

**UNITED STATES SENATE**

**YOUTH PROGRAM**

**56th Annual United States Senate Youth Program**

###### Sponsored by the Hearst Foundations

**2017–2018 Colorado Application**

**Applications Due: Wednesday, October 18, 2017, by 11:59 pm**

# INTRODUCTION

The United States Senate Youth Program, established in 1962 by U.S. Senate Resolution, is a unique educational experience for outstanding high school students interested in pursuing careers in public service. The annual program will be held in Washington, D.C., from **March 3-10, 2018**. Two student leaders from each state, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity will spend a week in Washington experiencing their national government in action. Student delegates will hear major policy addresses by Senators, cabinet members, officials from the Departments of State and Defense and directors of other federal agencies, as well as participate in a meeting with a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. All transportation, hotel, and meal expenses will be provided by The Hearst Foundations. In addition, each delegate will also be awarded a $10,000 College Scholarship for undergraduate studies, with encouragement to pursue coursework in history and political science.

# MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the United States Senate Youth Program is to provide a yearly opportunity for selected students to gain an in-depth view of the Senate and the federal government overall as well as a deeper understanding of the interrelationship of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches. The program provides a foundation of knowledge and encouragement for those considering a future of public service on the local, state, or national level.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Qualified junior or senior high school students who demonstrate leadership through public service are eligible for the program. Applicants are required to be currently serving in an elected or appointed position where they are actively representing a constituency in any one of the following student government, civic, or educational organizations, and continue to serve in that elected position for the entire 2017-2018 school year:

* Student Body President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer;
* Class President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer;
* Student Council Representative;
* National Honor Society officer; or
* Student representative elected or appointed (appointed by a panel, commission or board) to a local, district, regional or state-level civic, service and/or educational organization approved by the state selection administrator.

Participation or holding an officer position in academic clubs and/or educational competition programs/conferences do not qualify a student for the USSYP, although many students who qualify participate in such. The positions listed below do NOT qualify the student for the program:

* Attendance or officer position at Boys/Girls;
* Nation/State summer conference;
* Member of the National Honor Society (serving as an elected officer for the organization for the entire school year is acceptable);
* A founder or chairperson of a self-created group;
* A participant, captain or officer in Mock; or
* Trial, Debate Team, Model UN or other academic club, conference or competition.

Alternate delegates will be selected as replacements in the event a primary delegate is unable to participate in Washington Week. If the primary delegate is unable to attend, The Hearst Foundations must be notified in advance. **Attendance during the Washington Week program is required to receive the financial scholarship**; appropriate disposition of scholarship funds will be determined by the program director in the event of health or other emergency in the immediate family precluding attendance at program.

Each student must be a legal permanent resident or citizen of the United States at the time of application. The student must be enrolled for the entire academic year in a public or independent high school located in the state (including for these purposes the District of Columbia) in which at least one of their parents or guardians currently resides. Exceptions to the residency requirement will only be made in the following cases:

* Students from DoDEA overseas will represent the state(s) of which the parents/guardians are U.S. legal voting residents. Students attending DoD schools in the U.S. or students enrolled through U.S. military bases in local schools will represent the state in which their school is located.
* Students may reside in a state other than the state in which they attend school if they are enrolled in the only designated public high school available to them in a school district that legally crosses contiguous state borders through legal interstate agreement. Students in these schools shall make application to the program through the state where the high school is located and shall represent that state if selected.

**OFFICIAL PROGRAM RULES**

1. **All students must agree to fully block both arrival and departure travel days to participate in Washington Week.**
2. NO TOURS OR TRIPS WILL BE PERMITTED BY INDIVIDUAL DELEGATES WHILE TRAVELING TO OR FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. OR WHILE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. THIS POLICY INCLUDES ANY OTHER OUTSIDE ACTIVITY, CONFERENCE, SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION OR EVENT OF ANOTHER ORGANIZATION WHICH IS CONDUCTED IN WASHINGTON, D.C. OR THE SURROUNDING AREA DURING THE TIME FRAME OF THE USSYP WASHINGTON WEEK.

All travel provided by The Hearst Foundations is round-trip only and scheduled within the time frames listed below:

* **Arrival in Washington, D.C. on Saturday March 3, 2018 – between 6:00 am and 5:00 pm**
* **Departure from Washington, D.C. on Saturday March 10, 2018 – between 5:00 am and 9:00 am**

1. **No arrangements for individual religious practices or services other than dietary guidelines will be made during Washington Week. This policy will be strictly observed from the time the student delegates arrive at the Washington area airports, train stations, and program site until they return to their home sites.**
2. The Chief School Officer from each state, the District of Columbia and Department of Defense Education Activity must submit in writing to The Hearst Foundations by December 1, 2017, the names of their two delegates and alternates. Upon state confirmation of delegates and alternates, the program requires each delegate to submit a statement of participation to be signed by his or her parents or legal guardians. A full information packet, including a copy of the rules and scholarship regulations and other pertinent information relating to the delegate's stay in Washington, D.C., will then be forwarded to each family.
3. The Hearst Foundations will arrange transportation to and from Washington, D.C. It will be the responsibility of the parents and or legal guardians to transport (at their expense) each delegate to and from the nearest commercial airport or train station. The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) will provide round-trip transportation for the DoDEA delegates from their homes to Washington, D.C.
4. Each delegate will be the guest of the United States Senate throughout the program. Students are required to conduct themselves in such a manner as to be a credit to both the United States Senate and the United States Senate Youth Program. Students and parents will sign a code of conduct agreement encompassing general and social media comportment during the program week.
5. The program does not allow any individual or group athletic activities outside of the hotel facility.
6. Rules related to the United States Senate Youth Program and scholarship award shall be construed, interpreted, and applied by The Hearst Foundations, whose action and determination shall be final and binding.

**SCHOLARSHIP**

The Hearst Foundations believe it is in the public interest to encourage these outstanding young people to continue their educational development. The $10,000 undergraduate college scholarship award is subject to the conditions and requirements specified below. Additional detailed scholarship information will be provided to the delegates after Washington Week. Certificates representing the award will be presented to the delegates during their visit to Washington, D.C., often personally signed by their senators.

**SCHOLARSHIP RULES**

* 1. The $10,000 college scholarship and attendance at the Washington Week program are one, inseparable award. Delegates must participate in the Washington Week program in accordance with all program policies in order to receive the financial scholarship.
  2. The USSYP scholarship is designated for undergraduate college study only at an accredited United States college or university. All students are encouraged to include history, political science or related subjects in the undergraduate program
  3. The $10,000 scholarship is designated for the specified student’s education expense and must be used within four years after enrollment. No funds may be given directly to a student. The scholarship will be issued in either one single payment of $10,000 or partial payments of no less than $2,500 each.
  4. Students attending military academies (U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Coast Guard) may draw the USSYP scholarship per the guidelines to purchase required military uniforms, books, computer equipment and other educational materials.
  5. A student will automatically forfeit eligibility for a scholarship award by failure to abide by all rules and requirements pertaining to the program and the scholarship or in the event of misconduct as a delegate to the United States Senate Youth Program.

**COLORADO SELECTION PROCESS**

A nominating committee will review all qualified applications and select the top four candidates, who will be asked to participate in a personal interview by Skype. The nominating committee will select two primary delegates and a first and second alternate. Alternates will be selected as replacements in the event a primary delegate is for any reason unable to participate in the program’s Washington Week.

Selection will be based, in part, on the students' outstanding abilities and demonstrated qualities of leadership in an elected or appointed high school student office for the 2017-2018 school year.

The following are desired qualities in candidates:

* Leadership and public speaking ability;
* High scholastic standing and demonstrated ability to achieve;
* Community and public service involvement;
* Participation in a wide selection of activities on and off campus; and
* Adequate social skills to participate in a large and dynamic group with relative ease.

In addition to outstanding leadership abilities and a strong commitment to volunteer work, the USSYP student delegates rank academically in the top one percent of their states. They continue to excel and develop impressive qualities that are often directed toward public service.

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) will schedule interviews with the top candidates. Based upon final scores, CDE will submit the names of Colorado’s two delegates and two alternates to the Hearst Foundations. Upon completion of the delegates and alternates selection process, the Hearst Foundations will contact the individuals directly providing information regarding the scholarships and the Washington, D.C. trip.

**APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS**

An electronic copy of the completed application must be received by **Wednesday, October 18, 2017, at 11:59 pm.** The electronic version **must** include all required pieces of the proposal as one document. Faxes will not be accepted. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Submit completed applications via e-mail to [CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us](mailto:CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us) by

Wednesday, October 18, 2017, at 11:59 pm

## Required Elements:

The sections outlined below **must be completed**:

**Section I:** **Student Application Form**

**Section II:** **Academic and Extracurricular Activity History**

**Section III:**  **Student Essay**

**Section IV:** **School Principal/Teacher/Counselor Recommendation**

(May be attached on a separate sheet)

**Advisor to Current Elected/Appointed Office Recommendation**

(May be attached on a separate sheet)

**Community Member Recommendation**

(May be attached on a separate sheet)

# APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Section I: Student Application Form**

Make sure the application has been signed by a parent or guardian and that the guidance counselor has signed verifying GPA.

**Section II: Academic and Extracurricular Activity History**

**Elected/Appointed Office(s)**

List any elected or appointed position you have held during high school. Explain your role and duties. These explanations clarify your leadership roles.

Members of the selection committee may not recognize the abbreviations for names of clubs or organizations such as FBLA or DECA. Be specific and give a brief explanation where necessary.

**Academic Courses**

Be sure to consider not only history, civics, and economics courses you may have taken, but also any service-related courses.

**School-Related Service Activities**

List school-related service activities you have participated in throughout your high school years. Explain your role(s) and any ongoing participation.

**Community Service Activities**

List community service activities you have participated in throughout your high school years. Explain your role(s) and any ongoing participation.

**Honors and Awards**

List any honors or awards you have received throughout your high school years. For example, Boy’s or Girl’s State, Boy’s or Girl’s Nation are honors and activities that take place during the summer and show leadership qualities. If you are unsure whether members of the selection committee are familiar with an award, organization, or activity, spell out the name and give a brief description or explanation of the award, organization, or activity along with your role.

**Academic, Leadership, and Post-High School Educational Statement**

This 150-word statement is your opportunity to list your leadership positions and academic honors, including community service, other extracurricular pursuits, and general plans for college and career in order of importance. Note: if selected as a delegate or alternate, this brief paragraph will be submitted with your participation information.

**Section III: Student Essay**

Your essay should address the following question: **"How will your participation in this program help define your career path and further your interest in politics?”**

Essay must be typed, single-spaced, and no smaller than 11-point font**.**

Make sure to have someone proofread your essay and application for omissions and errors. This is your opportunity to impress the selection committee, and first impressions are lasting ones.

# ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION:

* Please submit application as a single electronic document, preferably as a PDF file. Application must be typed and pages containing signatures should be scanned and included as part of the file.
* Please **DO NOT** send academic records with your completed application.
* In case of a tie, the finalists must complete a qualifying examination, prior to **Monday, November 13, 2017**.
* If a discovery of plagiarism is made known or brought to the attention of officials at the Colorado Department of Education during a current grant competition, then at the discretion of the Department, the Department has the right to remove the application from consideration.
* Do not send applications to the Hearst Foundations as this will disqualify the application.

56th Annual United States Senate Youth Program

2017-2018 Colorado Student Application Form

Due Friday October 18, 2017 by 11:59 pm

Section I: Student Application Form

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student Information | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Student Name:**  (First, Middle, Last) |  | | | | | | | | | **Date of Birth:**  (Month/Day/Year) | | |  |
| **Student Phone:** |  | | | | **Student E-mail Address:** | | | | |  | | | |
| **Home Address:**  (Street, City, State, Zip) |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Name(s) of Parent(s)/Guardian(s):** | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Home Phone:** |  | | | | **Home E-mail Address:** | | | | |  | | | |
| **Congressional District:** | |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| School and District Information | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **High School:** |  | | | | | | **School District:** | | |  | | | |
| **School Address:**  (Street, City, State, Zip) |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **School Phone:** |  | | | | | | **School Type:** | | | Public School (Includes Charters)  Private School | | | |
| **Student’s Current Year in High School:** | | | | Junior  Senior | | | **Expected Graduation:**  (Month/Year) | | | |  | | |
| **Principal Name:** |  | | | | **Principal E-mail Address:** | | | |  | | | | |
| **List below each elected or appointed office the student is currently serving for the entire school year (2017-2018):** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| To be Completed by Student’s/School’s Guidance Department | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **High School Grade Point Average:** | | | **Last Semester:** | | |  | | | | | | | |
| **Cumulative GPA:** | | |  | | | | | | | |
| **Number of Students in Student’s Graduation Class:** | | |  | | | | | **Class Rank:**  **(if applicable)** | | | |  | |
| **Name of Guidance Official:** | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Signature of Guidance Official:** | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parent/Guardian Signature | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *I certify that the student’s parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are residents of the state of Colorado.* | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Parent/Guardian Signature:** | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |

##### Section II: Academic and Extracurricular Activity History

1. List all **ELECTED OR APPOINTED OFFICES** held in student government, civic or educational organizations beginning with the current office held and ending with 9th grade.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title of Office and Organization** | **Duties While in Office** | **Academic Year Office was Held** (i.e., 9th grade) | **Length of Time in Office** | **GPA While in**  **Office** |
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1. List all history, civics, and/or economics courses taken in high school by academic year, beginning with current year and ending with 9th grade.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Course** | **Academic Year** | **Grade Earned** |
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1. List major school-related service activities (other than student government) in which you have participated.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Activity | **Duties** | **Years Participated** |
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1. List major service activities not related to school in which you have participated.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Organization and Activity | **Duties** | **Years Participated** |
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1. List major honors/awards that you have received.

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| --- | --- |
| **Honor/Award** | **Year(s) Received** |
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1. Provide a short paragraph listing your leadership positions and academic honors, including community service, other extracurricular pursuits and general plans for college and career in order of importance. Note: if selected as a delegate or alternate, this brief paragraph will be submitted with your participation information. (Limit 150 words).

I certify the following:

* That I am an eligible applicant;
* That all the information on this application is correct; and
* That I do not currently know of having any scheduling conflicts and I understand that complete attendance at the Washington Week program is required to receive the scholarship.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Student Signature |  | Date |

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### Section III: Student Essay

Essay must be typed, single-spaced, and 11-point font.Points will not only be awarded for how well applicant addresses the question, but also for grammar, spelling, and punctuation**.**

Write a **maximum** 500-word statement on the topic, **"How will your participation in this program help define your career path and further your interest in politics?”** This is your opportunity to show us your passion on political and civic matters. What has driven you? What has inspired you? What in your life has made you want to participate in this program? How do you think this experience will change your life?

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Student Signature |  | Date |

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##### Section IV: School Principal/Teacher/Counselor Recommendation

**Name of Reference** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Phone (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How long and in what capacity have you known this applicant?

For the following qualities please describe how the nominated student goes above and beyond.

* Leadership and Public Speaking Ability **(100 word limit)**
* Demonstrated Responsibility, Maturity and achievement **(100 word limit)**
* Participation in a wide selection of activities on and off campus **(100 word limit)**
* Interpersonal Skills **(100 word limit)**

Please briefly describe what is unique about this student. How does this student stand out from other students? **(150 word limit)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Principal/Teacher/Counselor Signature |  | Date |

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##### Section IV: Advisor to Current Elected/Appointed Office Recommendation

**Name of Reference** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Phone (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How long and in what capacity have you known this applicant?

For the following qualities please describe how the nominated student goes above and beyond.

* Leadership and Public Speaking Ability **(100 word limit)**
* Demonstrated Responsibility, Maturity and achievement **(100 word limit)**
* Participation in a wide selection of activities on and off campus **(100 word limit)**
* Interpersonal Skills **(100 word limit)**

Please briefly describe what is unique about this student. How does this student stand out from other students? (150 word limit)

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Advisor Signature |  | Date |

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

##### Section IV: Community Member Recommendation

**Name of Reference** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Phone (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How long and in what capacity have you known this applicant?

For the following qualities please describe how the nominated student excels?

* Leadership and Public Speaking Ability (**100 word limi**t)
* Demonstrated Responsibility, Maturity and Achievement **(100 word limit)**
* Demonstrated community and/or public service involvement **(100 word limit)**
* Interpersonal Skills **(100 word limit)**

Please briefly describe what is unique about this student. How does this student stand out from other students? **(150 word limit)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Signature |  | Date |

**United State Senate Youth Program**

**Application Checklist**

(Please use as a reference; do not include with the application.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Does your application package include: | **Yes** | **No** |
| Section I: Student Application Form with all signatures |  |  |
| Section II: Academic and Extracurricular Activity History |  |  |
| Section III: Student Essay |  |  |
| Section IV: Recommendations   1. School Principal/ Teacher/Counselor 2. Advisor to Current Elected/Appointed Office 3. Community Member |  |  |
| 1. Has someone else **proofread** your application for clarity, grammar, spelling, and typos? |  |  |
| 1. Did you single-space your essay? |  |  |
| 1. Is the type/font easy to read and no smaller than 11 point? |  |  |

Submit completed applications via e-mail to [CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us](mailto:CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us) by

Wednesday, October 18, 2017, at 11:59 pm

Annual United States Senate Youth Program

2017-2018 Colorado Student Application Form

Due Wednesday, October 18, 2017, by 11:59 pm

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Student Name:** | | |  |
| **School:** |  | | |
| **Reviewer:** | |  | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Section I:** | Student Academic Background | /20 |
| **Section II:** | Academic and Activity History | /35 |
| **Section III:** | Student Essay | /35 |
| **Sections IV-VI:** | Principal's Statement, Letters of Support, Outside Recommendation | /10 |
|  | **Total** | **/100** |

**Strengths/Commendations:**

**Section I: Student Academic Background (20 Points)**

The reviewer will assess the student's GPA, class rank, and coursework while looking for evidence of high scholastic standing and high levels of achievement.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Level I**  **0-6 points** | **Level II**  **7-13 points** | **Level III**  **14-20 points** | |
| 1. **Academic Achievement** | | | |
| * Last semester GPA is between 2.5-3.09 * Cumulative GPA is between 2.5-3.09 * Class rank is in top 15% of student body (rank/total number) | * Last semester GPA is between 3.1-3.5 * Cumulative GPA is between 3.1-3.59 * Class rank is in top 10% of student body (rank/total number) | * Last semester GPA is 3.6 or above * Cumulative GPA is 3.6 or above * Class rank is in top 5% of student body (rank/total number) * Class rank is not available | |
| **Comments:** | | | |
| **Total Points:** | | | **/20** |

**Section II: Academic and Activity History (35 Points)**

The Hearst Foundations are particularly interested in elected or appointed offices held by the student (e.g., a) Student Body or Class President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer, b) Student Council Representative, c) National Honor Society Officer or d) elected officer in civic or educational organizations such as FBLA or FFA). School clubs (i.e., Chess Club) are not considered civic or educational organizations. The Hearst Foundations are looking for someone who has had experience in government. Therefore, the reviewer will assess student's participation in student government. Also important, the reviewer will assess the student's in-school and out-of-school activities, interest in social studies/humanities, honors/recognition, and future goals. The reviewer will focus on the quality of the student's participation while considering high levels of achievement in areas mentioned.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Level I**  **0-11 points** | **Level II**  **12-23 points** | **Level III**  **24-35 points** | |
| * Demonstrates low level of participation in student government. * Lacks compelling evidence of coursework concentration or proficiency in courses. * Fails to demonstrate participation in other activities in school or community. * Lacks listing of honors, recognition, and awards. * Unclearly defined educational and/or career goals. | * Shows sufficient level of participation in student government. * Includes some evidence of coursework concentration in social studies/humanities (number of courses) and proficiency in these courses (grades). * Demonstrates moderate level of participation in other activities in school and/or community and outlines duration involved in those activities. * Mentions some honors, recognition, and awards in areas of participation. * Describes future educational and career goals with some detail. | * Shows high level of participation in student government (time in office). * Provides significant evidence of coursework concentration in social studies/humanities (number of courses) and high level of proficiency in these courses (grades). * Demonstrates high level of participation in activities in school and/or community and outlines duration involved in those activities. * Lists several honors, recognition, and awards in areas of participation. * Includes clear and decisive description of future educational and career goals. | |
| **Comments:** | | | |
| **Total Points** | | | **/35** |

**Section III: Student Essay (35 Points)**

The reviewer will assess the content, purpose, idea development, organization, sentence structure, word usage, and mechanics of the student's essay. The response should demonstrate excellence in writing.

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| **Level I**  **0-11 points** | **Level II**  **12-23 points** | **Level III**  **24-35 points** | |
| 1. **Content and Purpose** | | | |
| * Fails to describe how this program will shape future goals. * Lacks clear connection to essay prompt. | * Describes how participation in this program will help to define career goals and further interest in politics/ government/civil service. * Does not establish, maintain, and communicate purpose clearly throughout essay. | * Clearly details how participation this program will help define career goals and further interest in politics/ government/ civil service. * Clearly establishes, maintains, and communicates purpose throughout the essay. | |
| 1. **Idea Development and Organization** | | | |
| * Demonstrates little to no consistency and/or provides little support of ideas. * Outlines ideas but not in sequenced and/or coherent manner. | * Provides consistency in ideas, but lacks detail and explanation. * Mostly demonstrates sequencing, coherence, and transitions. | * Exemplifies consistency in development of ideas, also thoughtfully supports ideas will detail and explanation. * Logically demonstrates sequencing, coherence, and transitions. | |
| 1. **Sentence Structure** | | | |
| * Uses sentences that are unclear and ineffective. | * Uses correct and complete sentences that are varied in structure and length, although errors are evident. | * Effectively uses correct and complete sentences that are varied in structure and length. | |
| 1. **Word Usage and Mechanics** | | | |
| * Fails to exhibit correct usage of words and/or uses incorrect spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. | * Demonstrates mostly correct word usage, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. | * Correctly and effectively uses words and incorporates correct spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. | |
| **Comments:** | | | |
| **Total Points** | | | **/30** |

**Sections IV: Recommendations (10 Points)**

The reviewer will verify the recommendations while paying special attention to student eligibility, support of student candidacy, and student's achievement.

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| **Level I**  **0-3 points** | **Level II**  **4-6 points** | **Level III**  **7-10 points** | |
| 1. **Principal/Teacher/Counselor Recommendation** | | | |
| * Does not verify student meeting national and state requirements and/or fails to support student's candidacy. | * Verifies student's eligibility and appears to support student's candidacy. | * Verifies student's eligibility and enthusiastically supports student's candidacy. | |
| 1. **Student Government Advisor Recommendation** | | | |
| * Fails to support student's candidacy and/or does not mention student's accomplishments. | * Supports student's candidacy and describes student's accomplishments. | * Clearly supports student's candidacy and provides strong evidence of student's accomplishments. | |
| 1. **Outside Recommendation** | | | |
| * Fails to support student's candidacy and/or does not mention student's accomplishments. | * Supports student's candidacy and describes student's accomplishments. | * Clearly supports student's candidacy and provides strong evidence of student's accomplishments. | |
| **Comments:** | | | |
| **Total Points** | | | **/10** |