

2012 UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

Program Announcement and Information

The United States Senate Youth Program offers the opportunity to two representatives from each state to convene in Washington, D.C. to be immersed in activities and events to deepen their understanding of America's political process and encourage them to consider careers in public service. The program brings the officials of the highest-level from each branch of the federal government together with the state delegates during an intensive week-long educational program held in Washington D.C. Delegates will hear major policy addresses by Senators and Cabinet members and participate in discussion with a justice from the U. S. Supreme Court. The 2012 United States Senate Youth Program will be held in Washington, D. C. from March 4 – March 11, 2012.

104 student delegates from across the country will follow an intensive schedule during their week's stay in Washington. The program will include visits to Congress, the Supreme Court, the Pentagon, historical sites and various Smithsonian museums.

In addition, the Ohio delegates each will be awarded a Five Thousand Dollar (\$5,000.00) scholarship to be presented by Ohio State Senators. The scholarship is subject to the conditions and requirements specified in the Scholarship Rules, available upon request.

The William Randolph Hearst Foundation sponsors the program and will assume all expenses for the week including transportation, lodging, and meals.

Selection of the Ohio Delegates (2) and Alternates (2) will be made by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction from among the **candidates recommended** by the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. Selection is made from among the participants at Buckeye Boys State and Buckeye Girls State. Eligibility requirements for Ohio students are as follows:

1. Any high school junior or senior (irrespective of race, color, creed, sex or financial standing) is eligible for consideration provided he or she has not previously been a delegate to the program and is currently serving in any of the following student government offices:
 - a. Student body president, vice president, secretary or treasurer;
 - b. Class president, vice president, secretary or treasurer;
 - c. Grade level representative to Student Council, but **not a homeroom/classroom representative.**
 - d. Elected or selected (by a panel commission or board) to a district, regional or state-level civic or educational organization

These guidelines have been designed to meet program designs for the State of Ohio, and follow the U. S. Senate Youth Program rules.

2. Students must be a PERMANENT RESIDENT of the United States and currently enrolled in a public or private secondary school located in Ohio. Ohio must be the legal state of residence of either of the student's parents or of his or her legal guardian. A student attending a high school other than the state of legal residence of either of such students' parents or guardians is not eligible.

3. Students must have attended either Buckeye Boys State or Buckeye Girls State during the summer of 2011 and be either a junior or senior during the 2011-2012 school year. **Students must follow the specific instructions of the American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary respectively in the submission of the application form.** Applications are NOT to be sent directly to the Ohio Department of Education. Applications are NOT to be sent directly to the William Randolph Hearst Foundation.
4. Candidates selected from Buckeye Boys or Girls State must take the United States Senate Youth Program Qualifying Test in October/November to further compete as a candidate for the Scholarship. The delegates and alternates will be announced in December, 2011, and then be eligible to attend the U. S. Senate Youth Program in March, 2012.

Desired Qualities

The delegates to the United States Senate Youth Program are "guests" of the Ohio Senators for one week in Washington, D. C. During the week, students will meet and talk with senators, cabinet members and many other government officials. The sponsors have indicated that the following qualities are most admired in the delegates:

- Leadership, through having been elected to school or class office by peers;
- High scholastic standing, and the demonstrated ability and desire to achieve;
- Communication skills, including the ability to read, write, speak and think. Clear speech and logical thought processes are important in question and answer sessions with distinguished speakers during the week;
- Community involvement, demonstrated through a wide spectrum of activities on and off campus, including music, sports, art, volunteerism and political action.

Application Process

Applications are available only through the staff of Buckeye Boys State or Buckeye Girls State. For additional 2012 United States Senate Youth Program information, contact:

Mark Lynskey, Educational Consultant
Ohio Department of Education
25 S. Front St, Mail Stop 207
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 466-2650
fax (614) 387-0967

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The process of applying for the United States Senate Youth Program consists of four steps. Candidates who are selected to be Delegates and Alternates to represent Ohio during Washington Week must successfully complete all steps to be selected for the award.

- Step 1. Applicant must be selected to attend Buckeye Boys or Buckeye Girls State programs. While there, potential nominees are recognized by the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary for demonstrated leadership ability, achievement and scholastic standing, and communication skills.
- Step 2. The United States Senate Youth Program application form must be correctly filled out in its entirety and returned to the Buckeye Boys State or Buckeye Girls State Program staff.
Incomplete/illegible applications will not be considered.
- Step 3. The application forms are reviewed by the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary Selection Committees and semifinalists are chosen and applications are submitted to the Ohio Department of Education.
- Step 4. Selected nominee's application details are verified with the home school. If eligible, semi-finalists take the Qualifying Tests in the fall and the tests are scored. Delegates and Alternates are selected by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction based upon performance on the qualifying tests.

Please provide the following information and submit the completed form to the staff of Buckeye Boys State or Buckeye Girls State in the manner in which they have specified. Incomplete or incorrect information will result in the disqualification of the applicant.

Please Print

Name _____
 First Middle Last

Address _____
 Street City Zip

Applicant E-Mail Address _____

Telephone () _____ Date of Birth _____ Male Female

Parent's/Guardians' Names _____

Same address and telephone number as yours? _____

Grade level during the **2011-12** school year: Junior _____ Senior _____

Complete Address of High School: Name of School _____

_____ Street _____ City _____ Zip _____

Principal's Name _____ Telephone () _____

Principal's E-mail (will be completed later) _____

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Eligibility requirements are that an applicant must have been elected to a **grade level or student government** office for the 2011-12 school year, or **elected or selected** (by a panel, commission or board) to a **district, regional or state-level civic or educational organization**. To what office or position have you been elected or named for the 2011-12 school year? If elections have not yet been held, please note so.

Elected to what office or selected to what position? _____

For the following section, respond to each query listing no more than five responses. Do not attach a resume or student portfolio.

Academic Honors and Achievements: (list no more than five)

High School Activities: (list activity and year - no more than five)

Community Involvement: (list and describe - no more than five)

Other Activities and Participation: (list other activities in which you participate that further evidence your involvement/participation)

Future Plans: (briefly share both your educational and career plans)