

August 24, 2011

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons
Public and Nonpublic High School Principals
Guidance Counselors

FROM: Christopher D. Cerf
Acting Commissioner

SUBJECT: 50th Annual United States Senate Youth Program
Application deadline: October 14, 2011

The New Jersey Department of Education is pleased to announce its participation in the 50th Annual United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation and the United States Senate. Principals of public or nonpublic schools in New Jersey **may nominate one outstanding junior or senior** to be considered for this highly competitive, merit-based program. A Blue Ribbon Panel will select two delegates and two alternates from the statewide applicants.

A candidate must currently be serving in an elected or appointed position in a student government, civic or educational organization. Additional criteria may be found by reading the attached materials and reviewing information posted at <http://nj.gov/education/clear/students/syp/>.

Two students from each state, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Schools will be selected to participate in the week-long government leadership program in Washington, D.C. from March 3-10, 2012. The Hearst Foundation will pay all expenses for the week in Washington, including transportation, hotel, and meals. Students selected will also be eligible to receive a one-time \$5,000 undergraduate college scholarship from the Hearst Foundation. The alternates attend the week in Washington only if the delegates are unable to participate.

Please note that in order to ensure consideration of your nominee, the attached application form and associated materials must be complete and received by mail no later than **October 14, 2011**.

Thank you for your assistance with this year's program. It is an excellent opportunity for two of New Jersey's most outstanding student leaders. If you have any further questions, please contact the program administrator, Beverly Plein, at beverly.plein@doe.state.nj.us.

CC/AS/MJK/BP/S:\Senate Youth Program\2011-12\Application Memo.Doc

Attachments

c: Members, State Board of Education
Senior Staff
Diane Shoener
Marie Barry
Carly Bolger
Mary Jane Kurabinski
Karen Campbell
Emily Mackinnon
Beverly Plein
Constance Webster
Executive County Superintendents
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group