

Eligibility Rules and Requirements

Each applicant must meet the following criteria:

- permanent resident of the United States
- currently enrolled in an accredited public or private high school or, if home-schooled, currently belonging to a home school association or the Education Alliance group, located in the state (Arkansas) in which either one of his/her parents or guardians legally resides
- high school junior or senior – Any high school junior or senior is eligible for the program provided he or she has not previously been a delegate to Washington Week and has not received a USSYP scholarship. A student who graduates from high school at the close of the fall 2015 semester/quarter is not eligible to apply for the program.
- **currently serving** in an elected or selected capacity in any one of the following student government, civic, or educational organizations:
 - student body president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer
 - class president, vice-president, secretary, or treasurer
 - student council representative
 - student representative elected or appointed (appointed by a panel, commission, or board) to a **district, regional, or state-level** civic and/or educational organization approved by the state selection administrator
 - if home-schooled, an elected officer or student representative to a **district, regional, state-level, or national** civic or educational organization. State the name of the organization, the elected office, and briefly summarize the election process.

Each student application must meet the following required guidelines:

- be postmarked no later than Friday, October 2, 2015
- contain an **official high school transcript** from the public or private high school attended, or if home-schooled, from the curriculum provider
 - All transcripts must contain the following information:
 - **current cumulative GPA,**
 - **ACT and/or SAT scores if available,**
 - **class rank,**
 - **courses in which student is currently enrolled** (even though no grade has been determined).
 - If home-schooled, the student must provide a written description of how grades are assessed for courses and what or who determines the curriculum in said courses.
- contain the signature of the school principal, or if home-schooled, contain the signature and a letter of recommendation from an elected official, minister, or other public servant who will recommend the student for this scholarship
- contain a resume with an outline of applicable scholastic accomplishments and interests appropriate for this scholarship (Selection will be based on the student's outstanding abilities and demonstrated qualities of leadership.)
- contain an essay (Remember, this essay is the first impression you will make on the selection committee. **Have the essay proofread** by an appropriate teacher or counselor for errors in grammar, mechanics, etc., and make the suggested revisions.)

Students applying for the USSYP should be interested and participating in leadership, public service, and government related activities.

Attendance during the Washington Week program (March 5-12, 2016) is required to receive the financial scholarship.