Two Louisiana juniors or seniors will be chosen to attend the 62nd annual U.S. Senate Youth Program (USSYP) in Washington D.C. during the week of March 2-9, 2024. Upon completion of all on-site events, these two delegates will each receive a $10,000 scholarship. Juniors or seniors may qualify to apply through leadership positions they hold during the 2023-2024 school year per the USSYP official criteria.

All student leadership-qualifying positions are subject to the judgment of the state selection administrator and will be verified and confirmed. Students nominated by their principals must submit an application and a portfolio of required USSYP official criteria information to the Louisiana Department of Education by Tuesday, October 3.

State Guidelines for Nominating Students:

● The principal of any public or private school may recommend up to three students.
● The Jotform application will send a request for the essay topics as this information is considered test secure.

United States Senate Youth Program Requirements:

● Juniors or seniors who have been elected or appointed to a student government, civic, or educational organization (campus student government officer or representative), class officer, appointment to a local, district, or state, panel, commission, or board, National Honor Society officer may apply. Students may qualify to apply through leadership positions they currently hold, per the USSYP official criteria for the current 2023-2024 academic year and must actively serve in qualified leadership position(s) for the entire academic year.

● The student must be enrolled in a public, nonpublic or homeschool secondary school in the state in which their parent or guardian resides for the entire 2023-2024 academic year.

● The student(s) must be a permanent resident or citizen of the United States or have an official green card in their possession at the time of the application.

● Students must be able to attend all on-site sessions of the Annual Washington Week program from March 2-9, 2024. The Hearst Foundation will make the determination if the event will be held online or in-person.

Submission Information:

● The name(s) of the students nominated and their application portfolios must be received electronically no later than midnight of October 3 via the Jotform link.

● If you have any questions, please contact Marian Johnson, the state coordinator.

To complete the student’s application at the link provided, use separate pages for each of the items below and submit items to the drop box indicated.

● The demographic information about the student, school and parents, including the electronic parental signature

● Principal’s letter of recommendation

● School elective offices and honors (1-2 pages)

● Transcript of high school/college coursework

● Academic achievements (1-2 pages)

● School and Extracurricular activities (1-2 pages)

● Citizenship and community involvement (1-2 pages)

● Description of hobbies and college and career plans (1-2 pages)

● The completed essay written according to the guidelines provided to the school official who will proctor the timed essay (essay topics will only be released to a school official)

● Affirmation statement from the principal or faculty indicating that the student did not have early access to the topics, used no external resources and followed the time parameter
United States Senate Youth State Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 1, 2023</td>
<td>Scholarship application is available on the LDOE website. Information about the scholarship (application link and brochure) will be placed in the School System newsletters notifying schools and school systems of the competition and relevant deadlines.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August-September</td>
<td>High schools select their nominee(s), assist with the compilation of the portfolios and proctor the essay that must be typed directly into the Jotform.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 3, 2023</td>
<td>Electronic submission of the application via the Jotform.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 26, 2023</td>
<td>Top four portfolio submissions will be notified by email inviting them to complete the national examination and individual interview.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8, 2023</td>
<td>Finalists complete the national examination and individual interview at the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge.</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1, 2023</td>
<td>Names of the two delegates and two alternates will be submitted to the Hearst Foundation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2-9, 2024</td>
<td>U.S. Senate Youth Washington Week is held in Washington, D.C.</td>
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