**U.S. Presidential Scholarship Rules for 2018-2019 Nominations**

**COMMON ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

All high school seniors graduating between January and June of 2019, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents and who attend public, parochial, or independent schools, as well as those who are home-schooled, are eligible. Successful nominees will go through an application process early in 2019, and as in the past, the U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion at a ceremony in their honor in Washington, DC.

1. **GENERAL NOMINATION REQUEST**

Like last year, we ask each high school to nominate both male and female seniors for the general component of the program. We encourage you to nominate students who demonstrate outstanding scholarship. It may be helpful to consider the following guiding questions as you contemplate the selection of your nominees:

1. What about the student makes him or her stand out as having outstanding scholarship?
2. Were there special challenges or hurdles this student has overcome while still achieving high academic success?
3. **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) NOMINATION REQUEST**

We are also asking each high school to nominate up to five additional students to be included as candidates for recognition for excellence in CTE. This recently added component of the program will honor students, “on the basis of outstanding scholarship and demonstrated ability and accomplishment in career and technical education fields.” The four areas that a CTE application will want to cover are:

1. Academic Rigor
2. Technical Competence
3. Employability Skills
4. Ingenuity and Creativity

Be advised that for successful nominees, the reviewers will be considering the following categories later on when forming the semifinalist list: Involvement and Service (in school and community), Leadership and Character, Writing Samples, Academic Achievements, Discretionary Points for Extraordinary Achievement, Heavy Workload, Family Responsibilities, or Obstacles Overcome.

**NEXT STEPS**

In order for students to be considered for potential recognition in 2019, all nominations must be done on one of two applicable nomination forms either sent to schools from the WDE or accessed on [our website](https://edu.wyoming.gov/in-the-classroom/health-safety/facilities-safety/). The completed nominations must be emailed to the program manager (Bruce Hayes) no later than *Friday, November 2, 2018*. Nominations will be vetted by the WDE such that **a maximum or ten men and ten women will be submitted from the state for consideration** to the national committee **in addition to up to 5 CTE nominations**. After that point, the national committee will communicate directly with the nominated students and invite them to *directly apply* to the U.S. Presidential Scholars program office by mid-January 2019. Selected Scholars will be announced at the beginning of May 2019.

For the application, the WDE will need the following information concerning all nominees:

* Student Name
* Home mailing address
* High school name and mailing address
* High School CEEB code
* Gender
* Email Address

The nomination submittals from schools for U.S. Presidential Scholars for the general and the CTE category are due **November 2, 2018**.  Feel free to contact Bruce Hayes, Program Consultant at (307) 777-6198 or email him at bruce.hayes@wyo.gov.

To learn more about the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program and the Commission on Presidential Scholars, please visit [www.ed.gov/psp](http://www.ed.gov/psp).