



## ***2024 Kentucky United States Senate Youth Program Application Packet***

**About the United States Senate Youth Program:** The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) is a unique educational experience for outstanding high school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing careers in public service. Two Kentucky delegates will be selected to attend Washington Week (March 2-9, 2024) and each delegate will receive a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship. Students may qualify to apply from leadership positions *they currently hold (and will continue to hold) for the entire 2023-2024 school year*, per the USSYP official criteria. All student leadership qualifying positions will be verified and confirmed.

Applicants should review the program description and qualifications at the United States Senate Youth Program website (<https://ussenateyouth.org>).

**Required Materials and How to Submit Your Application:** We recommend preparing your application by first typing responses in the application and then printing the packet to obtain required signatures. You may also print the packet and complete all responses by hand. Scan and email the *completed application, along with the required supporting documents listed below*, to [awards@education.ky.gov](mailto:awards@education.ky.gov) by the application deadline:

- 2024 USSYP Kentucky Department of Education Application Packet** – complete all required fields
- Typed responses (on a separate Word document)** to Application Parts IV and V
- Unofficial high school transcript**
- Resume (2-page maximum)** to include a list of current elected and leadership positions and significant *high school* activities, awards and community service
- 2 Letters of Recommendation** – (1) One from a high school principal/teacher and (2) the other from another adult representative of an organization or activity you have a record of leadership and service to others.
- Secure signatures from 3 individuals:** school principal (or designee), parent/guardian **and** applicant/self on this application

### **Important Dates:**

- Submit all materials in one email to [awards@education.ky.gov](mailto:awards@education.ky.gov) by **Monday, Oct. 2, 2023**. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered. You will receive an email confirming receipt of application.
- Semifinalists will be invited to interview **in Frankfort on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023**, and take the USSYP examination.

**Questions?** Please contact GlyptusAnn Grider Jones, Kentucky's USSYP coordinator, by email at [glyptusann.jones@education.ky.gov](mailto:glyptusann.jones@education.ky.gov) or by phone at (502) 564-2002, ext. 4616.

*For more information, visit the Kentucky Department of Education website:*  
<https://education.ky.gov/awards/sturecog/Pages/U.S-Senate-Youth-Program.aspx>

# 2024 Kentucky USSYP Application Packet – due Oct. 2, 2023

## Part I. To be completed by applicant.

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

Student Full Legal Name (First Middle Last): \_\_\_\_\_  
Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Pronouns: \_\_\_\_\_  
Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year  2024  2025  
Student Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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### SCHOOL INFORMATION

High School Type: High School Name: School District:  
 Public  Private \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal Name: Principal Email: Principal Phone Number:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
School Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
School Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
School City \_\_\_\_\_ School State \_\_\_\_\_ School Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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### PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian 1 Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian 1 Cell/Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian 1 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian 1 Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Parent/Guardian 2 Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian 2 Cell/Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian 2 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian 2 Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Part II. Eligibility Requirements – School Principal/Counselor Verification Required

1. Are you a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident **at the time of application**? (Required to apply)
  - Yes
  - No
  
2. Applicant must be enrolled for the entire 2023-2024 academic year in a high school located in the state in which one of their parents/guardians is a current resident. Do you meet this requirement?
  - Yes
  - No
  
3. Mark the elected or appointed office(s) you now hold for the entire 2023-2024 school year in one of the following student government, civic or educational organizations:
  - a. **Student Body/Council:**  President  Vice President  Secretary  Treasurer
  - b. **Class Officer:**  President  Vice President  Secretary  Treasurer
  - c. **Student Council Representative:**  (check if applicable)
  - d. **Officer in a National Honor Society Chapter** (including discipline-based honor societies such as the National English and Social Studies honor societies that include service components):  (check if applicable)
  - e. **Student representative elected or appointed (by a panel, commission or board) to a local, district, regional or state-level civic, service and/or educational organization whose primary purpose is public/community service and constituent representation.** Email [awards@education.ky.gov](mailto:awards@education.ky.gov) to confirm your leadership position.  (check if applicable)
  
4. Please provide more information about your qualifying leadership position(s) identified in Question 3:
  - a. Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Your Leadership Role: \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. If you marked 3.e., date you confirmed position with the State USSYP selection administrator (email [awards@education.ky.gov](mailto:awards@education.ky.gov)): \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. What do you do to serve your community and support your constituency year-round in this leadership position? Please briefly explain (keep to 150 words): \_\_\_\_\_

**Confirmation of Qualifying Leadership Position(s).**

*Please ask your principal/counselor to verify the following:*

- (1) you hold the leadership position noted in Part II and*
- (2) you are endorsed to represent your high school at Washington Week (March 2-9, 2024) if chosen as a Kentucky delegate.*

**Principal/Counselor Signature (e-signature is accepted):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Principal/Counselor Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Principal/Counselor Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III. Applicant’s Academic Record – Include your high school transcript with this application.**

**Student Cumulative Unweighted GPA**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Cumulative Weighted GPA**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Class Rank (if available)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Number in Graduating Class**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Part IV. Short Answer Questions – Please respond to all questions in this section.**

1. Describe your leadership experience that supports your desire to serve as a USSYP Kentucky delegate (Keep to 150 words)
2. Describe ways in which participation in USSYP will benefit your future goals. (Keep to 150 words)
3. What motivates you to serve in your school or community? Use this opportunity to describe your involvement in community service initiatives. (Keep to 150 words)
4. Short Biography – Student delegates will be announced with an accompanying biography. Write a brief biography that could be used as a press release if you are selected as a USSYP delegate or alternate. This biography should summarize, highlight and enhance some of the information you have provided elsewhere in the application. (Keep to 300 words)

**Part V. Essay – Choose and respond to ONE of the following prompts.**

**Please submit a persuasive essay (maximum 500 words) responding to one of the following prompts. Use a works cited page (citation format of your choice).**

- Is there an important historical figure from Kentucky that you feel has been underrepresented in high school history curriculum? Describe the figure’s contribution to our nation’s (or our state’s) history and why it would be important to raise awareness about them now.  
- or -
- Imagine that you have recently been elected as one of the youngest members of the Kentucky state legislature. What would be the first bill you would introduce? Describe the provisions of your bill and why this initiative is your top priority.  
- or -
- As a student leader in Kentucky, what do you see as the greatest areas for improvement in the education system? What ideas would you propose to create better dialogue and understanding among various student groups?

**Part V. Semifinalist Interview and Examination Process**

Semifinalists will be invited to interview in Frankfort on **Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023**, and take the USSYP examination.

Do you need any special accommodations to participate in the interview process? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Part VI. Affirmation of Commitment and Eligibility – Signatures Required**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (**applicant name**), understand the commitments and responsibilities associated with being selected as a finalist or alternate for the U.S. Senate Youth Program. I confirm that I meet all eligibility requirements and commit to being available for the full week (March 2-9, 2024) if accepted to the program.

**Applicant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Statement for Parent/Guardian to Read and Sign.** I affirm that I am the parent/legal guardian of the student completing this application and that I am a resident of Kentucky. If selected, my child/young adult has parental permission to represent Kentucky at the United States Senate Youth Washington Program, to be held March 2-9, 2024.

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Final Reminders

Please sign and return the completed application in **one email to [awards@education.ky.gov](mailto:awards@education.ky.gov) by Monday, Oct. 2, 2023**. A complete application will include the following materials:

- 2024 USSYP Kentucky Department of Education Application Packet** –all required fields completed
- Typed responses (on a separate Word document)** to Application Parts IV and V
- Unofficial high school transcript**
- Resume (2-page maximum)** to include a list of current elected and leadership positions and significant *high school* activities, awards and community service
- 2 Letters of Recommendation** – (1) One from a high school principal/teacher and (2) the other from another adult representative of an organization or activity you have a record of leadership and service to others. *Letters may be sent by the recommender directly to [awards@education.ky.gov](mailto:awards@education.ky.gov) if preferred.*
- Signatures from 3 individuals:** school principal (or designee), parent/guardian **and** applicant/self on this application

Semifinalists will be invited to interview in Frankfort on **Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023**, and take the USSYP examination. More about the examination is available on the USSYP website:

<https://ussenateyouth.org/selection-process/annual-public-affairs-exam/>

Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.