



## To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

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<b>DATE:</b>	<b>October 8, 2020</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>United States Senate Youth Program Update</b>
<b>CATEGORY:</b>	<b>Student Scholarship and Recognition Opportunity</b>
<b>NEXT STEPS:</b>	<b>Share with high school principals</b>

The Texas Education Agency would like to invite high school principals to nominate students to apply for the United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP).

### **United States Senate Youth Program:**

High school principals are asked to nominate their most outstanding junior or senior high school students to apply for the USSYP.

Nominated applicants will be considered by a state committee from the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals. Texas will select two student leaders as delegates (and two alternates) to participate in an intensive educational program with students from across the nation. Due to the uncertainty posed by the ongoing pandemic, the [Hearst Foundation](#) has determined that Washington Week will take place in a virtual format from March 14, 2021, through March 18, 2021.

### **Applications are due November 13, 2020.**

#### **Background:**

The USSYP is a unique educational experience for talented junior or senior high school students who demonstrate outstanding leadership and a strong commitment to public service. Established in 1962, the annual USSYP authorizes the selection of 104 student delegates, two from each state, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Office of Dependents Schools to participate in a week-long immersion in Washington activities. Delegates will hear major policy addresses by senators, cabinet members, officials from the Departments of State and Defense, and other federal agencies, as well as participate in meetings with the president and a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. The program is sponsored by The Hearst Foundation, who funds all expenses for Washington Week. Each delegate is also awarded a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship, with encouragement to pursue careers in public service.

Please see the Texas Education Agency USSYP webpage for more information: [www.tea.texas.gov/USSYP/](http://www.tea.texas.gov/USSYP/).

#### **Contact:**

For more information about these programs, please contact [ussyp@tea.texas.gov](mailto:ussyp@tea.texas.gov).