

EDUCATION · LEADERSHIP · PUBLIC SERVICE



FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL



UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM


WASHINGTON WEEK 2009

WASHINGTON, D.C. | MARCH 7 – 14, 2009

Sponsored by the

WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST FOUNDATION

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104 STUDENTS WILL BE SELECTED FOR A WEEK-LONG GOVERNMENT AND LEADERSHIP EDUCATION PROGRAM IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL AND A ONE-TIME \$5,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP.

The United States Senate unanimously passed a resolution in 1962 creating the UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM, a national initiative to provide a yearly opportunity for talented young people with demonstrated leadership abilities to deepen their understanding of America's political processes and encourage them to consider careers in public service.

The UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM brings the highest-level officials from each branch of government together with a competitively selected group of high-school students — two high school juniors or seniors from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity — during an intensive week-long educational program held in Washington, D.C. In addition, each student receives a one-time \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to pursue coursework in history and political science. Now in its forty-seventh year, the program has been fully funded since inception by the WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST FOUNDATION as part of the Foundation's commitment to preparing young people for citizenship and leadership in our participatory democracy.

THE PROGRAM

THE FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM WILL BE HELD MARCH 7-14, 2009.

The 104 student delegates will be immersed in Washington activities throughout the week. Delegates will hear major policy addresses by Senators, cabinet members, officials of the Departments of State and Defense and directors of federal agencies, as well as participate in a meeting with a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Each session with elected officials includes an in-depth question and answer period.

The Foundation will pay all expenses for Washington Week, including transportation, hotel and meals (see number 5 under Rules regarding DoDEA). A registered nurse will be available to delegates at all times and a physician will be on immediate call throughout the week. The military services will provide specially selected men and women officers to serve as mentors for the student delegates while in Washington.

In addition to outstanding leadership abilities and a strong commitment to volunteer work, the 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. Among the many distinguished former delegates are Senator Susan Collins of Maine, the first program delegate elected to the Senate; Chief Judge Robert Henry, U. S. Court of Appeals; former Ambassador to West Germany Richard Burt; former Presidential Advisors Thomas "Mack" McLarty and Karl Rove. Additional distinguished alumni are former Lt. Governor of Idaho David LeRoy, U. S. Attorney for New Jersey Christopher Christie, Foreign Service officers, military officers, members of state legislatures, top Congressional staff, health-care providers and university educators.

HOW TO QUALIFY

Two student delegates and a first and second alternate will be selected from each state and the District of Columbia by the Chief State School Officer in each state. The Foundation will provide \$1,000 to each state-level department of education to assist with the selection expenses for the program. In addition, the Foundation provides a rigorous public affairs examination that states may use as part of the selection process.

The office of the Department of Defense Education Activity, Washington, D.C., will be responsible for the selection and confirmation of DoDEA delegates and alternates. Military dependents who reside and attend schools in the United States may apply for the program under the PERMANENT RESIDENT ruling as shown in this document.

Alternate delegates will be selected as replacements in the event a primary delegate is unable to participate in Washington Week. If the primary delegate is unable to attend Washington Week, the Foundation must be notified in advance. Appropriate disposition of scholarship funds will be determined by the Program Director.

Selection will be based solely on the students' outstanding abilities and demonstrated qualities of leadership in an elected or appointed high school student office for the 2008–2009 school year. A student who graduates high school at the close of the fall 2008 semester/quarter is not eligible to apply for the program.

1. Any high school junior or senior student is eligible for the program provided he or she has not previously been a delegate to Washington Week and has not received a USSYP scholarship. The student is required to be currently serving in an elected or appointed capacity in any one of the following student government, civic or educational organizations:
 - a. Student Body President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer
 - b. Class President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer
 - c. Student Council Representative
 - d. Student representative elected or appointed (appointed by a panel, commission or board) to district, regional or state-level civic or educational organization.
2. Each student must be a PERMANENT RESIDENT of the United States and currently enrolled in a public or private secondary school located in the state (including for these purposes the District of Columbia) in which either one of his or her parents or guardians legally resides. A student attending a school which is located in a state other than the state of legal residence of either one of such student's parents or guardians is not eligible.

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

 - a. Students from Department of Defense Education Activity will represent the state(s) of which the parents/guardians are U.S. legal voting residents.
 - b. Interstate Compacts (by Congressional mandate) presently exist between New Hampshire – Maine and New Hampshire – Vermont, authorizing school districts to legally cross state borders. Students in these schools are eligible to make an application for this program only through the states where the schools are located.

RULES

- 1. To participate in the program, students must be able to remain with the group throughout the entire program week. 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 PROGRAM, 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. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE OTHER THAN FOR DEATH OR DOCUMENTED HEALTH EMERGENCY IN THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY.**

All travel is scheduled within these time frames pending weather conditions and flight availability, no other exceptions.

- Arrival on Saturday March 7th between 12:00 noon and 7:00 PM
- Departure on Saturday March 14th between 5:00 AM and 10:00 AM

- 2. No arrangements for individual religious practices or services other than dietary guidelines will be made during 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 to their home sites.**
3. Applications must be obtained from high school principals or the State-level Selection Administrators. Deadline dates vary by state.
4. The Chief School Officer from each state, the District of Columbia and Department of Defense Education Activity must submit in writing to the Foundation by **DECEMBER 1, 2008**, the names of their two delegates and alternates. After the confirmation of the delegates and alternates is received, the Foundation will forward to the delegate a statement of participation to be signed by his or her parents or legal guardians, a copy of the rules and scholarship regulations and other pertinent information relating to the delegate's stay in Washington.
5. The Foundation will arrange transportation to and from Washington, D.C. It will be the responsibility of the local school district, local secondary school, parents and or legal guardians to transport (at their expense) each delegate to and from the nearest commercial airport, bus terminal or railroad station. The Department of Defense Education Activity will provide round-trip transportation for their two delegates from their homes to Washington, D.C.
6. Each delegate will be the guest of the United States Senate throughout the Program. Students are required to conduct themselves in such a manner as to be a credit to both the United States Senate and the United States Senate Youth Program.
7. The program does not provide/allow for any individual or group athletic activities outside of the hotel facility.
8. Rules related to the United States Senate Youth Program and scholarship awards shall be construed, interpreted and applied by the Foundation, whose action and determination shall be final and binding.

SCHOLARSHIP

The WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST FOUNDATION believes it is in the public interest to encourage these outstanding Senate Youth delegates to continue their educational development. The \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship award is subject to the conditions and requirements specified in the rules below.

SCHOLARSHIP RULES

- a. To qualify, a student must participate in the United States Senate Youth Program Washington Week. If a selected student is unable to participate, merits of his or her reasons will be considered by the Program Director relative to scholarship awards.
- b. Within two years after high school graduation, a student is required to enroll at an accredited United States college or university. Scholarship funds may also be designated through an accredited United States college or university account for attendance at an accredited foreign campus, institution or center. The student is encouraged to include history, political science or related subjects in his or her undergraduate program.
- c. Eligible students must complete the UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM Application for Grant of Scholarship form, have it signed by the dean of admissions or registrar, affixed with the college or university's official seal, and then forward the original to the Foundation.
- d. The \$5,000 scholarship is designated for the specified student's education expense within a four-year undergraduate study period. Under the program IRS Rules, these funds cannot legally be given directly to a student and are designated for tuition, enrollment or other fees and charges, or room and board provided or approved by the college or university. Funds not utilized by the designated student are to revert to the general scholarship fund of the college or university utilized at the discretion of the college or university.
- e. The student must notify USSYP immediately if he or she does not intend to utilize the undergraduate scholarship funds within the four-year period. If college or university enrollment is delayed or enrollment is interrupted because of personal illness or a family emergency, the student may seek an extension of the scholarship fund availability — subject to the USSYP Program Director's specific review and approval. **USSYP MUST BE NOTIFIED BY OCTOBER 15** each year to determine whether the scholarship will be utilized or held.
- f. Students attending military academies (U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Coast Guard) may draw the USSYP Scholarship to purchase required military uniforms, books, computer equipment and other educational materials.
- g. A student will automatically forfeit eligibility for a scholarship award by failure to fulfill the above rules, or in the event of misconduct as a delegate to the United States Senate Youth Program.**

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UNITED STATES SENATE RESOLUTION 324

In 1962, Senate Resolution 324, submitted by Senator KUCHEL (for himself and Senators MANSFIELD, DIRKSEN, and HUMPHREY), was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration, and, subsequently, unanimously approved by the United State Senate as follows:

WHEREAS the continued vitality of our Republic depends, in part, on the intelligent understanding of our political processes and the functions of our National Government by the citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS the durability of a constitutional democracy is dependent upon alert, talented, vigorous competition for political leadership; and

WHEREAS individual Senators have cooperated with various private and university undergraduate and graduate fellowship and internship programs relating to the work of Congress; and

WHEREAS in the high schools of the United States, there exists among students who have been elected to student body offices in their junior or senior year a potential reservoir of young citizens who are experiencing their first responsibilities of service to a constituency and who should be encouraged to deepen their interest in and understanding of their country's political process: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate hereby expresses its willingness to cooperate in a nationwide competitive high school Senate youth program which would give several representative high school students from each State a short indoctrination into the operation of the United States Senate and the Federal Government generally, if such a program can be satisfactorily arranged and completely supported by private funds with no expense to the Federal Government.

RESOLUTION 146. To amend S. Res. 324 of the Eighty-seventh Congress to provide for the participation of the Department of Defense education system for dependents in overseas areas in the Senate Youth Program.

Resolved, That S. Res. 324, Eighty-seventh Congress, agreed to May 17, 1963, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

Section 3. For the purpose of this resolution, the term "State" includes the Department of Defense education system for dependents in overseas areas.