

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
High School Principals
School Counselors

FROM: Evers Montgomery
Office of Strategic Engagement

DATE: August 19, 2025

RE: 2025-2026 United States Senate Youth Applications

The South Carolina Department of Education is pleased to announce the opening of the 2025–2026 United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) application. Established in 1962 by U.S. Senate Resolution, this highly prestigious, national, nonpartisan initiative provides outstanding high school student leaders with an in-depth educational experience in the workings of the federal government. Each year, two students from every state are selected to participate in Washington Week in the nation’s capital and are awarded a \$10,000 undergraduate scholarship for their demonstrated leadership and dedication to public service.

Each public, private, charter, or homeschool association may have **one student** apply to represent their school in the competition. If more than one student at a school expresses interest in applying, it is the responsibility of the school to determine which student is the most qualified to move forward with USSYP application submission.

Students should visit the SCDE USSYP webpage to review eligibility requirements, understand the application process, and access the application portal. All required materials must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 6, 2025.

For more information or questions, see the attached USSYP brochure or contact Evers Montgomery at etmontgomery@ed.sc.gov. Please direct interested students to the website below for access to the application:

<https://ed.sc.gov/newsroom/scholarships/us-senate-youth-program-scholarship/>
