



American Legion Auxiliary Palmetto Girls State

P.O. Box 1985
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

April 2019

Dear Palmetto Girls State Delegate:

Welcome to American Legion Auxiliary Palmetto Girls State! We, the members of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of South Carolina, are excited that you will attend this exceptional program known as ALA Palmetto Girls State. We believe that you are about to partake in one of the greatest opportunities available to young ladies in high school, and we hope that your time at ALA Palmetto Girls State will be a truly remarkable experience. Your selection to attend ALA Palmetto Girls State is an honor and is a result of who you are. For you to have been nominated and selected to attend ALA Palmetto Girls State, someone believes that you are a special individual and that you are a leader in your school and community. Your attendance at ALA Palmetto Girls State offers you the opportunity to participate in mock political activities on the city, county, and state levels of government and to develop relationships with other young leaders from across the State of South Carolina.

ALA Girls State is a program developed and sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. The South Carolina version of ALA Girls State is ALA Palmetto Girls State, which is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of South Carolina. ALA Palmetto Girls State, like similar ALA Girls State programs being conducted across the nation, is an exercise in government, Americanism, and citizenship. As a program of the American Legion Auxiliary, ALA Palmetto Girls State operates under the tenets and principles of the American Legion Auxiliary. At ALA Palmetto Girls State, we respect the Constitution of the United States, as well as the Constitution of South Carolina, and we respect and salute the flags of the United States of America and South Carolina. ALA Girls State also recognizes the history and importance of "God and Country," and morning invocations and evening vesper services (sessions of devotion and reflection) are held daily at ALA Palmetto Girls State. All in attendance at ALA Palmetto Girls State are expected to participate in these daily activities and observances.

To achieve all that ALA Palmetto Girls State has to offer requires only desire and enthusiasm on your part. ALA Palmetto Girls State is not a summer camp designed solely for your entertainment and relaxation. To reap all that ALA Palmetto Girls State has to offer, you must make a commitment to being involved and to participating in the activities of the week. As you give your best while participating in the activities and mock governmental campaigns and elections in the mythical state of "Palmetto," you will learn not only of our government and the political process, but you have the opportunity to learn much about yourself, to make new friends, and to have an enjoyable experience. ALA Palmetto Girls State has the potential to be an unforgettable and rewarding experience, as well as an inspiration for years to come, but only if you want it to be.

This year's session of ALA Palmetto Girls State will take place from **June 9 – 15, 2019**, and will be held on the campus of Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina. The address of Presbyterian College is 503

South Broad Street, Clinton, South Carolina. Directions to the campus and a campus map are available on the ALA Palmetto Girls State website with the Delegate Informational Materials. We look forward to June 9 and your arrival at Presbyterian College. **Registration (or check-in) for ALA Palmetto Girls State will be held between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Sunday, June 9. Plan to arrive at Presbyterian College during this registration period.**

Upon arrival at ALA Palmetto Girls State and Presbyterian College, please proceed to Mabry-Smith-Yonce Hall ("MSY") to register and check-in with ALA Palmetto Girls State. Registration will be held in MSY, and all delegates must register/check-in at MSY before entering their dorms. MSY is located at 105 Ashland Drive (an interior street on campus). Parking is available in the lot adjacent to MSY.

At registration/check-in, each delegate will need to present

- (1) the \$40.00 registration fee,**
- (2) the \$40.00 room key/dorm access card deposit,**

(The total amount needed IN CASH is \$80.00. These fees are accounted for separately. Therefore, please have the exact amount in cash for each of these fees. No checks or credit/debit cards are accepted for these fees.)

- (3) a completed and signed Consent to Participate and Waiver of Claim form,**
- (4) a completed and signed Medical Consent, Waiver, and Health Record,**
- (5) a signed Citizen Pledge,**
- (6) a completed and signed Media/Publicity Release,**
- (7) a completed Delegate Bio/Media Information sheet, and**
- (8) (if applicable) a copy of completed Samsung Scholarship Application, which was also submitted online.**

All forms should be completed and signed before arrival at ALA Palmetto Girls State. (These forms are available on the ALA Palmetto Girls State website at www.palmettogirlsstate.net. The forms packet is located under the "Delegate" tab at the top of the webpage.) Any delegate applying for the Samsung American Legion Scholarship must complete the online application prior to arriving at ALA Palmetto Girls State and must submit a copy of the completed application at check-in at ALA PGS on June 9.

Following registration/check-in at MSY, delegates will proceed to their assigned dorms. Room and dorm assignments will be provided at registration on June 9. Please make sure that all luggage, bags, cosmetic cases, etc. are clearly marked with your name. Each delegate is responsible for carrying her luggage to her room. Please be aware that only Girls State delegates and Girls State staff are permitted in the living areas of the dorms. Neither parents nor friends are allowed into the living areas of the dorms. Let me repeat for emphasis: parents and friends are not allowed into the living areas of the dorms. Accordingly, each delegate is responsible for transporting her luggage and belongings to her room. Therefore, each delegate should pack knowing that she alone is responsible for carrying all luggage and belongings to her room.

We expect approximately 640 delegates for this year's session of ALA Palmetto Girls State. Registering and moving that many people with luggage takes time. Overcrowding and congestion are inevitable. Please be patient. You can assist in avoiding congestion by arriving early, by limiting good-byes with family, and, most importantly, by being prepared for registration with all forms completed and the exact money needed to register. Also, when packing, you should consider the fact that you are responsible for moving your own luggage to your room and limit the amount of luggage you have.

After check-in, you may use any free time to unpack, to get your room straight, and to eat lunch in the Presbyterian College cafeteria. You may also use the time to meet others on your floor and help others as they arrive. Lunch will be available for Girls State participants only. If you do not plan on eating lunch at ALA Palmetto Girls State, then please eat prior to arrival. (But note the 12:00 p.m. (noon) arrival deadline.) Once you check-in at ALA Palmetto Girls State, you are not to leave, even to go out to eat with family members. Meetings within each city and then the first assembly are scheduled to begin after lunch on June 9, and all delegates are expected to be present.

Do not bring valuable or irreplaceable jewelry or large amounts of money. Neither ALA Palmetto Girls State nor Presbyterian College assumes responsibility or liability for loss or damage to personal effects or property. During your stay at ALA Palmetto Girls State, you are asked to lock your room, but even though you may secure your room, you still should not bring valuable belongings or large sums of money. There is an ATM located on campus should additional cash be needed.

A non-refundable registration fee of \$40.00 is required from each participant. Also, a deposit of \$40.00 for your room key and dorm access card is required. The room key/dorm access card deposit will be refunded on Saturday morning after a room check and after you return the room key and dorm access card at checkout. Should you fail to return the room key and/or the dorm access card, you will not receive your deposit, and you will be charged the additional costs associated with replacing the dorm access card and/or replacing or rekeying the lock on the room. NOTE: Charges for missing keys and dorm access cards are assessed to Girls State when the Girls State office checks out on Saturday, June 15. Therefore, delegates cannot return the dorm key or dorm access card by mail. Missing keys and dorm access cards must be paid for before delegates depart campus.

DELEGATES MAY NOT HAVE PERSONAL CARS AT ALA PALMETTO GIRLS STATE. Each delegate and her family are responsible for arranging transportation to and from ALA Palmetto Girls State. Please observe the registration times of 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon on Sunday, June 9. On Saturday, June 15, we will dismiss at approximately 11:00 a.m.; please make arrangements to depart campus no later than 12:00 noon on June 15. There is no lunch service on campus on Saturday, June 15.

Each delegate and her parents should carefully review this letter and the other materials including the forms packet and the letter to parents. These materials are available on the ALA Palmetto Girls State website at www.palmettogirlsstate.net and may be found under the "Delegate" tab at the top of the webpage. Attendance at ALA Palmetto Girls State is a privilege. Every delegate is expected and required to abide by the rules of the program, including adherence to the dress code that is prescribed for ALA Palmetto Girls State. The dress code is explained in detail in paragraph 21 on pages 7 - 9, which follow, and in paragraph 1 of the "What to Bring with You" section on pages 9 - 10.

We look forward to meeting you and having you in attendance at the 73rd ALA Palmetto Girls State.

Sincerely,



Florence P. Belser

Director, ALA Palmetto Girls State

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES TO ALA PALMETTO GIRLS STATE

IMPORTANT: Information on the dress code may be found in paragraph 21 on pages 7 – 9 and in paragraph 1 of the “What to Bring With You” section located on pages 9 – 10.

1. **Registration/check-in is 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Sunday, June 9, 2019.** Please arrive early to allow sufficient time to complete registration during this time period. We will register approximately 640 girls during this time period. Please plan your arrival taking into account the number of registrants, the 3-hour window to check-in/register, and the probability of lines. Early arrival is highly recommended.
2. Registration/check-in will be held in the Mabry-Smith-Yonce Hall (“MSY”). Please consult the campus map available on the PGS website for the location of MSY. There is a parking lot adjacent MSY.
3. **Delegates are not allowed to have personal cars at ALA Palmetto Girls State.** Delegates and their families are responsible for arranging transportation to and from Presbyterian College. Please observe the times for registration on Sunday, June 9, and the time to depart campus on Saturday, June 15. (See paragraphs 1 above and 5 below.)
4. On arrival day, parking in the lot adjacent to MSY will be monitored. After completing registration/check-in, we request that cars in the lot adjacent to MSY be moved to make way for others arriving. Cars may be moved to the parking areas near the dorms for unloading of luggage. Once the delegate has registered at MSY and unloaded her belongings at her assigned dorm, family members should make their good-byes and allow the delegate to begin her ALA Girls State experience. Good-byes with family should be made, and then family should leave to clear the way for other arrivals.
5. On Saturday, June 15, 2019, delegates will be dismissed to leave after the assembly and ceremony. This should be at approximately 11:00 a.m. Please arrange to depart campus no later than 12:00 p.m (noon). ALA Palmetto Girls State Staff members must finish breaking down equipment and depart campus, and Presbyterian College has to prepare dorms for the next group. When delegates are late departing from campus, ALA PGS staff and Presbyterian College workers are delayed also. There will be no lunch service on campus for ALA Palmetto Girls State on Saturday, June 15. ***NOTE: The closing assembly is not open to visitors. We are sorry, but the auditorium does not have room for family and friends to attend our closing session.***
6. Delegates are expected to remain in attendance at ALA PGS for the entire week. However, each year some delegates seek permission to leave early. Permission to leave early should be requested and obtained prior to arrival at ALA Palmetto Girls State on Sunday, June 9. Any delegate requesting to leave the program early must contact the Unit sponsoring the delegate and ask the Unit to contact ALA PGS personnel. ALA PGS personnel will not approve early departure without the sponsoring Unit approving of the early departure and requesting early departure on behalf of the delegate. Further, early departures must be arranged and scheduled to fit within the ALA PGS schedule. We have a full and busy schedule. Anyone seeking permission to leave early must coordinate the departure with the ALA PGS Administrative Staff to ensure that the departure works within our schedule. Please also be advised that the Constitution of Palmetto Girls State provides in Article VIII that “Each citizen **completing the course of study and activities** of Palmetto Girls State shall receive a Certificate of

Merit and a charm.” Therefore, charms and certificates are awarded at the end of the program to those delegates who are present to receive them at the graduation ceremony. Delegates departing from the program early do not receive a certificate or a charm.

7. **Please clearly mark all bags, suitcases, cosmetic cases, etc. with name and address.** After registration, each delegate is responsible for moving her luggage to her room. It is very easy to place bags in an area and then forget to pick one up. Also, many bags and packages look alike and could be picked up by mistake. If items are not marked with a delegate’s name, it may be impossible to return misplaced items to the proper person.
8. Delegates may use cell phones in the dorms and after dismissal from scheduled activities. Except for clearly announced uses related to ALA Palmetto Girls State (such as text voting), cell phone use (including calls, texting, emails, games, or any other use or application) is not allowed during assemblies, meetings, or other scheduled activities. **ALA Palmetto Girls State is an educational program and should be respected as an educational program.** Non ALA PGS-related use of cell phones, smart phones, PDAs, and other electronic devices during meetings and/or assemblies may result in dismissal from ALA Palmetto Girls State. Further, delegates are expected to attend to ALA Palmetto Girls State activities before responding to phone calls, texts, emails, etc. Use of cell phones and other electronics should not disrupt the activities of ALA Palmetto Girls State and should not be loud, annoying, inconvenient, or otherwise bothersome of others. Delegates are expected to restrict use of cell phones and other electronic devices (talking, texting, gaming, web-browsing, etc.) to free times and not to allow cell phone/electronic device use to be disruptive.

We plan to utilize “text voting” for certain elections at the 2019 session of ALA Palmetto Girls State. Delegates will be allowed to utilize their phones during these voting periods for text voting only. However, these periods when “text voting” will take place will be announced and will be of short duration. Other than these announced periods when “text voting” occurs, delegates are not to use cell phones during assemblies, meetings, and other scheduled activities of ALA Palmetto Girls State.

Part of the ALA PGS experience is the immersion of all attendees in the program without outside distractions. Delegates should not expect to be able to call, text, and/or email at all times. Also, parents, please refrain from calling or texting your daughter during the day. We follow a regimented and tight schedule. Your daughter may have the opportunity to call you during her free time, but incoming calls, texts, and emails disrupt the scheduled activities. Also, please do not be concerned if your daughter cannot call home every day or even accept your calls. We have a lot of activities at ALA PGS, and if she cannot call home or take your call, it just means that she is busy and probably enjoying ALA PGS experience.

9. **Visitors are not allowed at ALA Palmetto Girls State.** We follow a tight schedule at ALA Palmetto Girls State. We have neither the time nor the space for visitors (this pertains to both family and any other persons who may want to visit). Please do not “drop by” to see your daughter or encourage others to do so. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this regard. Also, please note that the closing assembly on Saturday, June 15, is not open to visitors as there is not sufficient room in the auditorium for family or friends to attend our closing session.
10. Should someone need to deliver a package to a delegate, the package or delivery should be delivered to the ALA Palmetto Girls State “Delegate Services” office located on the first floor of Spradley Hall (formerly known as Senior Hall). (Spradley Hall is located across Ashland Drive from Templeton Physical

Education Complex.) Please make sure that any package or delivery is clearly marked with the delegate's name, and if known, her room assignment. The office personnel will contact the delegate to let her know she has a package. Please DO NOT make deliveries directly to a delegate's dorm, and please DO NOT attempt to meet with a delegate. Also, delivery of prepared food (e.g. take out, delivery, etc.) is not appropriate. (Please see paragraph 12 below.)

11. **Only participants of ALA Palmetto Girls State (delegates, counselors, and staff members), designated staff or officials of Presbyterian College, or a person or persons with the permission of the Director are allowed in the dorms during the time ALA Palmetto Girls State is in session.** Violation of this policy may result in dismissal of the delegate from ALA Palmetto Girls State.
12. Meals will be provided on campus through the campus dining services. In addition, snacks are available from vending machines and the ALA PGS canteen. You may bring some snacks with you. However, take-out food deliveries are not allowed. This applies to deliveries from take-out places or from friends or family. Parents, please respect our position in this regard.
13. **Do not bring valuable, sentimental, or irreplaceable items such as jewelry, large sums of cash, etc. Neither ALA Palmetto Girls State nor Presbyterian College assumes responsibility or liability for lost or missing items.** If in doubt, leave the item at home. While we urge everyone to keep their rooms locked, there may be times when you forget and leave your room unlocked and open. The best safeguard is to leave valuables at home.
14. **REMEMBER THE \$40.00 REGISTRATION FEE AND \$40.00 ROOM KEY/DORM ACCESS CARD DEPOSIT.** Please bring the exact amounts in cash – i.e., four (4) twenty dollar bills or any combination where you have exactly \$40.00 and \$40.00. These fees are accounted for separately and are maintained separately. **Cash is required – NO checks, money orders, credit cards, or debit cards are accepted for payment of these fees at registration/check-in.** The Room Key/Dorm Access Card deposit will be returned on Saturday, June 15, provided the room key and dorm access card are returned. If the room key or dorm access card or both are lost during the week or are not returned prior to leaving on Saturday, June 15, then the delegate is responsible for paying the charges levied by Presbyterian College to cover the costs of replacing the dorm access card or of replacing or rekeying the lock to the room. Currently, Presbyterian College contacts a local locksmith to rekey the lock and make new keys, and the charges for these services are \$150.00. The deposit will not cover the full charges incurred by Presbyterian College, and any delegate losing a key or failing to return a key will be responsible for the full amount of the costs to rekey the lock and provide new keys.
15. Each delegate will be provided two (2) ALA Palmetto Girls State T-shirts (white with blue lettering) and one T-shirt designating her party affiliation for the week (either yellow or blue). Delegates are expected to wear an ALA Palmetto Girls State T-shirt daily. Additionally, extra T-shirts and other souvenirs will be available for purchase in the ALA PGS Store. T-shirts range in price from \$10.00 – \$25.00. Other souvenir items are also available in the ALA Palmetto Girls State store. Cash, credit cards, or debit cards may be used for purchases in the ALA PGS Store; however, checks are not accepted in the store. The PGS Store will be open during registration should parents want to purchase items.
16. Please read the ALA Palmetto Girls State Pledge before signing. Each delegate is expected to abide by the pledge as it is written. **Please realize that violation of the ALA Palmetto Girls State Pledge or the rules**

of ALA Palmetto Girls State may result in dismissal from ALA Palmetto Girls State. Additionally, violation of the rules of Presbyterian College or damage/theft of property or another person's belongings may result in dismissal from ALA Palmetto Girls State. Further, please be aware that ALA Palmetto Girls State reserves the right to contact local law enforcement authorities for assistance should damage or theft of property or belongings occur.

17. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE AND/OR ALA PALMETTO GIRLS STATE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ENTER ROOMS AT ANY TIME FOR PURPOSES OF MANAGEMENT, SAFETY, HEALTH, AND MAINTENANCE, OR TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE RULES, REGULATIONS, AND STATE LAW. Please be further advised that ALA Palmetto Girls State supports Presbyterian College in this regard and will assist Presbyterian College as needed. **Possession of (1) fireworks, firearms, air guns, other weapons (knives, daggers, etc.) or (2) illegal drugs, alcohol, or prescription medicines without a valid, current prescription are prohibited and will result in immediate dismissal from ALA Palmetto Girls State.** Presbyterian College has a non-smoking policy. ALL dorms and dorm rooms at Presbyterian College are non-smoking buildings and rooms. Smoking in the dorms or the dorm rooms will result in immediate dismissal from the program. Also, no candles, incense, or other flame-producing or flammable materials are to be used in the dorms or dorm rooms. Violation of this provision will result in dismissal from the program. In addition to the foregoing, please be aware that ALA Palmetto Girls State reserves the right to contact local law enforcement authorities for assistance should any delegate be found in possession of illegal weapons, illegal drugs, or alcohol.
18. Each person in attendance at ALA Palmetto Girls State is responsible for her own actions. Acts of dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal from the program. Any damages caused to Presbyterian College property, or ALA Palmetto Girls State property, will result in the party(ies) causing such damage being assessed for the cost of the damages. Intentional acts causing damages to property could result in dismissal from the program.
19. ALA Palmetto Girls State will have a staff member available for simple "nursing" duties, such as band-aids, aspirin, and Pepto-Bismol. We will also rely on "doctor's care" facilities or a local hospital's emergency room. All costs and charges incurred for medical care or medical treatment are the responsibility of the delegate's parent(s) or guardian(s).
20. A physical examination is not required to attend ALA Palmetto Girls State. However, the "Medical Consent, Waiver, and Health Record" must be completed and signed by a parent or legal guardian. This "Medical Consent, Waiver, and Health Record" must be submitted, along with the other required forms, upon check-in on Sunday, June 9. Please have all forms completed and signed before arrival at ALA Palmetto Girls State on June 9.
21. **DRESS CODE:** Throughout the week we have numerous dignitaries who visit ALA Palmetto Girls State. We expect all attendees to behave and dress as young ladies, which means among other things to be courteous and honest and to dress neatly and appropriately for ALA Palmetto Girls State. All delegates are expected to adhere to proper dress and to follow the dress code. We are not at the lake, the beach, or the mall; we are in an educational setting on a college campus. The dress code for ALA Palmetto Girls State is as follows:
 - A. For normal daily activities at ALA Palmetto Girls State, delegates are to wear a white ALA PGS

- T-shirt with appropriate skirt, slacks, skorts, or shorts. (“Appropriate skirt, slacks, skorts, or shorts” is described in the next paragraph.)
- B. “Appropriate skirt, slacks, skorts, or shorts” means neat clothing (with no words or lettering and not tattered or containing holes and not athletic clothing) of the length specified in this dress code.
- (1) Skirts, Shorts, and Skorts – **Skirts, shorts, and skorts must not be more than three (3) inches above the top of the knee.** In other words, the hem of skirts, shorts, and skorts may not be shorter than three (3) inches above the knee. “Top of the knee” means at the top of the kneecap, not an arbitrary spot on the thigh.
 - (2) Skirts, shorts, and/or skorts which are shorter than three (3) inches above the top of the knee are not acceptable. In other words, if the hem of the garment is more than three (3) inches when measured from the top of the kneecap, then that garment is too short to meet the Girls State dress code. Short shorts, cut-offs, ragged or “holey” clothing, bike shorts, athletic shorts, nylons, shorts with writing/slogans, and team apparel are neither acceptable nor appropriate attire for daily activities.
 - (3) Slacks/pants – For everyday activities while on campus, slacks may be ankle length or Capri length. (Note: Capri length is well below the knee – i.e. mid-calf.) On campus, delegates may wear pants made of denim (blue jeans or other color denim). If a delegate chooses to wear slacks on the Friday trip to Columbia, the slacks must be ankle-length. Also, for the trip to Columbia, no denim pants are acceptable (blue jeans or other color). Further information on acceptable clothing for our trip to Columbia, see paragraph “C” below and the “Bullet point” on page 9 identified as “Appropriate attire for the trip to Columbia.”
 - (4) Skirts, skorts, shorts, and slacks must be neat and of the length stated herein. The hem of the garment must be no shorter than three (3) inches above the top of the knee when standing naturally with the arms by the side and without pulling the garment down on the body. If the garment must be pulled or tugged down to meet the required length it is too short to meet the dress code for ALA Palmetto Girls State.
- C. For Friday trip to Columbia - On Friday, June 14, ALA Palmetto Girls State will travel to Columbia. On this trip to Columbia, delegates must wear a skirt or slacks with the white ALA PGS T-shirt. A navy blue (or black or other dark colored) skirt or slacks is requested. Navy or dark color is only requested, and if you do not have an appropriate length skirt or slacks dark in color, another color is acceptable. Skirts may be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee; slacks must be ankle length. Also, no blue jean pants or denim pants regardless of color. This means (1) NO shorts and (2) NO blue jean/denim pants of any length (long pants, Capri pants, or shorts) and (3) NO pants/slacks that are not ankle length are to be worn on this off-campus trip to Columbia. Delegates must bring a skirt of the appropriate length (i.e. no shorter than 3 inches above the knee) or slacks (not blue jeans or denim pants and ankle length, not Capri) to wear for the trip to Columbia. If a skort is chosen as the attire for this off-campus trip, the skort must have a flap on the front and back and look like a skirt and be no shorter than three (3) inches above the knee (i.e. the skort must look like a skirt and meet the appropriate length for a skirt under this dress code).
- D. Clothing with obscene or suggestive slogans, words, writings, etc. is not appropriate at ALA Palmetto Girls State and should not be worn at any time.
- E. Athletic shorts and clothing **are not** permitted during daily activities, except athletic apparel may be worn during city competitions and after hours in the dorms.

- F. Tattered or torn shoes and rubber flip flops **are not acceptable** footwear. Additionally, please do not wear shoes with “spike” heels. We do not want to mar the floors of the areas we use for meetings.
- G. ALA PALMETTO GIRLS STATE IS A VOLUNTARY ACTIVITY, AND ATTENDANCE AT THE PROGRAM INDICATES ACQUIESCENCE WITH THE RULES. FURTHER, ATTENDANCE IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT, AND ANYONE WANTING TO ATTEND THE PROGRAM MUST ABIDE BY THE RULES – INCLUDING THE DRESS CODE. The dress code will not be debated. This is our dress code, and all delegates are required to abide by this dress code.

22. Mail may be sent to delegates attending ALA Palmetto Girls State. Mail should be addressed as follows: NAME OF DELEGATE, ALA Palmetto Girls State, c/o Presbyterian College, 503 South Broad Street, Clinton, SC 29325. **DO NOT HAVE MAIL SENT TO THE ADDRESS ON THE LETTERHEAD.** Because mail coming into ALA Palmetto Girls State is routed through Presbyterian College’s mail room, please advise anyone who may send you mail not to send anything after Tuesday, or you may not receive it.

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

1. **Appropriate clothes that meet the dress code.** For normal daily assemblies, meetings, and activities on campus, Sunday through Saturday, each delegate will wear an ALA Palmetto Girls State T-shirt. Each delegate will be supplied with two (2) white Girls State T-shirts and one (1) blue or yellow T-shirt depending on party assignment. (These are the only approved T-shirts that may be worn for scheduled daily activities. Extra delegate T-shirts may be purchased in the ALA PGS store.) Keep in mind that you will wear the Girls State T-shirt every day with appropriate skirt, slacks (including Capri pants), skorts, or shorts. [NOTE: *Skirts, shorts, and skorts must be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee. Please refer to the dress code in paragraph 21 of the “Information for Delegates” (beginning on page 7 of 12) for a description of what constitutes acceptable clothing.*]
 - Dress code compliant clothes for the week.
 - A light sweater or jacket. Meeting rooms are sometimes cool.
 - Raincoat and/or umbrella. We walk – rain or shine.
 - Comfortable shoes for daily wear. We walk a lot. This is not the time to break in a new pair of shoes. Rubber flip flops are appropriate as shower shoes; rubber flip flops are NOT appropriate footwear for assemblies and other scheduled events. Please, no spike heels for daily wear. We do not want spike heels to mar the floor of meeting rooms with wooden floors.
 - Athletic shoes are needed for city competitions.
 - A pair of thick-soled shoes or athletic shoes to wear to our trip to Columbia on Friday. We will walk in a parade along Main Street to the State House. Thick-soled shoes or athletic shoes would serve you well here. It will be hot, and we will walk a lot. Heels, flip flops, reef shoes, rainbows, and sandals are not advisable. Athletic shoes are also needed for city competitions held during the week.
 - Appropriate attire for the trip to Columbia (IMPORTANT: Shorts and blue jean/denim pants of any length are NOT permitted for the trip to Columbia.)-- On Friday for our trip to Columbia, it is requested that each delegate wear a navy blue (or black or other dark colored) skirt or slacks. Navy or dark color is only requested, and if you do not have an acceptable length skirt or slacks dark in color, any color is acceptable. Shorts (of any type or material) and blue jeans/denim pants (regardless of the length – i.e. ankle length, Capri length, or shorts) are not permitted for our off-campus trip to Columbia. Skirts must be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee. Skorts must

look like a skirt with flaps on the front and back and be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee. Slacks must be ankle length and cannot be blue jeans or denim material regardless of color. Be advised that delegates will be sitting on the steps of the State House during the inauguration ceremony. Seating is crowded. Past experience has proven that tight skirts result in a very uncomfortable time. (Navy skirts, while not required, are available through many mail order clothing stores such as LL Bean, Eddie Bauer, and Lands End and may also be found at school uniform supply stores.)

RECAP: Shorts, any pants not reaching the ankle, and blue jeans or any color denim pants regardless of length are not acceptable attire for our trip to Columbia for the parade, inauguration, and visit to the State House. Therefore, every delegate should bring at least one skirt or pair of slacks (slacks must be ankle length and not blue jeans/denim) which meets the dress code. A skirt of appropriate length is acceptable for the trip to Columbia, provided the skirt has flaps on the front and back and looks like a skirt.

- Undergarments, socks, hose, etc.
- Casual clothing – jeans, shorts, and shirts – for after hours, and athletic clothing for city competitions. (These items may be worn after the daily activities are concluded.) Please do not bring clothing with offensive or obscene slogans or words; clothes with offensive or obscene words are not acceptable at any time.

2. **Cosmetics, toiletries and personal items** – toothbrush, toothpaste, brush, soap, shampoo, any personal items which you regularly use, and those items needed for monthly period. Also, any prescription or regular medication that you take.

3. **Linens/bedding (sheets and pillow case), blanket, and pillow.** Also towels and washcloths. NOTE: Most beds in the dorms at Presbyterian College are twin extra-long (Twin XL). While some rooms may have standard twin beds, we do not know which rooms will have beds which are Twin XL and which rooms may still have standard Twin size beds. Delegates are advised to bring either Twin XL sheets or larger sized sheets which may be “tucked in” to fit either the standard Twin or the Twin XL mattress.) Please see the last page of these materials for further information.

4. **Shower shoes, bathrobe/cover-up, and shower tote** – Some dorms have hall/community baths. Shower shoes will be needed for trips to the shower. Also, a small pail or plastic tote (i.e. shower tote) to carry soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc., to and from the bath is helpful. Shower shoes and a shower tote are recommended regardless of whether you are assigned to a dorm with a hall/community bath or not. Also, a bathrobe or cover-up is recommended.

5. **Alarm clock, camera, radio, change for canteen and vending machines, some spending money** - Extra T-shirts and souvenirs will be available in the PGS store, and drinks and snacks will be available in the ALA PGS canteen. A large amount of money is not needed. There is an ATM on campus, and credit/debit cards will be accepted in the ALA PGS store ONLY.

6. **Registration materials** –

A. Forms needed for check-in (COMPLETED AND SIGNED before arrival) –

REQUIRED FORMS:

- (1) Consent to Participate and Waiver of Claim form,
- (2) Medical Consent, Waiver, and Health Record,

- (3) Citizen Pledge,
- (4) Delegate Bio/Media Information sheet,
- (5) Media/Publicity Release.

OPTIONAL MATERIALS:

- (1) Samsung scholarship (if applicable).

B. REQUIRED FEES:

- (1) \$40.00 ALA PGS registration fee; and
- (2) \$40.00 room key/dorm access card deposit.

IMPORTANT: Exact amounts in cash for these two fees are required. No checks, no credit cards, and no debit cards are accepted for these two fees.

7. **DO NOT BRING:**

- 1. Alcohol
- 2. Tobacco
- 3. Illegal drugs
- 4. Weapons (including pocket knives) or fireworks
- 5. Campaign materials
- 6. Candles, incense, or other items requiring burning.

Although most people realize these above-listed 6 items are inappropriate at ALA Palmetto Girls State, we just want to make sure that everyone understands that these items are not allowed

- 8. During the exercises and activities at ALA Palmetto Girls State, our delegates will offer and run for various offices in our state of "Palmetto." No prepared campaign materials or campaign supplies may be brought to ALA PGS. Additionally, there should be no campaigning conducted via social media (i.e Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.) before ALA PGS begins. After arrival at ALA PGS, all delegates will be advised of the rules pertaining to campaigning. There should be no campaigning for any office conducted prior to June 9 and the start of ALA PGS.
- 9. **This checklist is intended to aid you in preparing for ALA Palmetto Girls State. We cannot anticipate every delegate's need. If you have a special need, then please remember to pack for that need!**

*****IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT DORMS*****

Size of Beds/Mattresses:

- Presbyterian College is in the process of converting the mattresses in ALL dorms to twin extra-long (Twin XL).
- We do not know which rooms will have beds which are Twin XL and which rooms may still have standard Twin size beds.
- Delegates are advised to bring either Twin XL sheets or larger sized sheets which may be “tucked in” to fit either the standard Twin or the Twin XL mattress.
- If a delegate does not have Twin XL sheets, consider using a larger flat sheet instead of a fitted sheet or sheets for a Full or Queen sized mattress.
- The dimensions of a twin extra-long (Twin XL) mattress are 39” x 80”.
- Standard sizes of flat sheets are
 - Twin--66 x 96 inches (or 167 x 243 cm)
 - X-Long Twin--66 x 102 inches (or 167 x 259 cm)
 - Full--81 x 96 inches (or 205 x 243 cm)
 - Queen--90 x 102 inches (or 228 x 259 cm)

Dorms with Community (Hall) Baths:

- Some dorms at Presbyterian College have community (hall) baths
- Community (hall) bath refers to a dorm where the rooms do not have adjoining baths but all rooms of the floor share one or more large bathrooms with each bathroom having multiple sinks, showers, and toilets
- All delegates should consider bringing a bath tote or small pail/bucket to assist with carrying shampoo, soap, and toiletries to the bath. Regardless of whether a delegate is assigned to a dorm with a community bath or not, the tote/pail will assist in keeping shampoo, soap, and other toiletries together.
- All delegates should also consider packing shower shoes and bathrobes/cover-ups.