



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
High School Principals

FROM: Evers Montgomery
Office of Strategic Engagement

DATE: July 22, 2024

RE: 2024-2025 United States Youth Senate Program Nominations

The ***United States Youth Senate Program*** (USSYP), a national nonpartisan initiative to provide an annual opportunity for talented high school students with demonstrated leadership abilities to deepen their understanding of America's political processes and strengthen their resolve to pursue careers in public service, was established in 1962 by U.S. Senate Resolution. It is a unique educational experience for outstanding high school students. Each year, two student leaders from each state get to spend a week in Washington, D.C., experiencing their national government in action. In addition to this all-expenses paid trip with once in a lifetime opportunities, students who attend Washington Week in its entirety receive a \$10,000 scholarship for higher education.

USSYP allows *each high school* to nominate one qualifying *junior* or *senior* to be considered as a delegate. Successful nominees have shown consistent leadership over time in a manner that sets them apart from their peers. Eventual delegates are those that have shown outstanding leadership **above the norm** by making a large impact on their school or local community.

The USSYP 2024-2025 cycle begins in August for each high school to nominate *one outstanding* qualified student who is interested in pursuing a career in public service. **The nomination form and information will be sent to Superintendents and high school principals during the week of August 19, 2024.**

See the attached USSYP official brochure or contact the USSYP State Coordinator, Evers Montgomery, at etmontgomery@ed.sc.gov for more information.

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