



## 2017-2018 New Jersey Application Requirements

### Criteria for Selection

**The Hearst Foundations seek candidates that show:**

- Outstanding leadership ability;
- High scholastic standing;
- Effective communication skills;
- Interest in government, history and politics; and
- Strong commitment to community involvement and public service.

### Eligibility Requirements

**The candidate must be:**

- A citizen or permanent resident of the United States;
- A resident of New Jersey;
- Currently enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade in a public or nonpublic high school in New Jersey; and
- Currently serving in an elected or appointed capacity in a student government, civic or educational organization (through at least March 2018), such as:
  - Student body president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer or representative;
  - Class president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer, or;
  - Student representative to an elected or appointed local, district, regional, or state-level civic or educational organization approved by the state program officer (e.g., elected officer of National Honor Society, Key Club, Interact, Junior State of America, appointed student representative to Board of Education\*).

### College Scholarship Requirements

**To receive the one-time Hearst Foundations college scholarship of \$10,000, a student must:**

- Participate in the week-long educational program held in Washington, D.C. from March 3-10, 2018
- Scholarship must be used within four years after enrollment in an undergraduate program at an accredited United States college or university.

\* Contact Beverly Plein, program coordinator, at [USSYP@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:USSYP@doe.state.nj.us) to determine eligibility of other leadership positions.



## Application Packet

### Include the following:

- 2017 – 2018 New Jersey Application Form.** (Use a computer; handwritten pages will not be considered and please do NOT staple.)
- Two-page student essay.** Provide a narrative account about yourself including evidence of:
  - Leadership experiences that made a difference in your school or community;
  - Impact of your involvement in community and public service activities;
  - Passions, motivation or creativity that contribute to your school or community; and
  - Interest in government, history and politics.(Double space, use Times New Roman size 12 font, ½” margins, include student name and page number in the header of each page, and please do NOT staple.)
- One-page resume.** Describe awards and accomplishments, after-school activities, work experiences, and service to school and community. Indicate the number of years or hours that you engaged in each community service project. (Use Times New Roman size 12 font with ½” margins.)
- Student Transcript.** Include an official/unofficial transcript through September 2017.
- Two letters of recommendation.** Submit one from the **principal** and one from the **advisor** of the class, student council or organization listed on the New Jersey Application Form. (The school counselor should only submit a recommendation letter if he/she is the advisor.)  
Letters must be on **school / organization letterhead** with **author’s name, title, and signature**. Include information about student’s specific accomplishments as well as evidence of leadership and motivation.

### Additional Information

- Applicants who desire verification of receipt of their application should use certified mail.
- If any of the components or information is missing from the final application packet, the application will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed.
- If a high school submits more than one nomination, neither nomination will be considered.
- Time constraints will not allow for return of applications for correction or completion.
- Announcement of delegates and alternates will be made by mid-December.

**Original Application Packets Must Be  
Received by Mail No Later than October 9, 2017**

No Faxed Copies or Email Attachments Accepted

**Send To:** New Jersey Department of Education  
Office of Academics Attn: Beverly Plein  
100 Riverview Plaza  
P.O. Box 500  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0500