PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140
Telephone: 608-745-0345
E-mail: alabgs@amlegionauxwi.org
Website: www.alabgs.org

November 2026

Attention ALA Badger Girls State Chair:

The American Legion Auxiliary 82nd Badger Girls State Session is scheduled for Sunday, June 20 through Friday, June 25, 2027, at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh campus, Oshkosh, WI. The reservation fee is **$500.00** per delegate for the 2027 session.

Please read the updated Refund Policy & Procedures section on the backside of the sponsorship form. We need you to select one of the options listed in the event your Delegate withdraws from the program.

It is frustrating when delegates drop out at the last minute. We are including a **Memorandum of Understanding** you **may** wish to use with your delegates. Other sponsors have used this in the past, and it communicates to the delegates how serious it is financially if they do not attend after having been chosen and registered.

In an effort to streamline costs, high school and home-schooled information (such as the prospective Delegate application & flyer) have been posted to the www.alabgs.org website, under the High School tab and is also included in this packet. If you plan to solicit funds from other organizations or area businesses, please use the enclosed ALABGS brochure. It gives an overview of the ALABGS program. Feel free to make copies as needed.

The key to having a successful ALA Badger Girls State session is ***COMMUNICATION*** – between the sponsor, the school, potential delegates/alternates and last year's Delegate(s). Word of mouth is a great recruitment tool. If possible, ask last year's Delegate to talk with interested the candidates. Please don't fail to sponsor a girl due to financial reasons. If the sponsor cannot financially contribute the delegate fee, reach out to local community civic groups.

IF THE SPONSOR DECIDES THEY CAN NO LONGER PARTICIPATE IN THE ALA BADGER GIRLS STATE PROGRAM – NOTIFY YOUR SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY! In the past sponsors have failed to do this and the school went ahead and selected an ALABGS delegate, only to find out that reservations were not paid by the sponsor. The school should not have initiated the selection process, **but** the sponsor was also at fault for not communicating with them as soon as they received their sponsorship packet.

Please follow the instructions in the timetable and make sure your sponsorship form and fee are sent to Department by **January 31, 2027**. If you have questions regarding your ALA Badger Girls State reservation, please contact Carrie Thrasher at Auxiliary Headquarters 608-745-0345 or email alabgs@amlegionauxwi.org.

Please contact me with questions regarding ALABGS procedures. If I'm not available, contact one of the following committee members:

- Joanie Dickerson, Executive Director- Phone: 920-312-7792 ♦ email: bgs.exec.director@gmail.com
- Jen Leahy, Assistant Exec. Director – Phone: 920-979-3213 ♦ email: bgs.asst.director@gmail.com
- Bethany Fredericks, Vice Chairman – Phone: 608-469-2875 ♦ email: alabgs.vicechairman@gmail.com

Thank you for your continued support of ALA Badger Girls State.

Sincerely,

Dany Thompson

Dany Thompson, ALABGS Chairman
Ph: 920-379-6489 ♦ Email: alabgs.chairman@gmail.com

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Badger Girls State

Timetable

Updated For 2027
Please Read

ALABGS website: (www.alabgs.org) View videos as a recruitment tool or (if possible) talk with last year's delegate.

November: ALABGS Sponsorship Packet is sent out. The packet includes: a letter to the ALABGS Chairman, brochure, Timetable, Sponsorship form and information for high school(s) or homeschooled (HS) junior student(s).

As soon as you receive this mailing, contact your high school(s) and talk directly to the person who works on the ALABGS program.

Things to discuss/inform them of:

- Confirm your commitment to sponsor a Delegate or inform them you are discontinuing your sponsorship.
- If the school plans to participate, advise them that the prospective Delegate application and promotional flyer can be downloaded from the www.alabgs.org website under the High School tab.
    - Please remind them that the prospective Delegate application should be copied and distributed to all interested 11th grade girls, including those who are home schooled.
    - They should also refer interested students to view video testimonials posted on the www.alabgs.org website.
    - Or (if possible) have them talk with last year's delegate.
- Inform your school that **as the sponsor**, you should have representation on the Selection Committee.
- Emphasize to the Delegate that her commitment to attend ALABGS should not be taken lightly – monies will be forfeit if she decides not to attend and an Alternate cannot be found.
- Discuss/Review Memo of Understanding with potential Delegates.
    - The use of the Memo of Understanding form is optional and the responsibility of the sponsor to enforce if necessary.
- It is preferred for the Delegate/Alternate to complete online Registration. However, it is acceptable for the parent/guardian, or the school counselor to register the Delegate/Alternate.
- Remind your school that it is **highly recommended** for them to register an Alternate/or Alternates just in case the Delegate (for whatever reason) withdraws before session begins.
- Online registration information will be made available to sponsored schools in February.

Now is the time to contact area community groups to help promote this program. You may use the ALABGS brochure as it explains the program in detail or direct them to the ALABGS website. You may make copies of the brochure or contact Department for additional copies.

Complete the sponsorship form (Delegate's name is not needed at this time) and send it to Department Headquarters along with the appropriate payment. It is important you include the school contact person's name on the sponsorship form to ensure registration information is sent to the proper person at your school(s).

Promotional and prospective Delegate applications are available for download on the ALABGS website, under the High School tab. **We recommend the sponsor contact the school(s) before winter break. To confirm sponsorship for the 2027 ALABGS session and to check if the school currently has any high school junior or homeschooled students interested in ALABGS, or (at least) to start the recruitment process. Also, emphasize as the sponsor, you should have representation on the selection committee.**

-over-

January 31: Deadline for the sponsorship form along with fee. If you do not plan to participate, **it is your responsibility to let your local high school(s) know.** **Very important** – Department **DOES NOT** contact schools regarding sponsorship.

- Review refund policy. It has been updated for the 2027 session.

February: Registration material is sent to the High School's point of contact listed on the sponsorship form.

- Registration information will be sent to sponsored high schools or to the home of home-schooled students.
- Information will include a link to the ALABGS registration website, sponsor number, a list of interest groups as well as links to National, Department and Samsung applications.
    - 2027 Delegates who complete the entire week of session are eligible for the ALABGS scholarship. Guidelines and application link will be sent to Delegates after January 1st, 2028.

2027 Session Information for Delegates: Accessible (after March) on the ALABGS website (www.alabgs.org) under the Session Info tab. This material provides complete session details and all required forms.

Delegates **WILL NOT** get packets mailed to their homes – if they do not have internet access at home, they should ask their counselors to print the information for them. If they have questions or problems, they should contact department headquarters (alabgs@amlegionauxwi.org or 608-745-0345) for assistance.

March: Orientations will be held virtually. Delegate(s), Alternate(s), Parents, School personnel as well as Sponsors are strongly recommended to watch the orientation video. There are also plans to have online question and answer sessions in the spring where parents and delegates can ask questions the orientation did not answer- those dates will be posted at www.alabgs.org.

April 1: Delegates and Alternates must complete online registration. Delegate and Alternate contact information is sent to the sponsor after the April 1st deadline.

May 15: ABSOLUTE FINAL DAY FOR ACCEPTING NEW DELEGATE FEES/SPONSORSHIPS. Sponsorship forms and fees received after this date will be returned to the sender.

May/June: CONTACT YOUR DELEGATE WITHIN TWO TO FOUR WEEKS OF SESSION – remind her of the session dates, verify she still plans to attend and ask her if she has any questions regarding the program. This is the best way to make sure your Delegate(s) is still your delegate. Forfeiture of delegate fees and most cancellations happen in the two weeks prior to session; mostly because they have not heard from or know how to reach their sponsor. Invite her to a meeting to give a report after session. You will want to invite your contributors and school personnel, so they learn more about ALABGS.

Sponsors, schools and delegates are also encouraged to check the ALA Badger Girls State website for updates: www.alabgs.org

Sponsors will be contacted if their Delegate fails to report on registration day - Sunday, June 20th.

The importance of communication cannot be stressed enough – from sponsors to the school – school to the students – students and schools to sponsors – it's a continuous circle of communication.

Communicate . . . communicate . . . communicate . . .
As the sponsor, it is your responsibility!

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Badger Girls State

Memorandum of Understanding

To help preserve our investment in the American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State Program and security of attendees to the program, the following criteria will be presented to the candidate and her parents (guardian) before her enrollment is forwarded to the American Legion Auxiliary State Headquarters.

- The candidate acknowledges her enrollment fee is paid by the sponsor, _____ unless another fee has been specified with the attendee. (Sponsor Name and Number)
- The enrollment fee is non-refundable after May 1st from the ALA Badger Girls State Program.
- The candidate understands that the financial loss/burden to the sponsor is substantial and that all funds are solely received from the fundraising activities to fund its program donations.
- A contract of agreement/commitment must be signed by the candidate and her parent (guardian), acknowledging responsibility for payment of the Cancellation Processing Fee to the sponsor should the candidate drop out of the program after April 15th.
- Should a cancellation occur after April 30th, the candidate will be responsible for repayment of the full $500 reservation fee. The fee will be collected immediately from the candidate upon cancellation.
- If a replacement delegate is appointed and established with State Headquarters by the appropriate time, the dropped candidate may be eligible to receive a partial refund of the enrollment fee.
- Other major circumstances may be considered at the time of cancellation by the sponsor regarding fee refunds.
- Should the parent (guardian) refuse to sign the commitment form, the sponsor has the right to choose another candidate to take her place.

I understand and agree to these terms set by _____
(Sponsor Name and Number)

to be sponsored as a candidate to American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State.

_____
Candidate Signature & Date

_____
Parent (Guardian) signature & Date

revised 10/26

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Badger Girls State

SPONSORSHIP FORM
DEADLINE – JANUARY 31, 2027

Fee: $500 per Delegate ~ Make check payable to: ALABGS
Mail to: PO Box 140, Portage WI 53901-0140

SPONSOR INFORMATION:

District: _____ ☐ Unit ☐ Post ☐ Squadron ☐ Riders # _____

Location: _____ County: _____

(First & Last) Name: _____

Full Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION:

School Name:	School's point of contact's name:	# of Delegate spot(s):

A card is sent to the sponsor listed in the sponsor section above; if you had any businesses, clubs or organizations that assisted in sending delegate(s) and want them to receive a card, please list their information below. If needed, attach a separate sheet.

Business/Club/Organization name	Point of contact's name, complete mailing address	Sponsored school & # of Delegate spot(s)
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.
5.	5.	5.

Total # of delegate spots: _____ at $500.00 per Delegate

Total amount enclosed: $ _____

Note: A $25.00 fee will be charged for any check returned by the bank.
Also, checks cannot be accepted 90 days beyond date of check.

REFUND POLICY FOR 2027

The following REFUND POLICY will be followed:

All cancellations must be submitted in writing either by USPS mail: ALABGS, PO Box 140, Portage, WI 53901 or e-mail: alabgs@amlegionauxwi.org. Email is preferred. Reservation fees will not be rolled over to the following session.

* **For Unit sponsors** - the refund amount will be sent to the Unit's treasurer.
All other sponsors - funds will be sent to the name listed on the sponsorship form.

FULL REFUND - 100% Back!

A full refund of the delegate fee will be issued to sponsors* who notify Department Headquarters of the cancellation and request the refund by **April 15, 2027**.

PARTIAL REFUND - Read below for updated partial refund requirement.

If the sponsor's reservation form was received on or **before** January 31, 2027 and the cancellation and refund request is postmarked/emailed after April 15, 2027, each cancelled reservation will be assessed a $50 processing fee.

If the sponsor's reservation form was received **after** January 31, 2027 and the cancellation and refund request is postmarked/emailed after April 15, 2027, each cancelled reservation will be assessed a $100 processing fee.

NO REFUNDS - will be issued for cancellations postmarked/emailed on or after May 1, 2027.

SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

☐ **Please transfer our Delegate fee to sponsor a delegate from another school.**

☐ **Please donate the non-refundable Delegate fee to the ALABGS General Fund.**

Note: If you do not select an option, your non-refundable Delegate fee is used to help offset expenditures of the ALA Badger Girls State program.

- If your Legion family is unable to pay the delegate fee, approach other civic organizations and businesses in your community or the school itself to help defray costs.
- If you will not be participating in the 2027 ALA Badger Girls State program, you must notify the school(s) you previously sponsored by January 31, 2027.
- Auxiliary Department Headquarters office does not notify a school when a sponsor withdraws from the program.
- Reservation forms and fees must be sent to Department Headquarters office by January 31, 2027.
- Make a copy of your completed sponsorship form for your record.
- Communication is the key to a successful ALA Badger Girls State session!

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Badger Girls State

BENEFACTORS DONATION FORM
Deadline: April 1, 2027

Thank you so much for becoming an ALA Badger Girls State Benefactor! Our program is successful because of our amazing sponsors and benefactors.

Please select the item(s) you wish to support with your benefactor donation. Many donations are required to meet all of these needs. If more money is received than is necessary to purchase the selected item, ALABGS reserves the right to designate your donation to another item where financial support is needed. Donations are needed no later than April 1, 2027, to purchase the items in time for our Girls State session.

- ☐ ALABGS Ink Pens ($10)
- ☐ Delegate Campaign Materials ($20)
- ☐ Badge Holders ($20)
- ☐ Lanyards ($25)
- ☐ City Supplies ($25)
- ☐ County Supplies ($25)
- ☐ Medical Supplies ($25)
- ☐ Counselor Costs ($50)
- ☐ Delegate Shirts ($100)
- ☐ Staff Shirts ($100)
- ☐ General Support ($_____)

TOTAL DONATION: $_____ (#4601)

Mail the benefactor form by 4/1/2027 with check* payable to "ALABGS" to:

ALA Badger Girls State
PO Box 140
Portage, WI 53901-0140

* Department will implement a $25.00 administrative fee for checks returned by the bank.

☐ Unit ☐ Post ☐ Squadron #: _____ District #: _____

Benefactor's Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

NOTE: Delegate sponsorships ($500) must be submitted using a sponsor (reservation) form.

American Legion Auxiliary

BADGER GIRLS STATE

JUNE 20-25, 2027

American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State is a premier leadership program for girls who have completed their Junior year of high school.

- ALABGS is a nonpartisan program that teaches young women responsible citizenship, the election process and civic duty by providing a hands-on understanding of the structure and functions of government at the local, state, and national levels.
- Delegates have the opportunity to run for and hold various elected offices, which helps develop leadership skills.
- Full-time participation is needed in order to gain a thorough knowledge of the program and to be eligible for any ALABGS Scholarships.
- Develop friendships with Delegates from various schools and communities across the state.
- Build life long connections and cultivate networking opportunities.

Contact us
608-745-0345

More Information
visit www.alabgs.org







UW-OSHKOSH UNIVERSITY

712 ELMWOOD AVENUE
OSHKOSH WI 54901

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
BADGER GIRLS STATE

PROSPECTIVE DELEGATE APPLICATION FORM

Students interested in attending ALABGS must meet all of the following eligibility requirements:

1. Be enrolled in the junior year of a Wisconsin public, parochial or private high school or home school whether the candidate resides in Wisconsin or a neighboring state.
2. Be interested in government and citizenship.
3. Have outstanding qualities of leadership, good moral character, cooperativeness, dependability, and participation in extracurricular activities.
4. Be academically eligible and recommended by their school to participate.

Note on Fitness: There is a lot of walking throughout the day (from classes to resident & dining halls) approximately 6 miles a day.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Complete and return this form to your school's American Legion Auxiliary Badger Girls State representative by _____. The school or sponsor will notify you of the time and date they've set for Delegate selection.

Student's Name _____

Date of Birth _____ **Age** _____

School Name & Location _____

List all Social Studies classes you have had or are now taking, Scholastic and Honorary Awards and all Extracurricular Activities in which you have participated. Be sure to indicate all offices held.

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12 (if applicable)

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
BADGER GIRLS STATE

Please write a short statement on "Why do you want to attend ALABGS?"

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Is an immediate family member of the student currently serving in the Armed Forces? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name _____

Signature _____

HIGH SCHOOL ENDORSEMENT

HS Point of Contact's

Name & Title _____

SELECTION COMMITTEE

Following is the point system, which we encourage you to use.

Point System:

A. Interest, Leadership, Character & Fitness.....60%

1. Candidate is a Junior member of the American Legion Auxiliary, the sponsoring organization of ALA Badger Girls State (automatic 10% of the 60%)
2. Interest (Social Studies classes should indicate interest in government)
3. Leadership (Class/Club offices, etc.)
4. Character... High standard of conduct (cooperative, considerate , courteous), good reputation, dependable, truthful, find ideals, punctual, interest in family and school.
5. Fitness (approximately 6 miles of walking throughout the day)

B. Extra-Curricular Activities.....25%
(Athletics, Clubs, Speech, Music, Community Service)

C. Scholastic.....15%