

NEW MEXICO UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

New Mexico's Selection Process

New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals

2024-2025 Program Competition

Eligible students must electronically submit their application, complete and accurate to the selection committee chair, Dr. Warman Hall, at the following email address:

fphallwa@aztecschools.com

Please title your email as *USSYP Application, last name, first name*.

PHASE I DEADLINE: October 15, 2024

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 PDF attachments of the following materials (scanned copies are acceptable):

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 a current 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;**
7. **Video Essay (in a standard video file extension format) submit a video presentation of no more than 3 minutes in length on this topic: Imagine that you are a newly elected Senator from New Mexico. Describe who you are, why you are proud to represent New Mexico. Tell us the personal characteristics you feel will make you an effective leader in Washington. Note what legislative initiatives you will champion and why they are important to you and your constituents. Please note any historical leadership figures you would like to emulate.**
[use of a Drop Box link is acceptable for video essay submissions.]

Students shall submit a completed packet for consideration. Incomplete packets will be disqualified. Plan in advance and submit early. Application packets should be typed and scanned to a PDF, or attached as a video file; and must be emailed to fphallwa@aztecschools.com Applications will not be accepted later than 4:00 PM on October 15, 2024.

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

Other key points:

1. The national deadline for all states to submit the selection of their two delegates and two alternates will be: **December 1, 2024.**
2. Qualified students must be serving in an elected or appointed position in student government or other educational or civic organization representing a

constituency of their peers for the entire academic year in which they apply for USSYP (2024-2025).

3. Students will be required to completely block their schedule during the timeframe of the program and attend all events in order to serve as delegates and receive the scholarship. The full timeframe of the program is yet to be determined, but it is being planned for March 1–8, 2025, in Washington, D.C.

PHASE II – Individual Interview/Group Activity

Phase II will be conducted in November 2024. The 10-12 semi-finalists will travel to a site in Albuquerque at their own expense for individual interviews and a group activity. Dr. Warman Hall, selection committee chair, 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.



NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

An affiliate of

National Association of Secondary School Principals

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