



Commissioner Mike Morath

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United States Presidential Scholars Program - General Application

Please contact your high school principal to determine if you will be the sole senior to represent your school as the candidate for the USPSP General category. The principal's signature is a requirement on the application, so communicating with your school officials should be your first step. **Submission procedures are on page 5.**

[illegible]

Instructions for completing the Academic Achievements and Activities Sections

- **GPA:** Please ensure you provide an unweighted GPA. This should be on a scale of 0-4.0 If your transcript provides a weighted GPA, please consult your school counselor for the unweighted GPA.
- **Activities:** List up to 12 school-based and community activities you participated in during high school (examples: athletics, fine arts, clubs, student organizations, volunteer service, faith-based organizations, employment, leadership programs, or other extracurricular activities).

For each activity, provide:

- **Organization/Activity Name** (e.g., Marching Band)
- **Position, Role, or Leadership Title** (e.g., Drum Major, Section Leader, Member, Volunteer)
- **Average Hours per Week or Total Hours Worked**
- **Dates of Participation** (Month/Year – Month/Year)
- **Description of Involvement and Accomplishments** (1-2 sentences describing your responsibilities, contributions, leadership, awards, or impact)

Examples:

Organization/Activity	Position, Role or Leadership Title	Avg. Hours/Week or Total Hours Worked	Dates	Description of Involvement
Marching Band	Drum Major	8 hours/week	8/2025 - Present	Lead rehearsals and performances for a 120-member band; coordinated student leadership team and assisted with competitions.
Weekend Round-Up	Volunteer	14 hours total	4/25/26-4/26/2026	Volunteered in a community river cleanup project, collecting litter and debris to help protect local wildlife and improve the environment.
Wealth Management Company	Financial Analyst Intern	30 hours total	6/1/2026 – 6/30/2026	Through a summer intern program, I assisted the finance department by analyzing budget and expense data and maintaining spreadsheets.

TYPED RESPONSE #1 (REQUIRED)

Describe what qualities make an effective leader. Include a specific example of when you took a leadership role to either solve a problem or to create something of value. Please limit your response to 500 words or less.

TYPED RESPONSE #2 (REQUIRED)

Describe what special challenges or hurdles you have overcome while still achieving high academic success. Please limit your response to 500 words or less.

Applicant Signature			
I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I did not use artificial intelligence (AI) or any other person to write, generate, revise, enhance, or modify my essays. If this application leads to an award, I understand that false or misleading information in my application may result in my disqualification. (Your signature must be handwritten .)			
Signature		Date	
Certifying Official Signature			
Only one (1) General student applicant will be accepted from each school. Principals are asked to nominate one outstanding senior to be considered for this honor. (Principals may also nominate one CTE student and one Arts student.) By signing below, I acknowledge that the named applicant is the one General student that this school is nominating for the Presidential Scholars General Program Award. Hand-written or electronic Signature is required.			
Principal's Signature		Date	Principal's phone
Principal's Name		Principal's email	

Application Requirements Checklist
Use the checklist below to ensure your application package is complete: ___ Application is typed ___ Application is 100% complete (Resumes are not accepted) ___ Application includes student signature (this may be typed) ___ Application includes Certifying Official (Principal) signature (hand-written or electronic signature required) ___ Typed responses are limited to 500 words each ___ Application submission includes unofficial transcript ___ Application has been scanned as ONE complete PDF file

Application Submission Procedures
Applications are due by 5:00 pm on Friday, October 2, 2026. Applications must be submitted electronically. This is a secure submission that requires scanning the complete application with valid signatures. To submit, follow the steps below. 1. Scan application and transcript into ONE file. (File must be submitted in a .pdf format. Any other format is not acceptable.) • The file name should include the first name, last name and general (ex: john_doe_general.pdf) • Go to bit.ly/USPSPGeneral 4. Enter student's first name, last name, email address, High School information and CEEB Code. • Upload the file. • Click the final arrow. Applications received after 5:00 pm on Friday, October 2, 2026, will not be considered.