



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: July 27, 2023
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Public and Nonpublic High School Principals, School Counselors, Social Studies Supervisors
From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services
Nomination Deadline: September 29, 2023
Application Deadline: October 10, 2023

62nd Annual United States Senate Youth Program

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) invites high school principals of public or nonpublic schools to nominate one outstanding junior or senior to apply for the 62nd Annual [United States Senate Youth Program \(USSYP\)](#). This highly competitive, merit-based program is sponsored by the United States Senate and the Hearst Foundation. The program seeks students with demonstrated leadership abilities, strong communication skills, and a strong commitment to public service and political science.

Each year, two high school juniors or seniors from each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense schools are selected to participate in Washington Week and receive a one-time \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship. Washington Week, an intensive educational program, will be held in person from March 2-9, 2024. During Washington Week, delegates will hear major policy addresses by senators, cabinet members, officials of the Departments of State and Defense, and directors of federal agencies, and they will participate in question-and-answer sessions. Additional information about the USSYP and scholarship rules may be found in the [2024 USSYP brochure](#).

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible, students must be residents of New Jersey and currently serving in an elected or appointed capacity in an approved student government, civic, or educational organization (see [Application Requirements](#)). Students must confirm proof of citizenship or legal permanent resident status and must sign a Code of Conduct to participate in USSYP.

Application Process

- 1) Principal selects the nominee and directs the nominee to review the [Application Process](#) to confirm eligibility.
- 2) Principal provides the completed and signed [Statement of Assurance](#) form in a digital format to the nominee. Student submits the completed Principal's Statement of Assurance by uploading the document to the [USSYP Principal's Statement of Assurance Submission Form](#) by **September 29, 2023**.
- 3) Eligible nominees will be emailed the USSYP Student Application link no later than October 3, 2023. Nominees should have all application materials ready before beginning the application; once the application is started, it must be submitted. Applications cannot be saved to make revisions.
- 4) The application must be submitted online no later than **11:59 p.m. on October 10, 2023**.

Two delegates and two alternates will be selected by a panel of educators. Winners will be notified in January 2024. For questions, please contact USSYP@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group