**United States Senate Youth Program**

**William Randolph Hearst Foundation**

2017-2018

Wyoming State Rules



**WYOMING STATE RULES**

**Senate Youth Program Overview**

In 1962 the United States Senate voted unanimously to endorse a nationwide youth program that would bring high school students to Washington, D.C. for a brief on-site introduction to the functions of the federal government and, in particular, the United States Senate.

The program was created and originally authorized by Senate Resolution 324 and continued in succeeding years by unanimous action of the Senate. The resolution specified that the program should be “supported by private funds with no expense to the federal government.” The William Randolph Hearst Foundation made available the necessary funds and, each year, two high school juniors or seniors from each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia have participated in this unique experience.

In early 1981, the U.S. Senate amended Resolution 324 to provide for the participation of the Department of Defense Education Activity in the United States Senate Youth Program.

**Wyoming State Rules and Regulations**

Two students from Wyoming and a first and second alternate will be selected through a process directed by the Wyoming Superintendent of Public Instruction. Selection will be based on outstanding ability and demonstrated qualities of leadership as elected or appointed high school officers of the 2017-2018 school year. A student who graduates high school at the close of the fall 2017 semester/quarter is not eligible to apply for the program.

Any Wyoming high school junior or senior student is eligible to apply, provided he or she has not previously been a delegate to Washington Week and has not received a USSYP scholarship. The **student is required to be** **currently** **serving** **in an elected or appointed capacity** in any of the following student government, civic, or educational organizations:

1. Student body president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer
2. Class president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer
3. Student Council representative
4. Student representative elected or appointed (i.e. by a panel, commission or board) to district, regional, or state-level civic and/or educational organization approved by the U.S. Senate Youth Program Coordinator.

(Please note, Girl State and/or Boy State is not a current elected position. Also, school clubs do not qualify.)

Each student must be a CITIZEN or a PERMANENT RESIDENT of the United States and currently enrolled in a public or private secondary school in Wyoming where either one of his or her parents or guardians legally resides. See National Rules at [www.ussenateyouth.org](http://www.ussenateyouth.org) for further information.

**Specific Wyoming State Procedures**

Students must apply to the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) *through* their respective schools. To apply, complete the following:

1. Fill out Sections A and B of the application, which are accessible from the WDE website at:

<https://edu.wyoming.gov/beyond-the-classroom/senate-youth-program/>. A parent or

guardian will sign affirming the accuracy of the information.

1. Under proctored conditions at school, fill out Section C of the application using one of fifteen listed topics picked at random by the counselor. No electronic devices are permitted.
2. After the student and principal sign the application, the principal will mail all materials to the WDE. The envelope must be postmarked no later than **October 2, 2017**.

**Deadline for submittal of student application sheets and examinations:**

Official applications *must be postmarked* to the Wyoming Department of Education at the address below by **Monday, October 2, 2017**. NO EXCEPTIONS. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.

PLEASE MAIL TO: Bruce Hayes

 U.S. Senate Youth Program Coordinator

 Wyoming Department of Education

 Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor

 2300 Capitol Avenue

 Cheyenne, WY 82002

* The applications will NOT be returned. Applications with illegible information will not be processed.
* Random checks on claimed school or community activity may be made. Any discrepancy shown to exist in this area may disqualify the applicant.
* Students with the highest essay scores and most active school/community/leadership experience will be selected for interviews. Student interviews will be conducted electronically via ZOOM in late October or early November of 2017. The day and time will be communicated in advance and will be conducted through a panel of judges not related to the applicant students.

Any questions may be directed to Bruce Hayes at bruce.hayes@wyo.gov or (307) 777-6198.