

September 12, 2016

Information Only

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: United States Presidential Scholars Program

The United States (U.S.) Presidential Scholars Program honors graduating seniors for their outstanding scholarship, achievement and promise of future success. Seniors chosen as U.S. Presidential Scholars are selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. where they will be presented with a medallion at a ceremony in their honor. While there, the students will engage with accomplished people and participate in conversations and events over issues that concern America and the world.

TEA invites high school seniors who are graduating between January and June of 2017 to apply for the opportunity to be a U.S. Presidential Scholar. The Texas Commissioner of Education will nominate ten male and ten female candidates to apply for the honor.

President Obama amended the program by adding a new component in 2015 – recognition for excellence among students in career and technical education (CTE). Therefore, TEA also invites high school seniors who are participants in a CTE program and who are graduating between January and June of 2017 to apply for the opportunity to be a U.S. Presidential Scholar. In addition to the 20 general application candidates who will be nominated, the Texas Commissioner of Education will nominate five CTE students to apply for the honor.

Only one general program student applicant and one CTE student applicant will be accepted from each Texas high school. Principals are asked to nominate one outstanding student for each of these competitions to be considered for this honor.

Please see TEA's U.S. Presidential Scholars Program webpage for more information:
http://www.tea.texas.gov/Presidential_Scholar/

Application due date: October 7, 2016

Contact

For more information about this program, please contact Kelly Ocasio by email at kelly.ocasio@tea.texas.gov or by phone at 512-936-6060.

Sincerely,

Monica Martinez

Associate Commissioner
Standards and Support Services

MM/ko