



## Requirements and Application for the State of Nevada: 2019

### What is the United States Senate Youth Program?

The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP), 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 57th annual program will be held in Washington, D.C., from March 2 – 9, 2019. 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. Traditionally, delegates also 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.

For additional information, please review the USSYP brochure on the William Randolph Hearst Foundation website at <http://ussenateyouth.org/>.

### Who is eligible to apply?

Each student applicant must meet all of the following criteria:

- U.S. citizen or permanent U.S. resident (proof required)
- Currently enrolled in an accredited public or private high school (home school students must belong to a home school association, or the Education Alliance group, located in Nevada in which either one of his/her parents or guardians legally resides)
- High school juniors and seniors are eligible for the program, provided they have not previously been a delegate to Washington Week and have not received a USSYP scholarship (students who graduate from high school at the close of the fall 2018 semester/quarter are not eligible to apply for the program)
- Currently serve in an elected or selected 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
  - 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
  - home school students must be an elected or selected officer or student representative to a district, regional, state-level or national civic or educational organization (include the name of the organization, the elected office, and briefly summarize the election/selection process in Section 1 of the application)

## **What are the requirements?**

Each student application must meet the following required guidelines:

- Demonstrate leadership qualities through public service in elected or appointed positions
- Actively serve in qualified leadership positions for the entire 2018-19 academic year
- Exhibit high academic achievement
- Understand U.S. government and history
- Involved in school and community activities
- Write with clarity, express ideas in an organized and original fashion, and appropriate use of standard English
- Exhibit excellent interpersonal skills
- Participate in school and community activities
- Willing and available to attend Washington Week March 2-9, 2019, in Washington, D.C. (all expenses are provided by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation)

## **What are the required materials students must submit?**

- Complete the Student Application (see pages 3-8 in this document)
- 3x5" color student photo (headshot)
- Official school transcript
- Four letters of recommendation

## **What is the application deadline?**

Completed application packets must be postmarked no later than **Friday, October 12, 2018** and should be mailed to:

Gabriel Hill, USSYP Administrator  
Nevada Department of Education  
700 E. Fifth Street  
Carson City, NV 89701-5096

## **Who do I contact if I have additional questions?**

If you have any questions regarding the United States Senate Youth Program, please contact Gabriel Hill at (775) 687-9224 or by e-mail at [ghill@doe.nv.gov](mailto:ghill@doe.nv.gov).



**Nevada Department of Education**  
**2019 United States Senate Youth Program**  
**Student Application**



Please enter all of the requested information. Failure to complete all required fields may invalidate application. The application packet must contain: all three completed sections of the Student Application; official transcript; 3" x 5" color student photo (headshot); principal letter of recommendation; two teacher/counselor letters of recommendation; and community member letter of recommendation. Completed application packet must be postmarked no later than **Friday, October 12, 2018**, and mailed to:

Gabriel Hill, USSYP Administrator  
 Nevada Department of Education  
 700 E. Fifth Street  
 Carson City, NV 89701-5096

**Section 1: Student Profile**

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**Student Information**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Student Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Do you have proof of U.S. Citizenship (e.g. birth certificate) or proof of legal permanent residence:  Yes  No  
 Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Qualifying Elected or Selected Position**

Office and Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home school students briefly describe the election or selection process: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**School Information**

High School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 High School Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Principal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Authorization**

Each of the undersigned has carefully read the USSYP brochure at <https://ussenateyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2019-Official-USSYP-Brochure.pdf>, including the qualifications and rules, and with full understanding of the terms, consent to the participation of the undersigned student in accordance with the standards, rules, and regulations established by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation for the United States Senate Youth Program. Consent is also given to the Nevada Department of Education to obtain and furnish the winning students' and photo to the news media. The undersigned student is not aware of any scheduling conflicts and understands attending Washington Week (March 2-9, 2019) is required to receive the scholarship.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Principal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Scholarship Counselor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Scholastic Record

At the end of this section, attach an **official high school transcript** from the public school, private school, or home school curriculum provider. All transcripts must contain the following information:

- Current cumulative GPA
- ACT and/or SAT scores (if available)
- Class rank
- Courses in which student is currently enrolled (even though no grade has been determined)

Home-school students must also attach a written description of how grades are assessed for courses and what or who determines the curriculum in all courses.

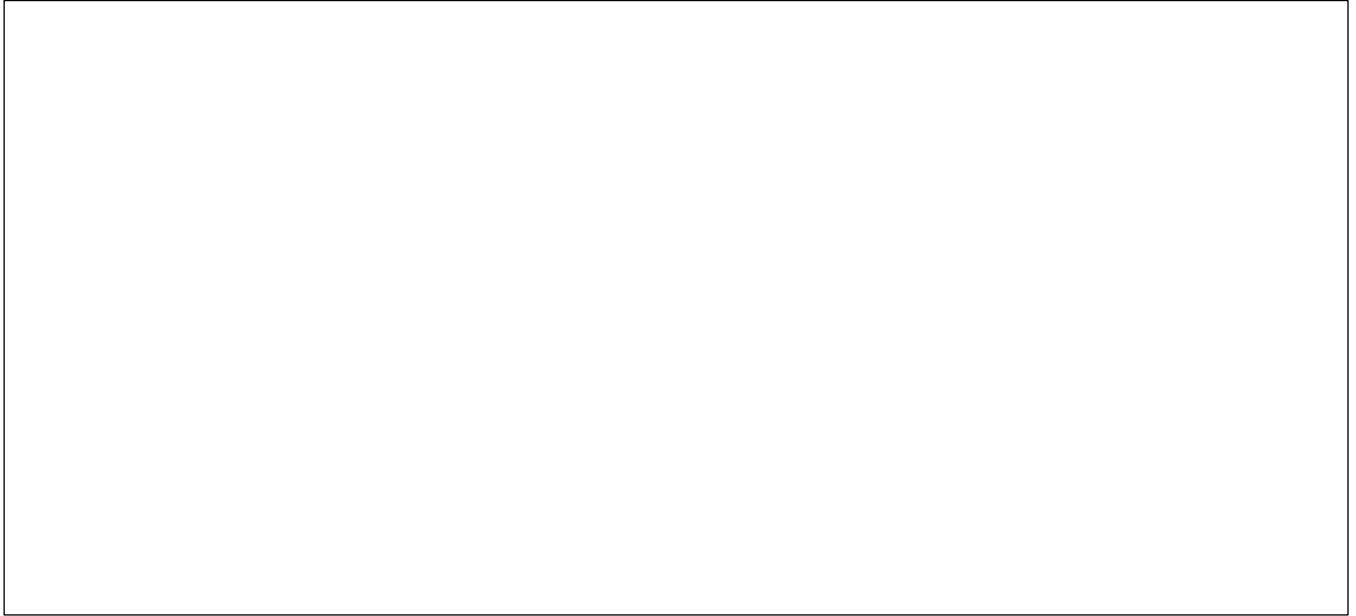
## Accomplishments, Activities, and Interests

Describe your involvement in activities, organizations, community service, and recognition or awards in the space provided. Identify the group or organization by full name (do not use abbreviations), and provide very brief explanation your roles, duties, and/or accomplishments within the organization. List those activities (grades 9-12) that are relevant to USSYP.

### School Leadership Activities and Organizations

### Volunteerism and Community Service

## Recognition and Awards



## Student Photo

At the end of Section 1, attach a 3x5" color photo (headshot).

## Section 1 Checklist

The following items must accompany the application:

- All four signatures on the bottom of page 1
- 3x5" color photo

## Section 2: Short Answer and Essay Questions

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Students applying for the USSYP should be interested and participating in leadership, public service, and government related activities. While the following questions give students an opportunity to demonstrate their political and civic passions, they are encouraged to keep in mind the audience for this scholarship and maintain a formal tone. Points are awarded for how well the applicant addresses the question and clearly articulating thoughts and opinions. Points are also awarded for the correct use of standard English (e.g., spelling, punctuation, grammar). Plagiarism or failing to answer the questions will disqualify the application.

Enter your responses to each question in the space provided.

### Questions 1: Reason for Participation (Short Answer)

What passions, inspirations, and/or experiences in your life have prepared you to participate in the United States Senate Youth Program?

### Question 2: Statement of Future Aspirations (Short Answer)

Explain your future plans, including your goals, dreams, and education.

**Question 3: The Roles of an Elected Official** (Short Essay)

When an elected official has a belief or opinion that differs from that of most of the community that elected him/her to public office, how should the elected office proceed? Should the elected official vote based on their individual beliefs or on the beliefs of the majority of their constituency? Write a formal, multi-paragraph response in the space below, providing relevant details and examples (when appropriate) that support your claim.

**Section 2 Checklist**

The following items must accompany the application:

- Complete answers to all three questions
- Proofread for clarity, organization, and correct use of standard English

## Section 3: Letters of Recommendation

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### Principal Recommendation

Applicants must include one support letter from the principal. This letter should describe why the student is a strong candidate for the United States Senate State Youth Program and should address the requirements listed on page 2 of this application. At the end of Section 3, attach the original signed letter, preferably on school letterhead.

### Teacher/Counselor Recommendations (2)

Applicants must include **two** support letters from two teachers **or** one teacher and one counselor. These letters should describe why the student is a strong candidate for the United States Senate State Youth Program. It may include the student's specific academic accomplishments and awards, and evidence of the student's leadership and motivation. At the end of Section 3, attach the original signed letters, preferably on school letterhead.

### Community Member Recommendation

Applicants must include one support letter from a member of the community (not affiliated with the school, such as a politician, clergy, government official, the student's employer, etc.). This letter should describe why the student is a strong candidate for the United States Senate State Youth Program. It may include the student's specific academic or non-academic accomplishments and awards, evidence of the student's leadership and motivation, and/or address any of the requirements listed on page 2 of this application. At the end of Section 3, attach the original signed letter, preferably on official letterhead.

### Section 3 Checklist

The following items must accompany the application:

- Principal recommendation letter
- Two teacher/counselor recommendation letters
- Community member recommendation letter