

TO: Local Education Agency Superintendents
Heads of Nonpublic Schools

FROM: Carey M. Wright, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Schools 

DATE: August 30, 2024

SUBJECT: 2025 United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP)

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is pleased to announce an opportunity for two Maryland students to participate in the 2025 United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP). Each year, two students from every state and the District of Columbia are selected to attend a week-long government and leadership program in the nation's capital, Washington, D.C. This program, now in its 63rd year, is fully funded by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. The USSYP has an excellent reputation for providing outstanding student leaders with a unique experience in understanding our nation's political process. The one-week program allows students the opportunity to meet with legislative, executive, and judicial leaders to discuss political issues that affect our nation. Each participant also receives a one-time \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship and is encouraged to pursue coursework in history and political science.

The attached guidelines outline the process that will be used to nominate two students to represent Maryland. Please disseminate this guidance to all high school principals to ensure eligible students have an opportunity to participate.

Nomination forms may be scanned and emailed to ussyp.msde@maryland.gov. If you need additional information, please contact Reginald Burke, Executive Director, Division of Student Support and Federal Programs by email at reginald.burke@maryland.gov or by phone at (410) 767-0313.

Enclosures

cc: Senior High School Principals/Counselors
Local Education Agency Points of Contact