



Delegate Information
Booklet

About ALA Granite Girls State

What is ALA Granite Girls State?

The ALA Granite Girls State program is designed to educate New Hampshire's young women in the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of good citizenship. By getting involved in the process, you'll learn more about Town, City, County and State Government in one week than you'll learn in an entire semester of high school.

The young women selected for this are called Delegates and are assigned to one of two political parties - Federalist or Nationalist. As an active member of your party, you'll learn political party structure and have a definite function in the government system.

Through hands-on experience you have the opportunity to not only learn the mechanics of local and state government; you have the opportunity to learn citizenship and patriotism; you gain self-confidence, poise and character. Attendance also makes you eligible to apply for awards, honors and scholarships as outlined in this packet.

Benefits of attending ALA Girls State

The Department of New Hampshire American Legion Auxiliary has been a proud sponsor of ALA Granite Girls State for over 75 years. This program has been honored by central positions, such as Freedom's Foundation at Valley Forge and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

ALA Girls State is a nationally recognized program. Past participants have included:

Anne M. Edwards

Associate Attorney General of NH

Jane Pauley

Broadcast Journalist

Katie Couric

Talk Show Host

Sharla "Kris" Cook

Brigadier General of the Air Force

Lynne Cheney

Author, Education Reform Advocate, wife of the United States Vice President

Anne Richard

Former Governor of Texas

Where is ALA Granite Girls State?

ALA Granite Girls State 2023 will be held on the campus of St. Anselm College in Goffstown, New Hampshire the week of June 25th – July 1, 2023. Delegates and Staff will be housed in a dorm on campus. Each girl must provide her own transportation to and from ALA Granite Girls State. If you drive your personal car, you **must** turn your keys in to the ALA Girls State Staff at the Registration table upon arrival. Delegates are **not** allowed to leave the campus until after the closing session of ALA Granite Girls State on Saturday, July 1, 2023.

ALA Granite Girls State Policies

These policies were developed for your safety. Anyone who does not adhere to the ALA Girls State policies or creates a disturbance to the point that she disrupts the program and/or other ALA Girls State citizens, will be subject to **immediate dismissal** and **will be sent home** from the ALA Girls State Program. Some violations may be subject to criminal prosecution

Registration Sunday, June 25, 2023

Registration for the 2023 session of ALA Granite Girls State begins promptly at **1 PM** on Sunday, June 25 and closes at 3:00 PM in the dorm. Arrivals prior to 1:00 PM are unnecessary since registration will not open prior to that time.

After you register, you and your parents may enter the residence hall where you may unpack and meet your roommate. This will be the **ONLY** time guests will be allowed on the dorm floors.

At the Registration Area, please line up at the proper Registration Station by your last name. At the registration Station you will be handed a 3 X 5 card with your dorm room number, ALA Granite Girls State Town/City and County, and other information. **Before leaving the registration Station, check your name, and school information on the card.** Ensure the information shown on the card describes you and not another Delegate with the same or similar name. Once you have officially registered you are on your way to becoming a Citizen of ALA Granite Girls State.

Medical Information/Registration

The **Medical Record and Consent Form** must be fully completed, signed, and returned at registration. You must have had a physical exam in the last 2 years prior to attending ALA Girls State. In the event of a medical emergency, 911 will be called and medical attention will be given as deemed necessary by Emergency Responders.

Be sure that all required signatures are included on the form before returning it!

*Delegates with special medical or nutritional requirements **must notify** the ALA Granite Girls State office in writing at least 1 week prior to the arrival at ALA Girls State.*

While you are attending ALA Granite Girls State, you are covered by a blanket accident and liability policy maintained by the Department of New Hampshire American Legion Auxiliary. This coverage is excess coverage to insurance maintained by your parents. In the event you receive treatment at ALA Girls State, a bill will be directed to your parents through your health-insurance.

What to bring from home

Apparel

Bring enough clothes to last a week. Please be aware that, while in sessions, ALA Granite Girls State citizens should dress in business attire and will not be allowed to wear low cut or spaghetti strap tops and short shorts or skirts while they are attending sessions. Bring sweaters and/or light jackets as the AC may require them.

We suggest that you make sure your entire luggage and other belongings are clearly marked, inside and out, with your name and address.

Linen

You must also bring at least two single sheets for twin bed, one pillow and pillowcase, a light blanket, or quilt, personal-care items, towels, washcloths, soap, a fan (there is no air-conditioning in the residence hall), clothes hangers, alarm clock, and, if desired, a hairdryer, camera, musical instrument, sheet music, and computer. All rooms in the residence halls are equipped with Internet access.

Please see the next page for a suggested packing list.

Checklist

	Items to bring with you	Required/Optional/Suggested
	ALA Granite Girls State Delegate Information Packet	Required
	Dress/Suit or Blouse & Skirt (as specified below)	Required
	Dressy clothes appropriate for the Governors Inauguration and Graduation (Some girls bring their Prom dresses for the Inauguration as this is a more formal event but it is not necessary if you do not have one)	Required
	Suitable clothing for sessions: i.e. Slacks, dresses, skirts, or suits. NO short shorts, mini-skirts, low cut shirts, spaghetti strap tops, or tattered/torn jeans	Required
	Raingear	Suggested
	Comfortable walking shoes	Required
	Bedding (twin sheets, pillow, light blanket)	Required
	Personal Care Items (towels, soap, shampoo, hairdryer, personal items etc.)	Required
	Fan (no air conditioning in dormitory room)	Optional
	Clothes hangers	Suggested
	Alarm clock	Suggested
	Camera	Optional
	Radio (No T.V.'s)	Optional
	Musical Instruments (talent show)	If you plan to participate
	Sheet Music (if you have any patriotic music, this is especially useful for graduation and inauguration)	Suggested
	Material for political rally and campaigning (i.e. Construction paper, magic markers, crayons, scotch tape, and/or masking tape)	Optional – but especially useful for campaigning for office
	Notebook, pencils, and/or clipboard,	Required
	Money for (voluntary) spending money, change for vending machines	Suggested
	Snacks are allowed if in sealed or air-tight containers	Optional
	**One pair of shoes other than flip flops for Color Guard	Required
	Extension Cord (no telling where the plug will be)	Optional
	Water Bottles	Optional

Entertainment

There will be plenty of music at ALA Granite Girls State. If you play a musical instrument you are strongly encouraged to bring it along with you. They will be exceptionally useful for the inauguration and graduation. If you sing or play the piano your talents will also be useful throughout the week.

Participants are encouraged to bring sheet music and music stands along with them.

Housing

You'll be housed in a residence hall on the campus of St. Anselm College. Your residence hall and room number will be given to you at registration.

You'll stay in a two-person room and will be given a key code to your room at ALA Girls State registration. (There may be 3-person rooms as needed.)

ALA Granite Girls State staff will always be there with friendly words and to see that the dorms are quiet "after lights out" every night (11 p.m.).

General Information

All of your meals will be served on campus.

You may bring your cell phones and use them during the times we are not in session.

Cell phone usage will be allowed only after sessions. Any cell phones seen being used during sessions will be confiscated by the ALA Girls State staff and will be returned at the close of the week.

ALA Granite Girls State T-shirts will be available for purchase at the cost of \$15.00 at Registration and throughout the week.

How much money will you need?

Your sponsorship fee covers the full expense of your meals and accommodations, but you may want to bring additional money for personal use. A variety of beverages and snacks are available in vending machines so you may want to bring some change.

Policies

The ALA Granite Girls State Board of Directors developed these policies for the safety of ALA Granite Girls State Citizens and staff.

Smoking policy Smoking and the use of other tobacco products is strictly prohibited. Violators will be subject to **immediate dismissal** from the program.

Drugs, Alcohol and weapons policy Use or possession of illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, and/or weapons is strictly prohibited. Violators will be subject to **immediate dismissal** from the program and possible **criminal prosecution**.

Hazing policy Hazing in any form is strictly prohibited. Violators will be subject to **immediate dismissal** from the program and possible **criminal prosecution**.

Creating Disturbances Policy Creating disturbances to the point they disrupt the program and/or other ALA Girls State Citizens is strictly prohibited. Violators will be subject to **immediate dismissal** from the program.

No Boys Policy Boys are prohibited from the ALA Granite Girls State section of the dormitories.

Leaving campus Policy All citizens are restricted to the St. Anselm College campus and the facilities used by ALA Granite Girls State. Citizens will remain on campus throughout the entire week.

Cell phone usage Cell phone usage will be permitted in the dormitories or when not in session. Any cell phones seen or being used during session will be confiscated by ALA Girls State staff and will be returned at the end of the week. This policy includes text messaging.

Awards, Honors and Scholarships

Dottie Hunnewell Memorial Award

Dottie was a Department President and life member of the American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of NH. She was also a dear friend, dedicated counselor and ALA Granite Girls State Secretary for more than 25 years. Because of her love and devotion for this program, the American Legion Auxiliary voted to name this award in her honor.

Detachment of NH Girls State Award

Steve Fisher, Past Detachment of NH Commander established this award after being introduced to the ALA Granite Girls State program.

Those applying for the above named awards/scholarships must apply during their year of ALA Granite Girls State Citizenship.

The SAMSUNG Scholarship- Should you wish to be considered for this honor, the Samsung scholarship application form must be completed on line. Be warned – it is lengthy – so start early.

Go to: <http://legion.org/scholarships/Samsung>
Scroll down to Use the online application
Here you will be asked to create an account
An e-mail will be sent to you with further information.

This is truly a wonderful scholarship, please take your time in filling this out, you may hit save and go back to it at any time .Please make sure you click New Hampshire as the Department when asked and the form will be stored under the Department of New Hampshire.

Before you turn your application in, review and be sure that all required signatures are present on the form.

ALA Girls Nation - Two ALA Granite Girls State delegates will be selected to represent New Hampshire and ALA Granite Girls State at ALA Girls Nation. This is a week long exercise in the operation of Federal Government. Delegates will be chosen by ALA Granite Girls State staff members. Selection is based on leadership, cooperation, attitude, participation, interest in government, and desire.

In addition to the two ALA Girls Nation Delegates, two Alternates will also be selected, in the event that one of the delegates from ALA Granite Girls State is unable to attend.

ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE “DO’S AND DON’TS”

- DO** Come to ALA Girls State with an open mind and a willingness to learn. Be prepared to spend long, but rewarding, hours learning with the ALA Girls State program.
- DO NOT** Think you are coming to a summer recreation camp.
- DO** Appropriate clothing will be required for all ALA Girls State sessions also bring rain gear, and comfortable shoes. We will do a lot of walking.
- DO NOT** Bring clothing that are not respectable or abuse the dress code.
- DO** Keep the American Legion Auxiliary Unit, which is sponsoring you, informed of what you are doing. They are proud to have you represent them.
- DO NOT** Bring anything with you which is extremely valuable as all personal items are your responsibility. ALA Girls State assumes no responsibility for lost items.
- DO** Make a list of what you bring to ALA Girls State. This can serve as a checklist when you are packing for home. Mark items with your name before you leave home.
- DO NOT** Leave anything behind at ALA Girls State. If you do, please contact the American Legion Auxiliary Department headquarters.
- DO** Leave your car keys at the ALA Girls State registration desk if you are driving your personal car. They will provide the needed parking information for your car. This is a must.
- DO NOT** Leave campus any time during the week. Violators will be immediately sent home.
- DO** Be very clear about any medical conditions for which the caregivers at ALA Girls State should be aware. We want to spend a happy and healthy week at ALA Granite Girls State.
- DO** Be proud of being selected to attend ALA Girls State. It is an honor afforded to only a special group of New Hampshire's finest young women each year.

Tips for a Successful ALA Girls State

HAVE A GOOD ATTITUDE - BE ENTHUSIASTIC

- Your enthusiasm can go a long way to overcoming obstacles and solving problems.

TAKE INITIATIVE

- This means going that extra distance to finish the job or assist someone who needs your help.

HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR

- A good sense of humor can light up a life and make everyone's job seem easier.

THINK POSITIVELY

- Always take a "can do" approach to problems.

BE SINCERE

- Say what you mean and mean what you say.

TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR WORK

- No matter what your job is, take pride in the fact that you're doing your best to help others.

RESPECT OTHERS

- Take time to recognize and appreciate the skills and qualities of the people around you.

LEARN FROM OTHERS

- Be open to new ideas and suggestions from other people.

BE OPEN TO OTHERS

- Be flexible enough to respond to changes from other people.

COOPERATE WITH OTHERS

- A spirit of teamwork is essential to getting things done.

BE TOLERANT

- Learn to accept and appreciate the differences among people. You'll be a wiser person.

About ALA Granite Girls State Government

General Information

To get the most out of the ALA Granite Girls State program, you need to participate. Select an office you feel you can serve well. If you're interested in a particular office, do some research before coming to ALA Granite Girls State to find out all you can about the duties, functions and responsibilities of that office. You might want to consult an official holding the office as part of your research. Take full advantage of the ALA Girls State sessions to learn specific information about the office you seek. Once you have researched the office, campaign enthusiastically and, if elected, represent fellow citizens to the best of your abilities. Remember, they have entrusted their confidence in you! If you should lose, you have gained from those experiences in the election process.

Also, have alternative positions in mind. There are many, many appointed positions on all levels at Girls State so don't be discouraged if you don't get your first choice. There should be no one unemployed!! Make the very most of this time. You'll benefit now and far in the future!

Because our time is limited there are some areas where we have had to make decisions for you, but we attempt to adhere to New Hampshire laws and processes as closely as possible.

Political parties

Although you will select your own party affiliation in your private life when you turn 18, at ALA Granite Girls State you'll be assigned to a political party. There are two parties- Federalists and Nationalists. Once you are assigned to a party however you create your own party platform. You'll be among the approximately 60 girls attending the program.

Towns, Cities and Counties

At registration, you'll be assigned to town/city. Your town/city is part of the county. The town, city or county to which you are assigned will be named after ALA Girls State staff.