

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO:Secondary School PrincipalsFROM:Stephen Armstrong
State Department of EducationDATE:August 1, 2019

SUBJECT: 2020 United States Senate Youth Program

The United States Youth Senate Program is a national initiative to provide a yearly opportunity for talented secondary school students with demonstrated leadership abilities to deepen their understanding of America's political processes and encourage them to pursue their interest in professions in public service. Each year, two students from Connecticut are selected to travel to Washington, D.C. (March, 2020) to represent the state at the annual United States Youth Program. The two students selected for this program will each receive a \$5,000 William Randolph Hearst Foundation scholarship.

Regulations for Eligibility and Selection

- 1. The student must be a secondary school junior or senior who has not previously been a delegate to this program and meets one or more of the criteria listed below:
 - a. Elected school organization officer (school wide organizations preferred).
 - b. Student representative (selected by a panel, commission, or board to district, regional, or statelevel civic or educational organization.
 - c. Elected student officer of a statewide organization.
- 2. The student must be a permanent resident of the United States currently enrolled in a public orprivate secondary school located in the state in which either one of his or her parents or guardians legally resides.
- 3. The student must be interested in entering a public service profession or seeking public office in the future.
- 4. Only two candidates from each school may be nominated.
- 5. Each candidate must be endorsed by the high school principal.
- 6. Each student nominated must complete the STUDENT APPLICATION.
- 7. Each student nominated must provide an up-to-date resume (not to exceed 2 pages) that includes courses taken and grades from the last two school years, achievements, extra/co-curricular activities, offices held, and community, church or service organizations/activities.
- 8. Each nominated student must submit two one-page essays,

Essay 1: (Note: the USSYP is designed for students who aspire to enter careers in public service.) Describe the area of public service profession you wish to enter and provide specific reasons why you are committed to this area of public service

Essay 2: Describe a specific activity or event where you have provided "difference-making" measurable leadership.

2020 United States Senate Youth Program

Selection Process & Checklist

- Once selected and endorsed by the secondary school principal, the student will complete the: Student Application Two one-page essays; and Resume (see specifics stated previously for content to be included).
- Applications packages must be postmarked no later than Friday, October 18, 2019.
- Return the completed Youth Senate application, essay and resume package to: Stephen Armstrong State Department of Education 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 603 Hartford, CT 06103
- After the review of all submitted applications, 10-15 finalists will be selected for the Finalist Interview Session.
- The school principal will be contacted by telephone and E-mail should a student from a school be selected as a finalist. <u>No communication relative to finalist selection will be sent to a student</u>. All communication will be sent to the school principal, or designee.
- The Final Interview Session for the USSYP will be conducted the week of **November 4<u>. 2019</u>**. at CREC, Capitol Region Education Council, Hartford.
- The names of the two nominated students and two alternates (if either of the top two nominees is unable to comply with regulations) will be announced within two weeks of the interview session.
- No student will be considered unless all information has been submitted by the postmark date.

If you have any questions please call Mr. Armstrong at (860)713-6706 or email, stephen.armstrong@ct.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Armstrong

Stephen Armstrong Academic Office Connecticut State Department of Education

2019-2020 STUDENT APPLICATION United States Senate Youth Program

and Hearst Foundation Scholarship

DATES & DEADLINES

Each school may submit only two candidates who meet the following criteria:

- Must currently be a grade 11 or 12 student;
- Must be a Connecticut resident;
- Must be a permanent resident of the United States;
- Must be currently serving in a leadership role (elected/appointed) in a school, community or statewide organization;
- Has an expressed desire/intention to enter a public service profession or seek elective public office in the future.
- Completed applications must be **postmarked** no later than **Friday**, **October 18**, **2019**.
- IF CHOSEN AS A FINALIST, candidates must participate in the mandatory Finalist Interviews the week of **November 4, 2019** in Hartford.
- If selected, the student MUST attend the entire Youth Senate Program week in Washington, D.C., March 7-14, 2020.

Student Name:			1		T /	
First		Middle		Last		
Home Address:						
Street		Town	n/City	State	Zip	
Home Telephone:	Age	GenderYEAR (Sr/Jr) 2018-19 s			chool year	
Name of High School:						
Name of Principal:						
Principal's Telephone (and exte	Principal E-mail					
Complete Address of School:						
Names of Parents/Guardians: _						

Print or type all information

Submit with this application:

STUDENT RESUME - Provide an up-to-date resume (not to exceed 2 pages) that includes courses taken and grades from the last two school years, achievements, extra/co-curricular activities, officers held, and community, church or service organizations/activities.

Two one-page essays - See the instructions page!

Student Attestation.

I understand the requirements of the United States Senate Youth Program and Hearst Foundation Scholarship. If selected as a finalist, I will attend the Finalist Interview Session the week of November 4, 2019 at the CREC offices in Hartford.

Signature of Student

<u>Note:</u> After the review of all applications, 15-20 finalists will be selected for interviews. The high school principal will be contacted by telephone and E-mail if a student from the school has been selected as a finalist.