



Alaska 2012 U.S. Senate Youth Program Overview for Students and School Districts

Purpose: The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) was established in 1962 through Senate Resolution. The program is a national initiative to provide a yearly opportunity for talented young people with demonstrated leadership abilities to deepen their understanding of America's political process and strengthen their resolve to pursue careers in public service. The 50th anniversary of this program will be held March 3-10, 2012 in Washington D.C.

Eligibility: A currently enrolled high school junior or senior student living in Alaska is eligible for the program (irrespective of race, national origin, gender or financial need) provided he or she has not previously been delegate to Washington Week and has not received a USSYP scholarship. The student must be a permanent resident of the United States, have a parent or legal guardian residing in Alaska, and currently serve in any one of the following government, civic or educational organizations:

- Student Body President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer
- Class President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer
- Student Council Representative
- Student representative elected or appointed to a district, regional or state-level civic and/or educational organization.

Application

Process: The application for the 2011-2012 school year will be posted on the EED website in early September, 2011. The application deadline will be October 28, 2011.

Award: Two student leaders chosen from Alaska will meet up with other USSYP student delegates in Washington D.C. Students will participate in an intensive week-long educational experience meeting and learning from the highest level elected and appointed officials in Washington. The delegates attend briefings and meetings with Senators, the President, a Justice of Supreme Court, cabinet members, federal agency leaders and senior members of the national media. This in-depth exposure is precisely what fuels and sustains the delegates' commitment to making a difference in their country, communities and schools.

The two student leaders will also receive a \$5000 undergraduate college scholarship to the college or university of their choice with encouragement to continue coursework in government and history.

Contact: Shari Paul, Program Coordinator
shari.paul@alaska.gov
907.465.6535
P.O Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811