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October 2025

Attention ALA Badger Girls State Chairman:

The American Legion Auxiliary 81st Badger Girls State Session is scheduled for Sunday, June 21 through Friday, June 26, 2026, at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh campus, Oshkosh, WI. The reservation fee is **\$500.00** per delegate for the 2026 session.

Please read the 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, 2026**. 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: 608-996-2152 ♦ 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dany Thompson".

Dany Thompson, ALABGS Chairman

Ph: 920-379-6489 ♦ Email: alabgs.chairman@gmail.com