

American Legion Auxiliary 401 Van Ness Avenue, Ste 319 San Francisco, CA 94102-4570 (415) 861-5092

## cagirlsstate.org

## Structure of American Legion Auxiliary California Girls State Virtual Session

ALA California Girls State is an environment that encourages delegates to engage in activities, support one another, realize a sense of empowerment, and experience the power of their vote. This remains true in a virtual session. Delegates will join together through webinars, video conferencing, and message boards to form the 51<sup>st</sup> state: ALA California Girls State.

Delegates will be organized into one of 26 cities with approximately 20 other delegates. Together, they will form their own government. Citizens will elect city officials that will guide them in creating a plan for economic, physical, mental, educational, and environmental prosperity.

Each delegate will write and submit a bill prior to the session. Elected Senators and Assemblywomen will select bills to discuss, debate, and present to their house for a vote. Bills passed by both houses will be recorded into the ALA California Girls State legislative record.

Delegates will also have the opportunity to engage in direct democracy through a ballot initiative based on each city's input. Developing ballot initiatives will require researching and writing policy as well as creating campaign ads and slogans.

All delegates will have the opportunity to participate in a service project, virtual College Fair, and seminars with leaders in government, STEM, military, non-profit, education, and law.

This is a week of learning by doing: NO lectures, NO books, and NO tests. Each delegate will have a role to play in the work that is done during the week. This is a fast-paced, rigorous program, blending synchronous and asynchronous work that will allow delegates to meet women from throughout the state with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and beliefs. Whether through interactions with our volunteer staff or fellow delegates, ALA California Girls State citizens will build a network of phenomenal women that will be friends and advocates for life.

If you have any questions, contact:

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To learn more about the American Legion Auxiliary: <u>calegionaux.org</u>. To learn more about the ALA California Girls State program: <u>cagirlsstate.org</u>. To learn more about the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program: <u>alaforveterans.org</u>.