NEW MEXICO UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM
New Mexico’s Selection Process
New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals
2019-2020 Program Competition

Eligible students must submit their application, complete and accurate to:

Julie Arnold, Principal
Rio Rancho Cyber Academy
1330 Jackie Rd. SE
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

PHASE I DEADLINE: October 18, 2019

Students and school staff, please review the Program selection criteria. Student applications shall follow the criteria set forth by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation (i.e., junior or senior status; hold a current elected student office in student government, civic or educational organization; and be a permanent resident of the United States whose parent(s)/guardian(s) reside in New Mexico. The student application packet shall contain:

1. Application form complete with e-mail addresses, phone numbers and appropriate signatures;
2. Two (2) letters of reference excluding letters from family members;
3. An official high school transcript (signed and stamped);
4. Advisor’s/Sponsor’s signature (verifying that the student holds an elected office in a student government, civic, or an educational organization.)
5. A 300-word, double-spaced, typed essay on the following topic: “How does the United States Senate Youth Program support student leadership and how can the program impact tomorrow’s leaders?”
6. A resume including a listing of school and community leadership roles.

Students shall submit a completed packet for consideration. Incomplete packets will be disqualified. Official Post Office cancellation date will be used, school metered mail date will not be accepted if Post Office date falls after the deadline. Plan in advance and submit early. Application packets can also be scanned in and emailed to Julie.arnold@rrps.net, but will not be accepted later than 4:00 PM on October 18, 2019.

A panel of readers (high school and middle school principals or other professionals) shall select ten-twelve semi-finalists who will receive invitations to continue with Phase II.

PHASE II – Individual Interview/Group Activity

Phase II will be conducted in November 2019. The 10-12 semi-finalists shall travel to a site in Albuquerque at their own expense for individual interview and group activity. The Program Coordinator will contact the semi-finalists via mail, telephone, or e-mail to set interviews and group activity times.

Each student will complete the USSY Program Examination on politics (Timed – 20 minutes). Each student will have a 15-minute interview. Upon completion of the individual interviews, students in a group will engage in a 30-minute role-playing activity.

The panel will select two finalists and two alternate delegates from among the 10-12 semi-finalists. The William Randolph Hearst Foundation will notify the finalist regarding activities scheduled for Washington, D.C.