

BOYS STATE

SELECTION & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Selection:

The American Legion is proud of its sixty-two year tradition of gathering the most outstanding boys in Alabama for its Annual Boys State. Careful selection of those who attend has maintained this high standard. In order to contribute something to his local school, ***only outstanding boys who will be in the Senior Class next Fall are eligible.*** Future leaders are especially desired. The school administration selects candidates for Boys State.

A High Honor:

To be selected to attend Boys State is one of the highest honors conferred on a high school student. Educators and leading citizens endorse the citizenship training program sponsored by The American Legion. Appreciative of the high public approval it has received, Boys State officials make every effort to continue the high standards of its leadership, its program and the conduct of the boys who attend.

Scholarships:

Students who are descendants of war-time veterans are eligible and can apply for one of the ten (10) National Samsung Scholarships worth an expected \$20,000.00 each. Applications will be sent with each student's Boys State acceptance letter. Montevallo University offers a full tuition scholarship to the twelve (12) Boys State Citizenship Award winners. Each student that successfully completes Boys State can apply for other scholarships from Montevallo, set aside for Boys State attendees. ***National Samsung Scholarship Applications must be completed and turned in at Boys State.***

Important Information For Boys State Representatives:

Boys State representatives should bring casual clothing, swimming trunks, tennis shoes, athletic equipment, musical instruments, cameras, and usual toilet articles. Dress will be Boys State T-Shirts (furnished by Boys State) and shorts, blue jeans or slacks. **Note:** *Slacks, not blue jeans, must be worn for the visit to the State Capitol.* Boys must also bring their own sheets, blankets, pillow cases, towels, and soap plus toilet articles for the week of Boys State.

Boys State participants are expected to report on time at Boys State Headquarters, established on the campus of the University of Montevallo. Boys may drive to Boys State, but boys' cars **will not** be available for use during the week of Boys State.

Dormitories on the campus house all Boys Staters each year. Meals are served in the cafeteria. Each Boy Stater should bring a nominal amount of money to cover snacks or an extra T-Shirt, etc.

Boys Nation:

Two outstanding students of Alabama Boys State are selected each year to attend Boys Nation, sponsored by the national organization of The American Legion. Boys Nation is held in Washington, D.C., at a date later in the summer of Alabama Boys State. Boys Nation citizens participate in the program as it is projected on a national scale. All expenses are paid by the national headquarters,

The American Legion, for those selected to attend.

For further information contact:

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GIRLS STATE

SELECTION & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Selection & Eligibility: (Selection is made in Feb./Mar. 2011)

Only girls who are Juniors, going into their Senior year, in high school may be sponsored. Delegates must not have participated in a previous session of Girls State. All girls must be able to participate in all activities.

Delegates need not be members of a veteran's family, but must be citizens of the state of Alabama. Only one delegate from each school will be accepted if the school has less than 300 students in the Junior Class; schools which have more than 300 students in the Junior Class may send two delegates.

Each school's high school principal and faculty select the candidates for Girls State.

Qualifications for girls should be considered in this order:

1. Interest in government
2. Emotional stability
3. Leadership
4. Character and honesty
5. Scholarship
6. Cooperativeness
7. Community participation and service

Health Information:

Each student must be given a physical examination by her family physician within ten days prior to her arrival at the Program. Every precaution is taken to avoid accident and illness among the citizens of Girls State, but should these develop the best care possible will be given. A nurse will be on duty.

Preparation:

Each Delegate is sent a Girls State Handbook, which should be brought to the Program.

Each Girl State Delegate should bring linens, including 2 sheets, pillow cases, pillow and spread, if desired, personal articles, and all desired toweling.

Because Girls State is held in early Summer, girls are advised to bring an umbrella.

Girls should bring their own stamps and stationery, pens/pencils and abundant quarters for vending and newspaper machines. Girls may bring snacks and soft drinks.

Girls should bring extra poster paper, masking tape and magic markers for decorating their city.

Approximately \$50.00 should be sufficient for official Girls State photographs, Girls State souvenirs and snacks.

Girls are discouraged from bringing valuable jewelry.

Dress:

Girls should bring clothing sufficient for the week-long Program, to include:

- * One formal dress for Inauguration
- * Dressy Sunday dress for visit to Capitol and Governor's Mansion
- * Other sufficient dresses/pants outfits for class activities
- * Pajamas, robe and other personal garments
- * Swimsuits are allowed for swimming during certain times

Important Notes:

Blue jeans and shorts are allowed during field trials and free time, but are **not allowed** for classes, chapel, dining room or in other college buildings.

Visitors are welcome to all *sessions*, but no girl may have *individual visitors* during Girls State.

Girls **may not** leave campus without permission of the Director or Chairman.

Girls **must not** get in an automobile under any circumstances.

Other, more program-specific Rules, are outlined in the Girls State Handbook.

Reminder:

In considering the Rules and structure of Girls State, each Delegate should remember that Girls State is a *leadership* program. Such strictures as dress code are designed to maintain the standing and integrity of the program, and serve as a reminder to girls of their role as leaders who are expected to hold to standards above the common and ordinary.

Citizens of Girls State are chosen because of their character, scholastic standing and potential leadership, and are expected to be cooperative in promoting the best interests of the entire group. No difficulty in discipline is anticipated.

For further information contact:

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To view more information: www.legislature.state.al.us and click on BOYS and GIRLS STATE.