

Laurel Girls State - A Commitment to the Future

An American Legion Auxiliary Program



INTRODUCTION

Laurel Girls State is a program in Americanism. It began in 1944 with the goal of increasing the understanding of our democratic form of government, and has been one of the American Legion Auxiliary's major programs.

Laurel Girls State aims are as follows:

- **To prepare girls of high school age to live in a world where government touches our lives in many ways.**
- **To teach the principles of democracy in a representative form of government.**
- **To provide an atmosphere for teaching the duties, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship.**

WHAT IS GIRLS STATE?

Laurel Girls State is a mythical state whose government functions in the same manner as the State of Connecticut.

Most of each day at Laurel Girls State is spent on learning the political process starting with town government and finishing with the state government. The delegate should come prepared to spend the entire week discussing politics in its varied forms. She will be placed in a party, either Nationalist or Federalist, and expected to participate in campaigning, party platforms, and bill writing.

While the program has many speakers in the field of politics, the bulk of the time is spent by the girls experiencing the process. They will elect officials and conduct town/city meetings. Each girl is expected to participate at some level.

DATES, LOCATION, AND FEES

Laurel Girls State will be held on the campus of Eastern Connecticut State University from Saturday through Thursday, June 28 - July 3, 2008. ECSU is located in Willimantic, CT.

The cost per delegate of \$250 must be paid for by the sponsoring Unit/Post. The fee covers room and board, plus educational material. Please make checks payable to ALALGS and send them to the address [listed here](#).

The delegates should arrive at ECSU on Saturday between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.. Registration will take about 15 minutes, depending on the length of the line. The first meal served will be at dinner time.

Departure will be after the graduation ceremony on Thursday, at approximately 5:30 p.m..

We do not allow the girls off campus at any time during the week.

<http://www.alalgs.org/>