

Two Louisiana juniors or seniors will be chosen to attend the 62nd annual U.S. Senate Youth Program (USSYP) in Washington D.C. during the week of March 2-9, 2024. Upon completion of all on-site events, these two delegates will each receive a \$10,000 scholarship. Juniors or seniors may qualify to apply through leadership positions they hold during the 2023-2024 school year per the [USSYP official criteria](#).

All student leadership-qualifying positions are subject to the judgment of the state selection administrator and will be verified and confirmed. Students nominated by their principals must submit an application and a portfolio of required USSYP official criteria information to the Louisiana Department of Education by **Tuesday, October 3**.

#### State Guidelines for Nominating Students:

- The principal of any public or private school may recommend up to three students.
- The [Jotform](#) application will send a request for the essay topics as this information is considered test secure.

#### United States Senate Youth Program Requirements:

- Juniors or seniors who have been elected or appointed to a student government, civic, or educational organization (campus student government officer or representative), class officer, appointment to a local, district, or state, panel, commission, or board, National Honor Society officer may apply. Students may qualify to apply through leadership positions they currently hold, per the [USSYP official criteria](#) for the current 2023-2024 academic year and must actively serve in qualified leadership position(s) for the entire academic year.
- The student must be enrolled in a public, nonpublic or homeschool secondary school in the state in which their parent or guardian resides for the entire 2023-2024 academic year.
- The student(s) must be a permanent resident or citizen of the United States or have an official green card in their possession at the time of the application.
- Students must be able to attend all on-site sessions of the Annual Washington Week program from **March 2-9, 2024**. The Hearst Foundation will make the determination if the event will be held online or in-person.

#### Submission Information:

- The name(s) of the students nominated and their application portfolios must be received electronically no later than midnight of October 3 via the [Jotform link](#).
- If you have any questions, please contact [Marian Johnson](#), the state coordinator.

**To complete the student's application at the link provided, use separate pages for each of the items below and submit items to the drop box indicated.**

- The demographic information about the student, school and parents, including the electronic parental signature
- Principal's letter of recommendation
- School elective offices and honors (1-2 pages)
- Transcript of high school/college coursework
- Academic achievements (1-2 pages)
- School and Extracurricular activities (1-2 pages)
- Citizenship and community involvement (1-2 pages)
- Description of hobbies and college and career plans (1-2 pages)
- The completed essay written according to the guidelines provided to the school official who will proctor the timed essay (essay topics will only be released to a school official)
- Affirmation statement from the principal or faculty indicating that the student did not have early access to the topics, used no external resources and followed the time parameter

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### United States Senate Youth State Timeline

<b>August 1, 2023</b>	Scholarship application is available on the LDOE <a href="#">website</a> . Information about the scholarship (application link and brochure) will be placed in the School System newsletters notifying schools and school systems of the competition and relevant deadlines.
<b>August-September</b>	High schools select their nominee(s), assist with the compilation of the portfolios and proctor the essay that must be typed directly into the <a href="#">Jotform</a> .
<b>October 3, 2023</b>	Electronic submission of the application via the <a href="#">Jotform</a> .
<b>October 26, 2023</b>	Top four portfolio submissions will be notified by email inviting them to complete the national examination and individual interview.
<b>November 8, 2023</b>	Finalists complete the national examination and individual interview at the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge.
<b>December 1, 2023</b>	Names of the two delegates and two alternates will be submitted to the Hearst Foundation.
<b>March 2-9, 2024</b>	U.S. Senate Youth Washington Week is held in Washington, D.C.