

State of Alaska
UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM
Official Student Application Form for School Year 2016-2017

The application package must be received by the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development before 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 1, 2016. Participating schools may recommend one candidate only. All fields must be completely filled out and make sure all required materials are included.

Student Data			
Name:		Age:	
Gender:			
Address:			
City:		AK	Zip:
Email Address:			
Home Phone:		Cell:	
Current student government, civic, or educational position:			
Class standing:	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/> Senior	Permanent U.S. Resident?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Parent/Guardian(s) Data			
Name:			
Address:			
City:		AK	Zip:
Email Address:			
Day Phone:		Alt. Phone:	
High School Data			
School Name:		District:	
Principal:			
Address:			
City:		AK	Zip:
Email Address:		Phone:	

Application submissions must include: Application form with the principal's original signature; one copy of a current, official academic transcript; one official PSAT, SAT, or ACT test score; two essays; one letter of support from the school principal or school counselor, and one letter of support from an adult supervisor of the organization or student body entity from which the student represents. These items are described in greater detail in the Application Requirements section.

The scholarship will be awarded on a competitive basis upon evidence of the following:

1. Leadership qualities;
2. High scholastic standing and ability to achieve;
3. Ability to think logically and communicate clearly;
4. Community service, volunteerism, and/or school involvement; and
5. Possible Skype interview with the top four candidates.

As principal, I recommend this student as our school's nominee for the 2016-2017 United States Senate Youth Scholarship Program.

Signature of High School Principal

Date

United States Senate Youth Program Descriptions

USSYP Washington Week Program

The USSYP will be held in Washington, D.C., March 4-11, 2017. One hundred and four student delegates will follow an intensive schedule of meetings and briefings with Senators, Cabinet members, officials of the Departments of State and Defense, and representatives of the U.S. Supreme Court. Delegates will visit the White House and tour historic sites, monuments and museums in our nation's capital. The Hearst Foundation will pay all expenses for the Washington Week Program including transportation, hotel, and meals.

USSYP College Scholarship

Each delegate who participates in the USSYP Washington Week will receive a \$10,000 college scholarship from The William Randolph Hearst Foundation, subject to the conditions and requirements specified in the program regulations. Additional information concerning the scholarship will be given to delegates upon their arrival in Washington. Attendance during the Washington Week program is required to receive the college scholarship.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATION RULES:

A currently enrolled high school junior or senior student living in Alaska (irrespective of race, national origin, gender or financial need) is eligible for the program provided he or she has not previously been a program recipient, is now a permanent resident of the United States and has a parent or guardian legally residing in Alaska, will not graduate prior to the spring of 2017, and has been ***elected*** or appointed to currently serve in any one of the following:

- Student body president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer;
- Class president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer;
- Student council representative;
- Student representative to a district, regional or state-level civic or education organization.

(Exceptions to the residency rule are made for Department of Defense Education Activity.)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST:

- Official Application form (page 1 of this document):** Completed form must be signed by your school principal. Each school may recommend only one candidate.
- Transcript:** One copy of a current, official academic transcript and class rank. **Transcripts must include the student's non-weighted GPA.**
- Test scores:** One copy of **official** PSAT, SAT and/or ACT test scores (may be included on transcript). Copies and web printouts are **NOT** acceptable.
- Two essays:** Each essay must be **titled**, typed, **double-spaced** and **not to exceed two pages**. (*Essays not adhering to these rules will disqualify the applicant.*)
 - A **student essay** written by the applicant describing each of the following elements:
 - Current position held and involvement in student government and community service;
 - Activities and achievements that demonstrate leadership in school and community;
 - The personality trait that has been your greatest asset in leadership situations; and
 - What are your future plans?
 - A **persuasive essay** researched and written by the applicant on a topic of social significance related to contemporary state, national or world events. Select a topic important to you, take a stand, relate its import to you, and defend your position. The essay will be judged on organization, ideas and content, evidence of personalization, and writing conventions.
- Two Letters of Support:** One from the school principal or school counselor, and one from an adult advisor to the organization or student body entity that you represent. Send **only** the two requested letters.

Only 1 copy of the official transcript and test scores needed per applicant.

All above items must be submitted with the application package.

DO NOT SEND EXTRA MATERIALS. THEY WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

SELECTION PROCESS:

In reviewing applications, the selection panel will assess indicators of leadership ability, high scholastic achievement, ability to think logically and communicate clearly, and community and school involvement. Finalists may be asked to participate in a Skype interview during the selection process.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- **Four** copies of the application package must be physically received by the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development on or before 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 1, 2016. One of the four application packages must contain the original signature of the principal—the other three can be photocopied and simply stapled – no binders necessary. *Only 1 copy of the transcript and test scores needs to be included with the original signature application package.*
 - Facsimiles or e-mails will not be accepted. Late applications will not be considered.
 - It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that all required elements are included in the submitted application package. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
 - The letters of support **MUST** accompany the application.
 - Please do not send photos or certificates or awards. No materials will be returned.
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Submit the complete application package to:

US Postal Service

United States Senate Youth Program
Attn: Bjørn Wolter, Program Coordinator
Alaska Department of Education & Early
Development
PO Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811-0500

Express Delivery Service

United States Senate Youth Program
Attn: Bjørn Wolter, Program Coordinator
Alaska Department of Education & Early
Development
801 West 10th Street, Suite 200
Juneau, AK 99801-1878