



UNITED STATES SENATE
★ YOUTH PROGRAM ★

cde Improving
Academic
Achievement

50th Annual United States Senate Youth Program
Sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation
2011 – 2012 Colorado Application

Applications due: Friday, October 14, 2011

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 50th annual program will be held in Washington, D.C., from **March 3 - 10, 2012**. 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 \$5,000 College Scholarship for undergraduate studies, with encouragement to pursue coursework in history and political science.

Eligibility

Any high school **junior** or **senior** student is eligible for the program. The student is required to be **currently** serving in an elected or appointed capacity in any one of the following student government, civic or educational organizations:

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

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 PERMANENT RESIDENT of the United States and currently enrolled in a public or private secondary school located in the state (including for these purposes the District of Columbia) in which either one of his or her parents or guardians legally resides. A student attending a school which is located in a state other than the state of legal residence of either one of such student's parents or guardians is not eligible. Exceptions to the permanent residency requirement will only be made in the following cases:

- Students from Department of Defense Education Activity will represent the state(s) of which the parents/guardians are U.S. legal voting residents.
- Interstate Compacts (by Congressional mandate) presently exist between New Hampshire-Maine and New Hampshire-Vermont, authorizing school districts to legally cross state borders. Students in these schools are eligible to make an application for this program only through the states where the schools are located.

Colorado Selection Process

A nominating committee will review all qualified applications and 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 solely on the students' outstanding abilities and demonstrated qualities of leadership in an elected or appointed high school student office for the 2011-2012 school year.

The Hearst Foundation stresses the following desired qualities in candidates:

- Leadership and public speaking ability;
- High scholastic standing and demonstrated ability to achieve;
- Articulate and logical thought processes;
- Community and public service involvement;
- Participation in a wide selection of activities on and off campus, such as music and sports; 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.

Approximately the middle of November, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) will notify all applicants of their status. Following notification of all applicants, CDE will submit the names of Colorado's two delegates and two alternates to the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. Upon completion of the delegates and alternates selection process, the Hearst Foundation will contact the individuals directly providing information regarding the scholarships and the Washington, D.C. trip.

Official Program Rules

1. **To participate in the program, students must be able to remain with the group throughout the entire program week. NO TOUR 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. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE OTHER THAN FOR DOCUMENTED**

HEALTH EMERGENCY IN THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY.

All travel is scheduled within these time frames pending weather conditions and flight availability, with no other exceptions. The program requires that students completely block both arrival and departure days to receive the travel benefit.

- **Arrival on Saturday March 3, 2012 -- between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM**
- **Departure on Saturday March 10, 2012 – between 5:00 AM and 5:00 PM**

- 2. 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.**
3. Applications must be obtained from high school principals, guidance counselors or the State-level Selection Contact. All State Selection Contacts and deadlines are listed on the USSYP website: <http://www.ussenateyouth.org/>. Application deadline dates vary by state.
4. 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, 2011 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. The program does not provide/allow for any individual or group athletic activities outside of the hotel facility.
8. Rules related to the United States Senate Youth Program and scholarship awards 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 \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship award is subject to the conditions and requirements specified in the adjoining rules.

Additional information concerning the scholarships will be provided to the delegates before their arrival in Washington, D.C. Certificates representing the award will be presented to the delegates during their visit to Washington – often personally by their Senators.

Scholarship Rules

- a. The \$5,000 college scholarship and attendance at the Washington Week program are one, inseparable award. Delegates must participate in the Washington Week program in order to receive the financial scholarship. If a selected student is unable to participate in the Washington Week program due to health or other emergency circumstances, merits of his or her reasons will be considered by the Program Director relative to scholarship awards.
- b. Students are required to enroll at an accredited United States college or university within two years after high school graduation. Scholarship funds may also be designated through an accredited United States college or university account for attendance at another accredited campus, institution or center. The student is encouraged to include history, political science or related subjects in his or her undergraduate program.
- c. Eligible students must complete the United States Senate Youth Program Application for Grant of Scholarship form, have it signed by the dean of admissions or registrar, affixed with the college or university's official seal, and provide the original forms to The Hearst Foundations.
- d. The \$5,000 scholarship is designated for the specified student's education expense and must be used within four years after enrollment. IRS rules state that The Hearst Foundations cannot legally give funds directly to a student. Scholarship funds are designated for tuition, enrollment fees or room and board – subject to approval by the college or university. Funds not utilized by the designated student after graduating from the college or university will revert to the attended college or university's general scholarship fund to be utilized at the discretion of the institution.
- e. The student must notify USSYP immediately if he or she does not intend to utilize the undergraduate scholarship funds within the four-year period. If college or university enrollment is delayed or enrollment is interrupted because of personal illness, family emergency or other approved reason, the student may seek an extension of the scholarship fund availability – subject to the USSYP Program Director's specific review and approval. USSYP must be notified by October 15 each year to determine whether the scholarship will be utilized or held; failure to do so will terminate the student's access to the funding.
- f. Students attending military academies (U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Coast Guard) may draw the USSYP Scholarship to purchase required military uniforms, books, computer equipment and other educational materials.
- g. A student will automatically forfeit eligibility for a scholarship award by failure to fulfill the above rules, or in the event of misconduct as a delegate to the United States Senate Youth Program.

Application Submission Process

The **original plus 4 copies** (5 copies total) must be received by 4:00 p.m. on **Friday, October 14, 2011**. In addition to the 5 hard copies, an electronic copy must be submitted. The electronic version should include all required pieces of the proposal as one document. Faxes will not be accepted. Incomplete or late proposals will not be considered.

Send completed applications to:

<p style="text-align: center;">Lynn Bamberry Colorado Department of Education Office of Federal Program Administration 1560 Broadway, Suite 1450 Denver, CO 80202-5149</p> <p style="text-align: center;">&</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Submit an electronic copy of the proposal to: CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us</p>

Required Elements

The format outlined below **must be followed**:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Section I: | Student Application Form |
| Section II: | Academic and Extra-curricular Activity History |
| Section III: | Student Essay |
| Section IV: | Principal Statement
(May be attached on a separate sheet immediately following the signed and dated form) |
| Section V: | Teacher or Counselor Letters of Support
(Must have letters from two teachers or one teacher and one counselor – may be attached on separate sheets immediately following the signed and dated forms) |
| Section VI: | Outside of School Community Recommendation
(May be attached on a separate sheet immediately following the signed and dated form) |

Additional Application Instructions:

- Application must be typed. Student Essay and Letters of Recommendation must be standard letter size (8-1/2" x 11") and single-spaced. Use 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Staple the pages of the original and of each copy. Please do not use paperclips.
- In case of a tie, the finalists must complete a qualifying examination, prior to **Monday, November 1, 2011**.
- 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 because of the occurrence of cause.
- Do not send applications to the Hearst Foundation as this will disqualify the application.

50th Annual United States Senate Youth Program 2011-2012 Colorado Student Application Form

Student Name: (First, Middle, Last)		Date of Birth: (Month/Day/Year)	
Student Phone:		Student Email Address:	
Home Address: (Street, City, Zip, State)			
Home Phone:		Home Email Address:	
Name(s) of Parent(s)/Guardian(s):			
Name of High School:		School District:	
School Address: (Street, City, Zip, State)		School Phone:	
Student's Current Year in School: <input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/> Senior	School Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Public School <input type="checkbox"/> Private School	Expected Date of Graduation:	
Principal Name:		Principal Email:	
List each <u>current</u> (2011-2012) elected office that you hold:			
High School Grade Point Average <i>(to be completed by the student's guidance department)</i>			
Last Semester:		Un-weighted Cumulative GPA:	
		Weighted Cumulative GPA:	
Number of Students in Student's Graduating Class:		Class Rank:	
Signature of Guidance Official:			
<i>I certify that the student's parents or legal guardians are residents of the state of Colorado.</i> (Parent/Guardian Signature)			

Section II. Academic and Activity History

A. List your core academic subjects and grade point average for each subject.

Core Subject	GPA

B. List the accelerated academic classes in which you are enrolled and your grade point average for each class.

Accelerated Academic Class	GPA

C. List all **ELECTED** offices held in student government, civic or educational organizations beginning with the **9th grade**. Begin list with current office(s) held.

Title of Office	Academic Year Office was Held (i.e., 9 th grade)	Length of Time in Office	GPA While in Office

D. List all social studies courses taken in high school by academic year, beginning with the 9th grade.

Name of Course	Academic Year	Grade Earned

E. List major school related service activities (other than government) in which you have participated.

Activity	Years Participated

F. List major service activities not related to school in which you have participated.

Activity	Years Participated

G. List major honors that you have received.

Honor/Award	Year(s) Received

H. What are your present post high school educational and career goals?

I certify that I am an eligible applicant and that all the information on this application is correct.

Student Signature

(Date)

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

Section III
Student Essay

Essay must be single-spaced and typed. 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?**"

Signature

(Date)

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

Section IV
School Principal Statement

Please **type** statement below. A separate letter can be attached in place of this form. Please note: If the principal's statement is submitted in a separate letter, it must be attached to a signed copy of this form or application will be disqualified.

_____meets all the national and state requirements specified in materials from the Colorado Department of Education regarding the United States Senate Youth Program. It is my opinion that this student should be considered as a strong candidate for the U.S. Senate Youth Program for the following reasons:

Signature

(Date)

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

Section V

Teacher or Counselor Letter of Support

(Must have support letters from two teachers or one teacher and one counselor.)

It is my opinion that _____ should be considered as a strong candidate for the U.S. Senate Youth Program for the following reasons:

Include student's specific accomplishments (e.g., academic/non-academic, the range of accomplishments and evidence of the student's leadership and motivation). Please **type** statement. A separate letter can be attached in place of this form. Please note: If the Teacher/Counselor letter is submitted on a separate sheet of paper, it must be attached to a signed copy of this form or application will be disqualified.

Signature

(Date)

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

Section V

Teacher or Counselor Letter of Support

(Must have support letters from two teachers or one teacher and one counselor.)

It is my opinion that _____ should be considered as a strong candidate for the U.S. Senate Youth Program for the following reasons:

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Signature

(Date)

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

Section VI

Recommendation From Outside of School Community
(e.g., employer, minister, community service coordinator)

It is my opinion that _____ should be considered as a strong candidate for the U.S. Senate Youth Program for the following reasons:

Include student's specific accomplishments (e.g., academic/non-academic, the range of accomplishments and evidence of the student's leadership and motivation). Please **type** statement. A separate letter can be attached in place of this form. Please note: If the recommendation letter is submitted on a separate sheet of paper, it must be attached to a signed copy of this form or application will be disqualified.

Signature

(Date)