



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 21, 2024
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

63rd Annual United States Senate Youth Program

The New Jersey Department of Education invites high school principals of public or nonpublic schools to nominate one outstanding junior or senior to apply for the 63rd Annual [United States Senate Youth Program \(USSYP\)](#). This highly competitive, merit-based program is sponsored by the United States Senate and the Hearst Foundations. The program seeks students with demonstrated leadership abilities, strong communication skills, and a strong commitment to public service and political science:

Nomination Deadline: September 30, 2024
Application Deadline: October 14, 2024

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 this year from March 1-8, 2025. 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 will participate in question-and-answer sessions. Additional information about USSYP and its scholarship rules may be found in the [2025 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 to participate in USSYP and must sign a Code of Conduct.

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 30, 2024**.
- 3) Once reviewed, nominees will be emailed the USSYP Student Application link, no later than October 2, 2024. Nominees should have all application materials ready before beginning the application because once the application is started, it must be submitted.
- 4) **The application must be submitted online no later than 11:59 p.m. on October 14, 2024.**

Two delegates and two alternates will be selected by a panel of educators. Winners will be notified in January 2025. If you have questions, please contact Ashley Woolsey-Greene, program administrator at USSYP@doe.nj.gov.

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