 

61ST ANNUAL UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

Sponsored by the Hearst Foundations

2022-2023 Colorado Application

**Applications Due:** **Wednesday, October 12, 2022, by 11:59 pm**

**Note:** The following version of the application is intended as a reference document for instructions and application planning purposes.

**Colorado student applications for the United States Senate Youth Program must be submitted through the** [**online application form**](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/9fe662a079744ba28af56dc28d9e82e1)**.**

# INTRODUCTION

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 USSYP brings the highest-level officials from each branch of government to meet with this outstanding group of young leaders—two

high school juniors or seniors from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)— for an intensive week-long education and leadership program to be held either in Washington, D.C., or online. The 2023 program will occur **March 4-11, 2023**. The program is merit based and highly competitive. Each student will also receive a $10,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to pursue coursework in history and political science. The program has been fully funded since inception by The Hearst Foundations as an enduring commitment to preparing young people for civic leadership in our participatory democracy.

# THE PROGRAM

Delegates will hear policy addresses by senators, cabinet members, officials of the Departments of State and Defense, leaders of other federal agencies and senior members of the national media. Delegates also traditionally participate in a meeting with a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court and the president of the United States. Most speaking events include in-depth question and answer sessions.

The Heart Foundations will pay all expenses for Washington Week including transportation, hotel, and meals if held in person. The Department of Defense (DoD) annually provides a team of competitively selected men and women officers to serve as mentors and chaperones for the student delegates. A registered nurse, licensed physician, and professional security team are in place at all times throughout an in-person week.

# ELIGIBILITY

Qualified high school juniors or seniors must show demonstrated leadership by servicing in elected or appointed positions in which they are actively representing a constituency in organizations related to student government, education, public affairs, and community service. They must be actively serving in qualified leadership positions, enrolled in high school, and living in the state that they will represent for the entire 2022-2023 academic year.

Alternate delegates will be selected as replacements if a primary delegate is unable to participate in Washington Week. **Attendance during the entire Washington Week program, whether online or in-person, is required to receive the**

**financial scholarship;** appropriate disposition of scholarship funds will be determined by the program director if a primary delegate is unable to attend the program due to emergency circumstances.

Selection will be based on the student’s outstanding abilities and demonstrated qualities of leadership in an elected or appointed student office for the entire 2022-2023 school year. **The primary purposes of the qualifying leadership position must be representation of a constituency and service to others.** A student who graduates high school at the close of the fall 2022 semester/quarter is not eligible to apply for the program, and students other than DoDEA delegates must be residing in one state of primary residence in the U.S. during the entire 2022-2023 academic year to participate.

1. Any high school junior or senior student is eligible for the program provided they have not previously been a delegate to Washington Week and has not received a USSYP scholarship.

**The student must hold a high-level leadership position in any one of the following student government, civic or educational organizations during the entire 2022-2023 academic year:**

1. Student Body president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer
2. Class president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer
3. Student Council representative
4. A National Honor Society officer (including discipline-based Honor Societies such as the National English and Social Studies Honor Societies that include service components)
5. Student representative elected or appointed (appointed by a panel, commission, or board) to a local, district, regional or state-level civic, service and/or educational organization approved by the state selection administrator, where the student holds a position of representation to a constituency providing service to others.
6. **Participation or holding an officer position in academic clubs, educational competition programs/conferences, or organizations designed primarily for the student’s personal development do not qualify a student for the USSYP, although many students who qualify participate in these activities. The positions listed below DO NOT qualify the student for the program:**
7. Attendance or officer position at Boys/Girls Nation or State summer conference;
8. Member of a National Honor Society (serving as an elected officer for the organization for the entire school year is acceptable);
9. Member or leader of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts or JROTC;
10. A founder or chairperson of a self-created group; and
11. A participant, captain or officer in Mock Trial, Debate Team, Model UN or other academic club, mock legislature, conference, or competition where the primary engagement is for individual educational enrichment.
12. **RESIDENCY: Each student must be a legal permanent resident or citizen of the United States at the time of application.** Students must be enrolled for the entire academic year in a public or independent high school located in the state in which at least one of their parents or guardians currently resides. Home-educated students must be approved by their state department of education to apply.

Exceptions to the residency requirement will only be made in the following cases:

1. Students from DoDEA overseas will represent the state of which the parents/guardians are U.S. legal voting residents. Students attending DoD schools in the U.S. or students enrolled through U.S. military bases in local schools must be residing in the state in which their school is located for the entire academic year.
2. Students may reside in a state other than the state in which they attend school if they are enrolled in the only designated public high school available to them in a school district that crosses contiguous state borders through legal interstate agreement. Student in these schools shall make application to the program through the state where the high school is located and shall represent that state if selected.

# OFFICIAL PROGRAM RULES

1. **All delegates must agree to fully block both arrival and departure travel days to participate in Washington Week OR fully block all online program days if held virtually.**
2. **NO TOURS 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 AND INCLUDES ANY OUTSIDE APPOINTMENT OR EVENT DURING AN OR ONLINE PROGRAM WEEK.**

All travel provided by The Hearst Foundations is round-trip only and scheduled within the time frames listed below:

* **Arrival in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, March 4, 2023 – between 6:00 am and 5:00 pm**
* **Departure from Washington, D.C. on Saturday, March 11, 2023 – between 5:00 am and 9:00 am**
1. The chief state 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, 2022**, the names of their two delegates and alternates. Upon confirmation of qualifications, the program requires each delegate to submit a statement of participation, a code of conduct agreement and medical release to be signed by students and parents/legal guardians. All program rules apply to the group as a whole, defined as minors.
2. **Code of Conduct:** Delegates will be the guests of the United States Senate and The Hearst Foundations throughout the program, whether in-person or online, and are required to conduct themselves with civility, dignity, and professionalism. Debate and discussion are actively encouraged in an environment of tolerance, respect, and inclusion. Students selected to the program are serving as at-large public representatives of their states, communities, and schools, and attend the program to learn from the speakers and from one another. Students are prohibited from engaging in independent outreach on behalf of the program, and from lobbying, petitioning, protest or overt political activism during Washington Week. Cyberbullying and bullying of any kind will not be tolerated.
3. It will be the responsibility of the parents/legal guardians to transport (at their expense) each delegate to the nearest commercial airport or train station that provides round trip travel to Washington, D.C. from their hometown. **All itineraries will be designed for the least amount of travel time and most direct routing.**
4. No arrangements for individual religious practices or services other than dietary guidelines will be made during an in-person Washington Week. This policy will be strictly observed from the time the student delegates arrive at the Washington area airports, train station and program site until they return home.
5. The program does not allow any individual or group athletic activities outside of the hotel facility.
6. Failure to abide by rules and requirements of the program will result in dismissal from the program and forfeiture of the $10,000 scholarship award. Rules related to the USSYP and scholarship award 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 $10,000 undergraduate college scholarship award is subject to the conditions and requirements specified below. Additional detailed scholarship information will be provided to the delegates after Washington Week. Certificates representing the award will be presented to the delegates during their visit to

Washington, D.C., often personally signed by their senators.

# SCHOLARSHIP RULES

* 1. **The $10,000 college scholarship and attendance at the Washington Week program are one, inseparable award.** Delegates must attend all in-person or online meetings during Washington Week in accordance with program rules and policies in order to receive the financial scholarship.
	2. **The USSYP scholarship is designated for undergraduate college study only** at an accredited United States college or university. All students are encouraged to include history, political science, or related subjects in their undergraduate program.
	3. The $10,000 scholarship is designated for the specified student’s education expense and must be used within four years after enrollment. Funds are paid directly to the college or university in the student’s behalf. No funds may be given directly to a student. The scholarship will be issued in either one payment of $10,000 or increments of $5,000 or $2,500.
	4. Students attending military academies (U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Coast Guard) may draw the USSYP scholarship per the guidelines to purchase required military uniforms, books, computer equipment and other educational materials.
	5. A delegate will automatically forfeit eligibility for a scholarship award by failure to abide by all rules and requirements pertaining to the program and the scholarship or in the event of misconduct as a delegate to the United States Senate Youth Program.

# COLORADO SELECTION PROCESS

A nominating committee will review all qualified applications and select the top four candidates, who will be asked to participate in a personal interview (virtual). The nominating committee will 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, in part, on the students' outstanding abilities and demonstrated qualities of leadership in an elected or appointed position representing a constituency during the entire 2022-2023 school year.

The following are desired qualities in candidates:

* Leadership and public speaking ability;
* High scholastic standing and demonstrated ability to achieve;
* Community and public service involvement;
* Participation in a wide selection of activities on and off campus; 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.

Following the review of submitted applications, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) will schedule interviews with the top candidates during the week of November 14, 2022. Based upon final application and interview process scores, CDE will submit the names of Colorado’s two delegates and two alternates to the Hearst Foundations. Upon completion of the delegate and alternate selection process, the Hearst Foundations will contact the individuals directly providing information regarding the scholarships and the Washington Week program. All applicants will receive notification on the status of their applications by **Friday, December 9, 2022**.

# APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS

Colorado student applications will be completed using the [online application form](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/9fe662a079744ba28af56dc28d9e82e1). The online system does not save works in progress so applicants may wish to complete their information in this document and copy responses into the online application. Please ensure all required uploads are completed and ready to be attached when you begin the online form. Applications are due no later than **Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 11:59 pm.** Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

|  |
| --- |
| Submit completed applications through the [**online application form**](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/9fe662a079744ba28af56dc28d9e82e1)by **Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 11:59 pm** |

# REQUIRED ELEMENTS

The sections outlined below **must be completed**:

**Section I:** **Student and School District Information**

**Section II:** **School, Parent/Guardian, and Student Signatures**

**Section III:** **Academic and Extracurricular Activity History**

**Section IV:**  **Student Essay**

**Section V: Student Video Presentation**

**Section VI:** **School Principal/Teacher/Counselor Recommendation**

 **Advisor to Current Elected/Appointed Office Recommendation**

**Community Member Recommendation**

# APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Section I: Student and School District Information**

Enter the information requested in this section directly in the online application form.

**Section II: School, Parent/Guardian, and Student Signatures**

Ensure the form contains signatures from the guidance counselor official, parent/guardian, and student signature.

Save a copy of the completed form by naming your file in this format: LastName\_Signatures.

Upload in the “Upload Required Documents” section of the online application.

**Section III: Academic and Extracurricular Activity History**

Complete the Academic and Extracurricular Activity History form and save a copy of the completed form by naming your file in this format: LastName\_ActivityHistory. Upload in the “Upload Required Documents” section of the online application. Within the form, provide the following information:

**Elected/Appointed Office(s)**

List any elected or appointed position you have held during high school. Explain your role and duties. These explanations clarify your leadership roles.

Members of the selection committee may not recognize the abbreviations for names of clubs or organizations such as FBLA or DECA. Be specific and give a brief explanation where necessary.

**Academic Courses**

Be sure to consider not only history, civics, and economics courses you may have taken, but also any service-related courses.

**School-Related Service Activities**

List school-related service activities you have participated in throughout your high school years. Explain your role(s) and any ongoing participation.

**Community Service Activities**

List community service activities you have participated in throughout your high school years. Explain your role(s) and any ongoing participation.

**Honors and Awards**

List any honors or awards you have received throughout your high school years. For example, Boy’s or Girl’s State, Boy’s or Girl’s Nation are honors and activities that take place during the summer and show leadership qualities. If you are unsure whether members of the selection committee are familiar with an award, organization, or activity, spell out the name and give a brief description or explanation of the award, organization, or activity along with your role.

**Section IV: Student Essay**

Your essay should address the following question:

**"How will your participation in this program help define your career path and further your interest in politics?”**

Essays must be typed, single-spaced, and no smaller than 11-point font**.**

Make sure to have someone proofread your essays and application for omissions and errors.

Save the completed essay in Word or PDF and name your file in this format: LastName\_StudentEssay.

Upload in the “Upload Required Documents” section of the online application.

**Section V: Video Presentation**

Your presentation should address the following question:

**"If you were a Senator, what piece of legislation would you want to introduce, why is the issue important to you, and who would you work with as a colleague in the Senate right now to help you co-sponsor it?”**

* + 1. You may use the platform that works best for you (YouTube, Vimeo, recorded from a device and shared via Google folder link, etc.).
		2. Important: please ensure that your video link is not set to “Private” and can be accessed by application reviewers.
		3. Provide the link to access your presentation in the space provided in the online application form.

**Section VI: Recommendations**

* Using the forms provided, obtain recommendations from:
	1. Your school principal (or assistant principal), a teacher, or your school counselor;
	2. Your advisor to your current elected or appointed office; **and**
	3. A community member.
* Recommendations may be attached as a separate page, in letter format, but should address the areas on the corresponding recommendation form.
* Save your recommendation forms in Word or PDF and name your file in this format: LastName\_Recommendation1(2 or 3).

Upload in the “Upload Required Documents” section of the online application.

# ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

* The application’s required documents should be typed, whenever possible. Pages containing signatures should be scanned and included as part of the file uploads. Contact us at CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us if you encounter any technical issues with compiling, converting to PDF, or submitting your materials.
* **DO NOT** send academic records with your completed application.
* In case of a tie, the finalists must complete a qualifying examination, prior to **Friday, November 11, 2022**.
* If a discovery of plagiarism is made known or brought to the attention of the Colorado Department of Education during a current award competition, then at the discretion of the Department, the Department has the right to remove the application from consideration.
* Do not send applications to the United States Senate Youth Program as this will disqualify the application.

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**Note: Colorado student applications will be completed using the online application form. The online system does not save works in progress so applicants may wish to complete their information in this document and copy responses into the online application. Please ensure all required uploads are completed and ready to be attached when you begin the online form.**

**Submit all application materials through the** [**online application form**](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/9fe662a079744ba28af56dc28d9e82e1)**.**

# SECTION I: STUDENT AND SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION

| STUDENT INFORMATION |
| --- |
| **Student Full Name:**[First, Middle, Last] |  | **Date of Birth:**[Month/Day/Year] |  |
| **Student Preferred Name:** |  | **Student Preferred Pronouns:** |  |
| **Student Phone:** |  | **Student E-mail Address:** |  |
| **Home Address:**[Street, City, State, Zip] |  |
| **Congressional District:** |  |
| **Name of Parent/Guardian:** |  |
| **Parent/Guardian Phone:** |  | **Parent/Guardian E-mail:** |  |
| **Name of Parent/Guardian:** |  |
| **Parent/Guardian Phone:** |  | **Parent/Guardian E-mail:** |  |
| **Student’s Current Year in High School:** | [ ]  Junior [ ]  Senior | **Expected Graduation:**[Month/Year] |  |
| **Student Residency** |
| *Per the United States Senate Youth Program rules, students must be a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident to apply to the program.* | [ ]  Student is a current U.S. Citizen [ ]  Student is a legal permanent resident of the U.S.  |
| *Per the United States Senate Youth Program rules, the student is enrolled for the entire academic year in a public or independent high school located in the state in which at least one of their parents or guardians is a current resident.* | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |

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| --- |
| SCHOOL AND DISTRICT INFORMATION |
| **High School Name:** |  | **School District:** |  |
| **School Address:**[Street, City, State, Zip] |  |
| **School Phone:** |  | **School Type:** | [ ]  Public School [ ]  Private School |
| **Principal Name:** |  | **Principal E-mail Address:** |  |

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| **QUALIFYING LEADERSHIP POSITION** |
| **What is the highest-level ELECTED OR APPOINTED qualifying leadership position that you will hold for the entire school year? Keep in mind being a founder or chairperson of a self-created club or organization DOES NOT qualify the student for the program.** |
|  |
| **Provide a brief paragraph describing how you were elected/appointed/selected for this role. Describe the work you do to serve those you represent in this role.** [Limit 150 words] |
|  |
| **Provide a brief paragraph listing your leadership positions and academic honors, including community service, other extracurricular pursuits, and general plans for college and career in order of importance.** Note: If selected as a delegate or alternate, this brief paragraph will be submitted with your participation information. [Limit 150 words] |
|  |

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# SECTION II: SCHOOL, PARENT/GUARDIAN, AND STUDENT SIGNATURES

Upload your SCHOOL, PARENT/GUARDIAN, AND STUDENT SIGNATURES form in Word or PDF in your online application.

Additional copies of this form may be used to obtain the information/signatures. Please make sure to name your file in this format: LastName\_Signatures.

|  |
| --- |
| TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT’S SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT |
| **High School Grade Point Average:** | **Last Semester:** [Spring 2022] |  | **Unweighted GPAs:**[if applicable] |  |
| **Cumulative GPA:** [HS Career] |  |  |
| **Number of Students in Student’s Graduation Class:** |  | **Class Rank:** [if applicable] |  |
| **SCHOOL’S GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT SIGNATURE** |
| *I certify that all student academic and USSYP-qualifying leadership position information listed in this application is correct*. |
| **Name of Guidance Official:** |  |
| **Signature of Guidance Official:** |  |

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| PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE |
| *I certify that I have carefully read the United States Senate Youth qualifications and program rules; that all the information in this application is correct; I am the parent or legal guardian of the student completing this application; and I am a Colorado resident.* |
| **Parent/Guardian Signature:** |  |

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| STUDENT SIGNATURE |
| *I certify that I have carefully read the United States Senate Youth qualifications and program rules; that all the information in this application is correct; and that I do not currently have a scheduling conflict; and I understand complete attendance at the Washington Week program is required to receive the scholarship.* |
| **Student Signature:** |  |

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# SECTION III: ACADEMIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY HISTORY

Complete the requested Academic and Extracurricular activity information below. Add rows to the tables below as needed.

Upload your Academic and Extracurricular Activity History form in Word or PDF in your online application. Please make sure to name your file in this format: LastName\_ActivityHistory.

1. List all **ELECTED OR APPOINTED OFFICES** held in student government, civic or educational organizations beginning with the current office held and ending with 9th grade.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title of Office and Organization** | **Duties While in Office** | **Academic Year Office was Held** (i.e., 9th grade) | **Length of Time in Office** | **GPA While in****Office** |
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1. List all history, civics, and/or economics courses taken in high school by academic year, beginning with current year and ending with 9th grade.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Course** | **Academic Year** | **Grade Earned** |
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1. List major school-related service activities (other than student government) in which you have participated.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Activity | **Duties** | **Years Participated** |
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1. List major service activities **not related to school** in which you have participated.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Organization and Activity | **Duties** | **Years Participated** |
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1. List major honors/awards that you have received.

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| --- | --- |
| **Honor/Award** | **Year(s) Received** |
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# SECTION IV: STUDENT ESSAY

Each essay must be typed and single-spaced, using 11-point font.Points will not only be awarded for how well applicant addresses the question, but also for grammar, spelling, and punctuation**.** The essay should not exceed 500 words.

Upload your essay in Word or PDF in your online application. Please make sure to name your file in this format: LastName\_StudentEssay.

**Essay Prompt:**

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 and public service?”**

This is your opportunity to show us your passion on political and civic matters. Consider and include:

* What has driven you?
* What has inspired you to participate in this program?
* What areas of the public service profession are you inspired to enter and specifically, why are you committed to this area of public service?

# SECTION V: VIDEO PRESENTATION

Address the question below in a brief video that is **no more than three minutes** long. You may use the platform that works best for you (YouTube, Vimeo, recorded from a device and shared via Google folder link, etc.). Important: please ensure that your video link is not set to “Private” and can be accessed by application reviewers.

**Prompt:**

* Begin by saying your name and introducing yourself: “My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [Junior/Senior] at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School.”
* In three minutes or less, please address: **"****If you were a Senator, what piece of legislation would you want to introduce, why is the issue important to you, and who would you work with as a colleague in the Senate right now to help you co-sponsor it?”**

This is your opportunity to show us your knowledge of and passion for political and social issues. Consider and include:

* What current social issue will the legislation support and why is it important to you?
* Which current senator would you partner with on the legislation and why?

| **Link to Video:** | Click here to enter text. |
| --- | --- |

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# SECTION VI: RECOMMENDATION - SCHOOL PRINCIPAL/TEACHER/COUNSELOR

Responses may be attached as a separate page, in letter format, but should address the areas underlined below.

Upload your SCHOOL PRINCIPAL/TEACHER/COUNSELOR recommendation form in Word or PDF in your online application. Please make sure to name your file in this format: LastName\_Recommendation1.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reference Name:** |  | **Title:** |  |
| **Telephone:** |  | **E-mail Address:** |  |
| **Organization:** |  |  |
| **How long and in what capacity reference has known applicant:** |  |
| **Reference Signature:** |  | **Date:** |  |

For the following qualities, please describe how the nominated student goes above and beyond.

Leadership and Public Speaking Ability
**[100 word limit]**

Demonstrated Responsibility, Maturity, and Achievement
**[100 word limit]**

Participation in a wide selection of activities on and off campus.
**[100 word limit]**

Interpersonal Skills
**[100 word limit]**

Briefly describe what is unique about this student. How does this student stand out from other students?
**[150 word limit]**

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# SECTION VI: RECOMMENDATION - ADVISOR TO CURRENT ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICE

Responses may be attached as a separate page, in letter format, but should address the areas underlined below.

Upload your ADVISOR TO CURRENT ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICE recommendation form in Word or PDF in your online application. Please make sure to name your file in this format: LastName\_Recommendation2.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reference Name:** |  | **Title:** |  |
| **Telephone:** |  | **E-mail Address:** |  |
| **Organization:** |  |  |
| **How long and in what capacity reference has known applicant:** |  |
| **Reference Signature:** |  | **Date:** |  |

For the following qualities, please describe how the nominated student goes above and beyond.

Leadership and Public Speaking Ability
**[100 word limit]**

Demonstrated Responsibility, Maturity, and Achievement
**[100 word limit]**

Participation in a wide selection of activities on and off campus.
**[100 word limit]**

Interpersonal Skills
**[100 word limit]**

Briefly describe what is unique about this student. How does this student stand out from other students?
**[150 word limit]**

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# SECTION VI: RECOMMENDATION - COMMUNITY MEMBER

Responses may be attached as a separate page, in letter format, but should address the areas underlined below.

Upload your COMMUNITY MEMBER recommendation form in Word or PDF in your online application. Please make sure to name your file in this format: LastName\_Recommendation3.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reference Name:** |  | **Title:** |  |
| **Telephone:** |  | **E-mail Address:** |  |
| **Organization:** |  |  |
| **How long and in what capacity reference has known applicant:** |  |
| **Reference Signature:** |  | **Date:** |  |

For the following qualities, please describe how the nominated student goes above and beyond.

Leadership and Public Speaking Ability
**[100 word limit]**

Demonstrated Responsibility, Maturity, and Achievement
**[100 word limit]**

Participation in a wide selection of activities on and off campus.
**[100 word limit]**

Interpersonal Skills
**[100 word limit]**

Briefly describe what is unique about this student. How does this student stand out from other students?
**[150 word limit]**

**61st ANNUAL UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM**

**2022-2023 Colorado Student Application**

# APPLICATION CHECKLIST

For use as a reference; **do not include** with your application.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Does your application package include:
 | **Yes** | **No** |
|  **Section II:** Student Application Form with **all** signatures |[ ] [ ]
|  **Section III:** Academic and Extracurricular Activity History |[ ] [ ]
|  **Section IV:** Student Essay |[ ] [ ]
|  **Section V:** Video Presentation Link |[ ] [ ]
|  **Section VI:** Recommendations:* + 1. School Principal/Teacher/Counselor
		2. Advisor to Current Elected/Appointed Office
		3. Community Member
 |[ ] [ ]
| 1. Has someone else **proofread** your application for clarity, grammar, spelling, and typos?
 |[ ] [ ]
| 1. Did you single-space your essay?
 |[ ] [ ]
| 1. Is the type/font easy to read and no smaller than 11 point?
 |[ ] [ ]
| 1. Did you name each file to be uploaded in the specified format listed at the top of each attachment (i.e., LastName\_StudentEssay, etc.)?
 |[ ] [ ]
| 1. Did you ensure your video link is not set to “Private” so it can be accessed by application reviewers?
 |[ ] [ ]

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| --- |
| **Submit all application materials through the** [**online application form**](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/9fe662a079744ba28af56dc28d9e82e1)by **Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 11:59 pm**. |

**61st ANNUAL UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM**

**2022-2023 Colorado Student Application**

**Evaluation Rubric**

CDE Use Only

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Student Name:** |  | **School:** |  |
| **Reviewer Name:** |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Section III:**  | **Academic And Extracurricular Activity History** | /15 |
| **Section IV:**  | **Student Essay** | /15 |
| **Section V:**  | **Video Presentation** | /15 |
| **Section VI:** | **Recommendations** |  |
|  | School Principal/Teacher/Counselor Recommendation | /5 |
|  | Advisor to Current Elected/Appointed Office Recommendation | /5 |
|  | Community Member Recommendation | /5 |
|  | **Total** | **/60** |

**General Comments:**

# APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

**Section III: Academic and Activity History** [15 Points]

Using the responses from the Qualifying Leadership Role and the Academic and Extracurricular Activity History sections, the reviewer will assess the student's coursework and activities while looking for evidence of high scholastic standing and high levels of achievement.

Note: In order to qualify for the program, high school juniors or seniors must show demonstrated leadership by servicing in elected or appointed positions in which they are actively representing a constituency in organizations related to student government, education, public affairs, and community service.

The student must hold a high-level leadership position in any one of the following student government, civic or educational organizations during the entire 2022-2023 academic year:

1. Student Body president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer;
2. Class president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer;
3. Student Council representative;
4. A National Honor Society officer (including discipline-based Honor Societies such as the National English and Social Studies Honor Societies that include service components); or
5. Student representative elected or appointed (appointed by a panel, commission, or board) to a local, district, regional or state-level civic, service and/or educational organization approved by the state selection administrator, where the student holds a position of representation to a constituency providing service to others.

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| 0 Points | 5 Points | 10 Points | 15 Points |
| * Qualifying Leadership Role and/or the Academic and Extracurricular Activity History responses are missing from application.
 | * Demonstrates low level of participation in student government or other elected/appointed positions.
* Lacks compelling evidence of coursework concentration or proficiency in courses.
* Does not demonstrate participation in other activities in school or community.
* Lacks listing of honors, recognition, and awards.
* Unclearly defined educational and/or career goals.
 | * Shows sufficient level of participation in student government or other elected/appointed positions.
* Includes some evidence of coursework concentration in social studies/humanities (number of courses) and proficiency in these courses (grades).
* Demonstrates moderate level of participation in other activities in school and/or community and outlines duration involved in those activities.
* Mentions some honors, recognition, and awards in areas of participation.
* Describes future educational and career goals with some detail.
 | * Shows high level of participation in an elected or appointed position (time in position).
* Provides significant evidence of coursework concentration in social studies/humanities (number of courses) and high level of proficiency in these courses (grades).
* Demonstrates high level of participation in activities in school and/or community and outlines duration involved in those activities.
* Lists several honors, recognition, and awards in areas of participation.
* Includes clear and decisive description of future educational and career goals.
 |
| Comments: |  | Score: | /15 |
|  |

**Section IV: Student Essay** [15 Points]

The reviewer will assess the overall content and mechanics of the student's essay. The response should demonstrate both excellence in written communication as well as the student’s passion on political and civic matters.

**Essay Prompt:**

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 and public service?”**

This is your opportunity to show us your passion on political and civic matters. Consider and include:

* What has driven you?
* What has inspired you to participate in this program?
* What areas of the public service profession are you inspired to enter and specifically, why are you committed to this area of public service?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 Points | 5 Points | 10 Points | 15 Points |
| **Content**  |
| * Response is missing or does not address essay prompt.
 | * Limited or unclear description of how participation in this program will help to define career goals and further interest in politics and public service.
* Unclear which area(s) of public service the student is inspired to enter and why they are committed to this area of public service.
* Lacks clear evidence of passion for political and civic matters.
 | * Adequately describes how participation in this program will help to define career goals and further interest in politics and public service.
* Addresses the areas of public service the student is inspired to enter but does not describe why they are committed to this area of public service.
* Provides limited evidence of passion for political and civic matters.
 | * Clearly establishes how participation this program will help define career goals and further interest in politics and public service.
* Clearly describes the area(s) of public service the student is inspired to enter and why they are committed to this area of public service.
* Clearly conveys a passion for political and civic matters.
 |
| **Mechanics** |
| * Response is missing or does not address essay prompt.
 | * Demonstrates little to no consistency and/or provides little support of ideas.
* Uses sentences that are unclear.
* Contains multiple errors in usage of words, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
 | * Provides consistency in ideas but minimal supportive detail and explanation included.
* Uses correct and complete sentences that are varied in structure and length.
* Demonstrates mostly correct word usage, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
 | * Exemplifies consistency in development of ideas, also thoughtfully supports ideas will detail and explanation.
* Effectively uses coherent and complete sentences that are varied in structure and length.
* Correctly and effectively uses words and incorporates correct spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
 |
| Comments: |  | Score: | /15 |
|  |

**Section V: Student Video Presentation** [15 Points]

The reviewer will assess the content, idea development, and spoken communication of the student's video presentation. The video response should demonstrate the student’s knowledge of and passion for political and social issues as well as their presentation skills, eloquence, and confidence.

**Student Video Prompt:** In three minutes or less, please address: **"If you were a Senator, what piece of legislation would you want to introduce, why is the issue important to you, and who would you work with as a colleague in the Senate right now to help you co-sponsor it?”**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 Points | 5 Points | 10 Points | 15 Points |
| * Did not include link to Video Presentation.
 | * Fails to describe a piece of legislation to be introduced and its importance.
* Lacks clear connection to presentation prompt and/or did not confidently address presentation prompt.
* Outlines the prompt but does not convey knowledge of or passion for political and social issues.
 | * Describes legislation to be introduced and briefly addresses the importance.
* Briefly touches on why the issue is important to the student and identifies a senate co-sponsor.
* Establishes purpose and demonstrates confidence throughout presentation.
* Mostly conveys knowledge of and passion for political and social issues.
 | * Clearly presents legislation to be introduced.
* Clearly articulates why the issue is important to the student and identifies a senate colleague co-sponsor.
* Clearly establishes, maintains, and communicates purpose throughout the presentation.
* Exemplifies strong presentation skills, eloquence, and confidence.
* Clearly conveys knowledge of and passion for political and social issues.
 |
| Comments: |  | Score: | /15 |
|  |

**Section VI: Recommendations** [15 Points]

The reviewer will verify the recommendations while paying special attention to student eligibility, support of student candidacy, and student's achievement.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 Points | 1 Point | 3 Points | 5 Points |
| **Principal/Teacher/Counselor Recommendation** |
| * Missing Recommendation
 | * Does not verify student meeting national and state requirements and/or fails to support student's candidacy.
 | * Verifies student's eligibility and appears to support student's candidacy.
 | * Verifies student's eligibility and enthusiastically supports student's candidacy.
 |
| Comments: |  | Score: | /5 |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 Points | 1 Point | 3 Points | 5 Points |
| **Advisor To Current Elected/Appointed Office Recommendation** |
| * Missing Recommendation
 | * Fails to support student's candidacy and/or does not mention student's accomplishments.
 | * Supports student's candidacy and describes student's accomplishments.
 | * Clearly supports student's candidacy and provides strong evidence of student's accomplishments.
 |
| Comments: |  | Score: | /5 |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0 Points | 1 Point | 3 Points | 5 Points |
| **Community Member Recommendation** |
| * Missing Recommendation
 | * Fails to support student's candidacy and/or does not mention student's accomplishments.
 | * Supports student's candidacy and describes student's accomplishments.
 | * Clearly supports student's candidacy and provides strong evidence of student's accomplishments.
 |
| Comments: |  | Score: | /5 |
|  |