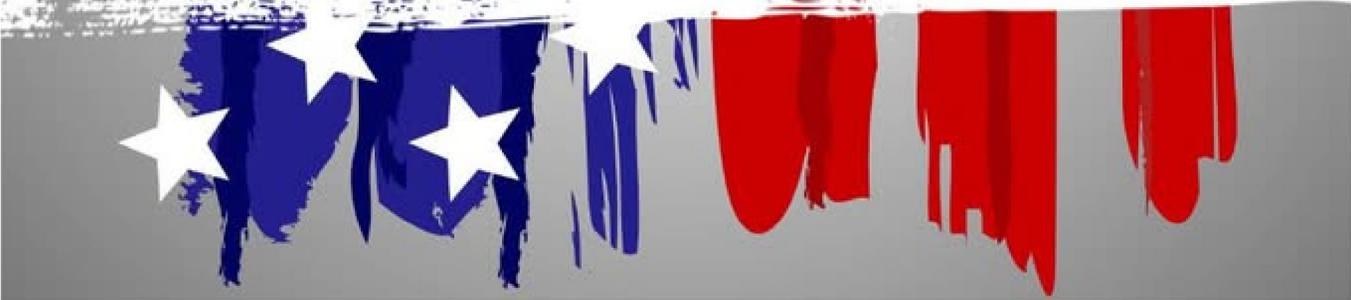




American Legion Auxiliary
**SOUTH DAKOTA
GIRLS STATE**

★ May 24-28, 2026 ★

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA - VERMILLION, SD
www.alasdgirlsstate.org



American Legion Auxiliary

South Dakota Girls State

PURPOSE

Our purpose is to help you understand and appreciate the American form of Government, which includes learning about your rights, privileges, and responsibilities of citizenship. We hope to inform you, through actual participation of how Government functions on the city, county, and state levels. During the session you will also hear many outstanding people speak concerning their elected or appointive offices in the State.

BENEFITS

There are many benefits of attending the ALA SD Girls State program:

- Personal Growth & Confidence Builder
- Communication & Public Speaking Skills
- Meeting New People & Building Connections
- Leadership Opportunities
- Hands-on Learning Experience of How Government Works
- Unforgettable Memories

SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships are offered through all universities and colleges throughout South Dakota* as well as others that are awarded during the ALA SD Girls State Event. A complete list can be found online at the ALA SD Girls State webpage.

- Bonnie Slade Memorial Scholarship
- Helen Gottsleben Memorial Scholarship
- Walter S. "Speedy" Travis Journalism Scholarship
- Samsung Scholarship (*National Award - \$10,000!*)

**Western Dakota Technical College does not have a current scholarship available.*

PATRIOTISM & CITIZENSHIP

A large focus of the ALA SD Girls State program is to promote patriotism and the value of being an engaged citizen in your local & state community. Playing an active role in government while building strong personal connections amongst your peers is a pivotal portion of the program.



HOW DO I APPLY?

1. Contact your local American Legion Auxiliary (ALA).
2. Complete a "State of Interest" and submit to your local ALA.
3. If selected & notified by the ALA you will complete the Pre-Registration form.
4. April 1st you will receive an email from the Director of ALA SD Girls State with additional information.