MEMORANDUM NO. 2020-161

TO: School District Superintendents
    High School Principals
    High School Counselors
    High School Civic Teachers
    Scholarship Coordinators

FROM: Kari Eakins, Chief Policy Officer

DATE: October 12, 2020

SUBJECT: Call for Applicants: United States Senate Youth Program

APPLICATION WINDOW OPEN FOR 2021 USSYP

Applications are now being accepted for the United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP), an educational experience and scholarship sponsored by the United States Senate for outstanding high school students who are interested in pursuing careers in public service. High school juniors or seniors already serving as an elected official in state or community organizations may already be qualified to apply. This includes students serving as:

1. Student body president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer;
2. Class president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer;
3. Student Council representative;
4. National Honor Society officer (including discipline-based Honor Societies such as the National English Society and Social Studies Honor Societies that include service components); or
5. Student representative (elected or appointed by a panel, commission, or board) to a local, district, regional, or state-level civic, service, and/or educational organization approved by the state selection administrator.
The 2021 USSYP application is open now and will close at 5 p.m. on Monday, November 30, 2020. Students will need to complete the online USSYP Application. The school principal and parents will be notified after the application is complete.

Finalists will be selected from the submitted applications and interviewed by a panel at the Wyoming Department of Education during the second and third week of December. The top two students will serve as the delegates from Wyoming for the United States Senate Youth Program, which will be a mandatory online interaction, March 14-18, 2021.

During this experience, students will learn about government from a perspective few people ever get to see. They also will be given many opportunities to interact virtually with their peers from across the nation, be offered a premier leadership experience, and receive a $10,000 undergraduate college scholarship in the name of the United States Senate. More information is available in the 2021 USSYP Brochure.

If students are unable to hold leadership positions this year due to the pandemic, they can submit the position they held during the 2019-20 academic year. All student leadership qualifying positions are subject to the judgement of the state selection administrator and will be verified and confirmed.

For more information, contact Madison Lacey, Hathaway Scholarship Program Consultant, at 307-777-6840 or madison.lacey@wyo.gov.