
 - Complete the Citizen Workbook pages as you participate through the week. Must be signed by your counselor.
 - Provide a written essay of your personal opinion regarding 2 Girls' State speakers.
 - Provide a written essay of your personal opinion regarding 1 of the following:
 - Obligations of citizenship
 - Power of the vote
 - What democracy means to me
 - The two--party system
- **NOTE:** The fee for the credits was included in your registration fee. Also, we will give you time and deadlines to complete the essays while at Girls' State.
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Check in and Housing

- Checks in times are from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. Your registration information says 12 pm, but we would really appreciate it if you came earlier so you are prepared to have your first meeting at noon.
- Your parent or driver may park and come in with you to register and then help take your luggage to your assigned dorm.
- You will check in Monday morning at Wildcat Village in the Stewart Wasatch Hall (it's the East building of the 3 in Wildcat Village). The address is 1375 Village Loop Rd., Ogden.
- You may park behind the building on the east side and go to the lobby to check in. We recommend you leave your bags in the car until you know which building you are going to.
- Only the counselors will have room and dorm keys for the protection of the girls.
- There will be 2 girls per room and 4-6 girls per bathroom.
- You may come wearing a dress or you may change in your dorm once you arrive.

Vehicle Info

- We recommend that you arrange to be dropped off on Monday and picked up on Saturday. If this is not an option for you, please be aware that if you drive your own vehicle to Girls' State, you must park it and turn in your keys to our staff member over security on Monday. You will get your keys back after graduation on Saturday.



Sweatshirts

- You will all receive a Utah Girls' State t-shirt, but if you would like to order a sweatshirt, there are 3 ways this can be done.
 - You would have already filled out the form and paid the \$25 and sent it in with your registration form.
 - You may mail in your form and \$25 directly to the office. Your order must be received by May 12th.



Convocation

- This is a VERY large part of Girls' State. Each day we set aside time for the Pledge of Allegiance, a thought, stories, prayers, and songs. You may bring ideas for these with you, but not all of them will be used. Instruments are optional. Bring at your own risk. Pianos will be available for our use.



Junior Members

- Junior Members of the American Legion Auxiliary, who are attending Girls' State, will be asked to help with the Evolution of the Flags Presentation. You will be given information after you arrive.
- If you would like to join our American Legion Junior Girls, get an application from your counselor or staff member at this orientation.



Campaigning

- You do not need to bring supplies for campaigning. We will provide them.
- Some of the offices you may run for will require you to give speeches and answer questions, so come prepared to participate in those activities.
- Red & Green Offices: There are 2 types of offices you can run for. Green is the "party" offices and you can hold as many as you are elected or assigned to. If you run for and get elected to a Red office that is the only Red office you can hold. It's hard to describe how many offices you could run for, but if you look at it as your own journey the possibilities are numerous!
- Girls' Nation: At Girls' State, 2 girls will be selected to go to Washington DC this summer
- (not sure of date yet) to represent Utah at Girls' Nation. They are called Girls' Nation Senators.
- Two girls from each city will be nominated by the girls in their city. The nominees will write a bill and take an essay style test. Once the Directors staff reviews the bills and tests, 8 girls will be selected to "run" on their party's ballot. The Girls' State citizens will vote to select the 2 who will go to Girls' Nation

Pre-Campaigning Rules

- **IMPORTANT!** You cannot announce your plans to run for any office prior to filing for that
- office. This means that you cannot talk about a specific office you are planning to run for
- prior to Girls' State or even at Girls' State until you have filed. We call this pre-campaigning.
 - We expect you to follow these rules as soon as you are selected to attend GS. Please be aware that this becomes an important part of your experience leading up to and while at Girls' State.
 - You may be disqualified from running for a particular office or all offices if you do not follow our Pre-Campaigning Rules.
- An important part of attending GS is learning about and running for elected offices. Here are some basic guidelines to follow, but it is difficult to list every scenario so please use wise judgment.

Campaigning and Pre Campaigning- Can do, Can't do

- **What you CANdo:**
 - Discuss what offices there are available to run for at GS. You should ask about several offices so that you truly know what is available and to avoid someone interpreting this as indirectly pre-campaigning.
 - Discuss what is required to run for the office(s).
 - Discuss what is required if you are elected to an office.
 - Ask previous Girls Staters about their experiences.
 - Research current events and political office to find out more about the office or those who hold those offices in Utah and in the Nation.
 - You may encourage others to run for certain offices, but do not ask them to tell you if they will or won't be.
- **What you CANNOTdo:**
 - DO NOT discuss which specific office or offices you are thinking of running for with anyone prior to or at GS until you have "filed" for office at the proper time at GS. City, County, and State offices have different "filing" times throughout the week. We will inform you of when you may begin discussing and campaigning for a particular office.
 - DO NOT ask others for their support to vote or campaign for you for a particular office prior to "filing".
 - If running for an office you don't want because you changed your mind and want to run for another office, DO NOT give any indication of that. You will be disqualified from running for the new office you wanted to run for. This includes campaigning not to win, discussing it with others, or mentioning it in your speech or during campaigning times.
 - DO NOT use any form of "cheat sheets" to answer questions during question and answer periods unless approved prior to the Q&A meetings. These are known as "whistle stops" at GS.
 - DO NOT wear certain clothing or use and refer to certain gimmicks throughout the week that you plan to use to reference in your campaign. Even using a slogan to introduce yourself to others that does not say what office you are running for can be interpreted as pre-campaigning.

Graduation

- Flag Advancement and Retirement. If you have a white or mostly white formal, you may bring it: 10-15 girls with white formals will have the opportunity to help carry the flags for graduation. Your counselor will ask you if you have one, once you arrive.
- Graduation is Saturday June 11th at 1 pm at WSU's Shepherd Union Building Ballroom (upstairs). Your parents/guardians are invited.
- Following graduation, you may leave **ONLY AFTER YOU HAVE CHECKED OUT WITH YOUR COUNSELOR.**



Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

- Cell phones and electronics are prohibited during meetings. You will have short periods of time at lunch and in the evening to use them. We strongly encourage you to disconnect from friends and family as much as possible so that your experience will be better. We realize you will use them for your alarm clock and flashlight and to check in with your parents, but please limit your use. You have very little free time this week. Please come prepared to learn, enjoy and meet new friends. Utah Girls' State is a wonderful opportunity—make the most of it!

Code of Conduct for Girls State

- The following rules will help us maintain an orderly Girls' State session and provide you an exceptional learning experience. Any Girl's State Citizen breaking the rules could be **denied** the privilege of receiving her **Girls' State pin** and **Graduation Certificate**.
- Please come to Girls' State committed and prepared to stay the whole week. Unless you can do this, it would be better to let someone else who can, come and receive the benefits of the **whole** Girls' State week.
- Girls are required to attend the full session of Girls' State.
- Citizens are required to attend all meetings. Be prompt to sessions, ceremonies and meals - **Dress Appropriately**.
- No candy, gum or drinks allowed in meetings, you can have bottled water to use within reason.
- **Do not leave** campus. Written permission will be given by the Director in extreme emergency. **Remain on campus** during rest periods **No Exceptions!!**
- Be **neat** in your dorms. Observe campus rules -Don't remove bedding or furniture from one room to another please, no pins, paste, nails etc. on walls.



Code of Conduct for Girls State Continued

- Counselors and Citizens will clean up trash, there is no one to clean up after you, a fine will be assessed for dirty dorms!!!!!!
- iPods, MP3 players, Radios, CD players, etc. are not permitted.
- Wear name tags when you leave the dorm (except for song fest, outdoor dinner and graduation). Make sure you have your Girls' State Manual with you at all times (you will not be allowed to return to the dorm to get your manual or name tag). Name tags allow you to eat in the cafeteria; your manual gives you instructions in procedures, meeting locations and contains information which will be of value to you during your week at Girls' State.
- If you become ill, please let your counselor know, so medical attention can be given to you. Your counselor will have a staff member take you to the nurse.
- Cell phones and pagers are not permitted in meetings. Texting is not allowed in meetings!! Phone use will be allowed at certain times in the dorms and on campus as permitted by your counselor and the staff, the Director will set the rules about cell phones.
- No campaigning until you have filed for office. You will need to ask a delegate to nominate you for an office, but you cannot campaign until you have filed.
- After returning to the dorms at night you are not permitted to leave your city. No food can be ordered from off campus, no food deliveries period.