



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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**OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM EACH STATE
TO BE AWARDED \$10,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP**

“Will Earn Week in Washington for Leadership Education and Public Service”

Montgomery, Ala. – The *United States Senate Youth Program* (USSYP) is pleased to announce state departments of education nationwide have begun their annual selection processes. A total of 104 student delegates will be chosen to meet their U.S. senators in the nation’s capital March 7-14, 2020, for the program’s 58th Annual Washington Week.

The USSYP was created by Senate Resolution 324 in 1962 as stated in supporting Senate testimony from that year, “to increase young Americans’ understanding of the interrelationship of the three branches of government, the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed officials, and the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for America but for people around the world.”

Each year, this extremely competitive merit-based program brings two high school juniors and seniors from every state, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Education Activity, to Washington, D.C., for an intensive week-long study of the federal government and its leaders. The state departments of education throughout the country select the students through a rigorous nomination and selection process.

Each student will receive a \$10,000 undergraduate scholarship, with encouragement to continue coursework in history, government and public affairs. The Hearst Foundations have fully funded and administered the program since inception; no government funds are utilized. Senator James Lankford of Oklahoma will serve as the 2020 USSYP Republican Co-Chair and Senator Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin will serve as the Democratic Co-Chair.

The seventeen military officers who serve as elite chaperones and mentors to the student delegates throughout the week are also competitively selected through the Office of the Secretary of Defense, representing one of the longest standing partnerships between a national youth program and the Department of Defense.

In addition to outstanding leadership and a strong commitment to volunteer work, student delegates generally rank in the top one percent of their state’s juniors and seniors.

Student delegates will visit Capitol Hill, the White House, Pentagon, State Department, the Supreme Court, and many other historic sites. The program agenda routinely includes meetings with senators, the president, Cabinet secretaries, a justice of the Supreme Court, senior members of the national media, and other key policymakers.

The *delegate selection* is administered by each state’s chief school officer in cooperation with principals. Delegates must be juniors or seniors, and elected or appointed student officers for the 2019-2020 academic year. They must reside in the state where they attend school.

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United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) Scholarship for High School Juniors & Seniors

Names of students selected will be formally announced mid-December. Interested students should contact their high school principal, school counselor, or the [selection administrator](#) for their state. Application deadlines vary by state, and specific information can be located on the state-by-state drop-down menu on the USSYP website.

The 2020 program brochure with detailed rules, selection process and the annual yearbook may be accessed on the USSYP website www.usenateyouth.org.

For additional information contact National Program Director Rayne Guilford at 703-749-0447 or rguilford@hearstfdn.org. The official program website is www.usenateyouth.org.

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