

2004 UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

The United States Senate Youth Program is a event that offers two representatives from each state the opportunity to convene in Washington, D.C. to be immersed in activities and events throughout the week-long event. The program includes exposure into the operation of the United States Senate and other Federal Government offices to deepen the delegate's interest in and understanding of their country's political process. The 2005 United States Senate Youth Program will be held in Washington, D. C. from February 25 - March 5, 2005.

104 student delegates from across the country will follow an intensive schedule during their week's stay in Washington. The program may include visits to Congress, the Supreme Court, the Pentagon and various Smithsonian museums. Delegates will also meet with federal and international officials.

The William Randolph Hearst Foundation sponsors the program and will assume all expenses for the week including transportation, lodging, and meals.

In addition, the Ohio delegates will be awarded a Five Thousand Dollar (\$5,000.00) scholarship to be presented by Ohio State Senators. The scholarship is subject to the conditions and requirements specified in the Scholarship Rules, available upon request.

Selection of the Ohio Delegates (2) and Alternates (2) will be made by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction from among the **candidates recommended** by the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. Selection is made from among the participants at Buckeye Boys State and Buckeye Girls State. Eligibility requirements for Ohio students are as follows:

1. Any high school junior or senior (irrespective of race, color, creed, sex or financial standing) is eligible for the program provided he or she has not previously been a delegate to the program, and is currently serving in any of the following student government offices:
 - a. Student body president, vice president, secretary or treasurer;
 - b. Class president, vice president, secretary or treasurer;
 - c. Student Council representative, but **not a homeroom/classroom representative.**

These guidelines have been designed to meet program designs for the State of Ohio, and follow the U. S. Senate Youth Program rules.

2. Students must be a PERMANENT RESIDENT of the United States and currently enrolled in a public or private secondary school located in Ohio. Ohio must be the legal residence of either of the student's parents, or of his or her legal guardian. A student attending a high school other than the state of legal residence of either of such students' parents or guardians is not eligible.

3. Students must have attended either Buckeye Boys State or Buckeye Girls State during the summer of 2004, and be either a junior or senior during the 2004-2005 school year. **While at Boys State or Girls State, the student must complete the application for the U. S. Senate Youth Program and submit it to the staff at the Buckeye Boys or Buckeye Girls State.** Applications are NOT to be sent directly to the Ohio Department of Education. Applications are NOT to be sent directly to the William Randolph Hearst Foundation.
4. Candidates selected from Buckeye Boys or Girls State must take the United States Senate Youth Program Qualifying Test in October to further compete as a candidate for the Scholarship. The delegates and alternates will be announced in December, 2004, and then be eligible to attend the U. S. Senate Youth Program in February - March, 2005.

Desired Qualities

The delegates to the United States Senate Youth Program are "guests" of the Ohio Senators for one week in Washington, D. C.. During the week, students will meet and talk with senators, cabinet members and many other government officials. The sponsors have indicated that the following qualities are most admired in the delegates:

- Leadership, through having been elected to school or class office by peers;
- High scholastic standing, and the demonstrated ability and desire to achieve;
- Communication skills, including the ability to read, write, speak and think. Clear speech and logical thought processes are important in question and answer sessions with distinguished speakers during the week;
- Community involvement, demonstrated through a wide spectrum of activities on and off campus, including music, sports, art, volunteerism and political action.

Application Process

Applications are available only from the staff at Buckeye Boys State or Buckeye Girls State. For additional 2004 United States Senate Youth Program information, contact:

Mark Lynskey, Educational Consultant
Ohio Department of Education
25 S. Front St, Second Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 466-4590
fax (614) 995-7544