



Dear Kentucky Girls State Delegate:

Congratulations on your selection to attend the 66th session of Kentucky Girls State. The Girls State Staff is excited about this year's session and is looking forward to meeting you.

The Girls State Program offers training in the practical process of a democratic government and the responsibilities of citizenship. You will study local, county and state governmental processes. You will be assigned to a city. You will be assigned to a political party. There will be legislative sessions, campaigning, party rallies, debating and elections taking place during your stay with us.

Kentucky Girls State will be held on the campus of the University of the Cumberlands, Williamsburg, KY from Sunday, June 10 thru Friday, June 15, 2012. Registration will begin on Sunday, June 10, 2012 at 12:00 noon, EDT, and will continue until 3:00 p.m., EDT. Registration will be in the lobby or front porch of the residence hall, depending on the weather. (Please note, the location for registration will be determined based upon the dormitories being used. Please watch for a "Registration" banner on the campus.) If you arrive before 12 noon, your room may not be ready. Therefore, please try to arrive during the time specified.

There will be a talent show one night. If you want to take part in the talent show, you should bring what you will need for your act, if possible. There will be a piano available, as well as a CD player for music you may bring. We strongly urge you to participate in the talent show as it is one of the highlights of the week.

There will be several offices that you can run for in your city and there are a number of offices at the state level for which you can run. Positions are also available in the House of Representatives and in the Senate. A list of the offices is attached. You can also go to www.kentucky.gov to view general information on state offices and connect to links from there. Materials will be available in your city to make campaign posters, etc. Professional, preprinted campaign material is not permitted. Your originality and imagination are great assets in preparing campaign materials.

You may receive mail daily while at Girls State. The address will be: Your Name, c/o Kentucky Girls State, University of the Cumberlands, Williamsburg, KY 40769.

What you should bring: Casual, comfortable clothing that you would normally wear to school

A dressy outfit for the Inaugural Banquet

Two or three professional outfits, if you run for State Office

Workout clothes and a swimsuit (providing the pool is open)

An umbrella or poncho in case of rain

Comfortable shoes

Bed linens – pillow, sheets (2 twin size flat), pillowcase, blanket and towel and washcloth

Toiletries, including soap, shampoo, toothbrush and toothpaste

A light jacket

Hair dryer, curling iron, hot rollers, etc.

Sanitary products

Camera and film

An alarm clock

Spending money for souvenirs from the Girls State Store and Campus Bookstore, dvd, city picture, snacks and pizza, or laundry

There is a scholarship for which you can apply if you meet the eligibility requirements. Please see attached information on the scholarship. **It is very important that that this scholarship be completed and brought to Girls State when you arrive on Sunday.** This scholarship requires that your school complete and sign a portion. You also need certain forms to document your eligibility. **We will not accept these scholarship applications after June 11, 2012.**

The application for this scholarship is available from your counselor/teacher who provided you information on Kentucky Girls State. You can also download an application from: www.legion.org. Type Samsung Scholarship in the search box to locate and download the application.

We are pleased to announce that you may also receive **college credit** for your Girls State experience. To obtain information on the college credit opportunity, please go to <http://www.leadershipcredit.org/index.php>. I have talked to a representative of that program as well as other Girls State programs whose participants have earned college credit.

If you drive to Girls State, you will be required to surrender your car keys upon your arrival. You will also be required to complete a form listing specific information on your vehicle. Your keys will be returned upon departure on Friday morning, June 15, 2012. Our last session should be over by 10:a.m. on Friday.

If for some reason you cannot attend the entire week of Girls State, release forms must be signed and mailed by your parents, to the Director, **PRIOR** to Girls State. This will be the only approved release unless it is a case of emergency. Also, if for some reason after you have been chosen, you cannot attend Girls State, please contact the American Legion Auxiliary Unit Chairman or the person in your area who has been working with you, as soon as possible. You may also contact the Director or Chairman listed below. Someone has paid so that you may attend this program. If we are given sufficient time, we can get someone else to attend in your place. This is very important, because the American Legion Auxiliary members have worked hard to raise this money and that money is forfeited if you do not attend. Please, do not back out at the last minute. If you have any doubts about attending, please give us enough time to replace you.

Upon your return home, we encourage you to write a letter of thanks to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit that sponsored you for this program. You will be given a card with the name and address of the individual to contact.

We hope that you have a fantastic time at Girls State and we look forward to working with you!

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