

61st United States Senate Youth Program 2022 – 2023 Mississippi Application



Requirements and Instructions

Qualified high school juniors or seniors must show demonstrated leadership by serving in elected or appointed positions in which they are actively representing a constituency in organizations related to student government, education, public affairs, and community service. Students are eligible for the program provided he or she has not previously been a delegate to Washington Week and has not received a US Senate Youth scholarship. Selected students must be able to attend Washington Week program from March 4 – 11, 2023 to receive the financial scholarship (\$10,000). **Each student must be a legal permanent resident or citizen of the United States to apply for the US Senate Youth Program.**

Students must be enrolled for the entire academic year in a public or independent high school located in the state in which at least one of their parents or guardians currently resides. **The student must hold a high-level leadership position in any one of the following student government, civic or educational organizations during the entire 2022 – 2023 academic year:**

- Student Body president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer
- Class president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer
- Student Council representative
- A National Honor Society Officer (including discipline-based Honor Societies such as the National English and Social Studies Honor Societies that include service components)
- Student representative elected or appointed (appointed by a panel, commission, or board) to a local, district, regional or state-level civic, service and/or educational organization approved by the state selection administrator.

For additional requirements or information, please review the United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) brochure at: <https://ussenateyouth.org/>

Selection for semi-finalist is based on the following application criteria:

- Demonstrated leadership qualities through public service in elected or appointed positions in student government, civic, or educational organizations
- Involvement in school and community activities
- High academic achievement
- The quality of a complete application, including the ability to write with clarity and express ideas in an organized manner.

Testing

Student testing is a requirement to be considered for the US Senate Youth Program. Students who meet the semi-finalist requirements will be notified by Mississippi Department of Education to take the US Senate Youth Program (USSYP) National Exam on Saturday, October 15, 2022, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Registration information and test site locations will be emailed to qualified participants only.

Selection as a finalist is based on the following:

- Meet the above criteria as a semi-finalist
- Score in the top percentage on the USSYP National Qualifying Exam and
- Interview with the USSYP Selection Committee. Upon completion of interviews, two delegates and two alternates will be selected.

Submit the following required documents:

- Completed USSYP application with required signatures
- Attach an official high school transcript with the application. The transcript must include the student's current classes in which the student is enrolled, ACT score, class rank, and cumulative GPA.

If you have any questions about eligibility, please email Sandra Hilliard at: shilliard@mdek12.org

All documents must be received or postmarked by Friday, September 30, 2022. No faxed or late entries will be accepted. Mail or email documents to:

**Sandra Hilliard or shilliard@mdek12.org
Mississippi Department of Education
Office of Teaching and Learning, Suite 101
P.O. Box 771
Jackson, MS 39205**

61st Annual United States Senate Youth Program
2022 – 2023 Mississippi Student Application Form
Due Date: Friday, September 30, 2022-postmarked

Section I: Student Application Form

(please type)

Student Information		
Student Name: (First Middle Last)	Date of Birth: (Month/Day/Year)	
Home Address: (Street City State Zip)		
Student Phone:	Student E-mail:	
Parent/Guardian:	Parent's Cell: Parent's Email:	
Parent/Guardian:	Parent's Cell: Parent's Email:	
Grade:	Expected Graduation: (Month/Year)	
Student is a current US citizen or a legal permanent resident of the US: Yes No		
School and District Information		
High School:	School District:	
School Address: (Street City State Zip)		
School Phone:	School Type: Public Private	
Principal Name:	Principal E-mail:	
To be Completed by School's Guidance Counselor		
Cumulative GPA:	Composite ACT Score:	SAT Score:
Counselor Name:		Counselor Email:
Parent/Guardian Student Signatures		
I certify that I have carefully read the United States Senate Youth Program qualifications, program rules, and scholarship rules; that all the information in this application is correct; and I understand complete attendance at Washington Week is required to receive the scholarship.		
Parent/Guardian Signature: Parent/Guardian Signature:		Date:
Student Signature:		Date:

Section II: Academic and Extracurricular Activity History

A. List all **ELECTED OR APPOINTED OFFICES** held in student government, civic or educational organizations beginning with the current office (2022-2023) academic year.

Title of Club/Organization	Position	School Year Position was Held (i.e., 2022-2023)	Duties

B. List **COMMUNITY SERVICES** activities in which you are/were involved beginning with the current activities.

Title of Club/Organization	Position	School Year Position was Held (i.e., 2022-2023)	Duties

C. List **RECOGNITION/AWARDS** in which you have received beginning with the current award.

Recognition/Awards	Year(s) Received

D. Provide a short paragraph listing your leadership positions and academic honors, including community service, other extracurricular pursuits and general plans for college and career.

Note: if selected as a delegate or alternate, this brief paragraph will be submitted with your participation information.

Section III: Student Essay

Essay must be typed, single-spaced, and 12- font size. Points will not only be awarded for how well applicant addresses the question, but also for grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

Essay Question 1: In 200 words or less, describe your higher education goals. How will your participation in this program help define your career path and further your interest in the political and governmental process of the United States?

Essay Question 2: In 200 words or less, describe your vision of leadership and government. How has your leadership experience supported your desire to serve as a USSYP state delegate, if selected?

Section IV: Verification and Signature

This is to verify that _____ (*student's name*) has been selected to apply for the United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) and to the best of my knowledge, the information provided on this application form is true.

Counselor's Signature _____ Date _____

Principal's Signature _____ Date _____