



OVERVIEW: Created in 1962 through a U.S. Senate resolution, the **United States Senate Youth Program** (USSYP) is a prestigious educational opportunity designed to help high school juniors and seniors develop a deeper understanding of the nation's governmental and political systems. Each year, two student representatives from Alabama are chosen to serve as delegates and attend Washington Week in the nation's capital. In addition to this experience, delegates are awarded a \$12,500 scholarship to support undergraduate studies at an accredited college or university in the United States. Scholarship funds are distributed directly to the selected institution on behalf of the student and are not paid to recipients.

Find 2027 U.S. Senate Youth Program resources below.

- [USSYP Website](#)
- [USSYP | 2027 U.S. Senate Youth Brochure](#)
- [USSYP | 2027 U.S. Senate Youth Press Release](#)

MEET ALABAMA'S 2026 DELEGATES

[USSYP | Kinleigh Freeman](#) and [USSYP | Kaelci Theuri](#)



Kinleigh Freeman and Kaelci Theuri with Senator Tommy Tuberville



Kinleigh Freeman and Kaelci Theuri with Senator Katie Britt

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applicant Qualifications: Selection is open to all high school junior or senior students who meet the following criteria:

- Holds a high-level qualifying leadership position (see [USSYP | 2027 U.S. Senate Youth Brochure](#) for more details)
- A U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident of the United States and the state of Alabama
- Is enrolled in high school and will live in the state of Alabama for the entire 2026-2027 academic year
- Has not previously been a scholarship receiving delegate to Washington Week

Selected delegates must attend the entirety of Washington Week, and block off Saturday, March 6, 2027, for arrival to Washington, D.C., as well as Saturday, March 13, 2027, for departure from Washington, D.C. All travel provided by The Hearst Foundations is round-

trip only. Selected delegates will need a [ALEA.gov | STAR ID](#) prior to departing for Washington, D.C. to take with them.

Application Materials

- [USSYP | 2027 Alabama USSYP Application](#) *(due by 3:30 PM CST, October 2, 2026)*
- [USSYP | 2027 Alabama USSYP Application Checklist](#)
- [USSYP | 2027 USSYP Parent/Guardian Certification Letter](#)
- [USSYP | 2027 USSYP Principal Certification Letter](#)

Timeline

- October 2, 2026, 3:30 PM CST: Applications due
- October 3 – October 15, 2026: Screening of Applications
- October 16, 2026: Invitations for in-person interviews sent to finalists
- October 23, 2026: Finalist acceptance for in-person interviews due
- Week of October 26, 2026: Finalist interview times and information to be sent out
- November 7, 2026: Finalist interviews
- By November 30, 2026: Names of two delegates and two alternates submitted to the Hearst Foundation
- Early December 2026: Selected delegates and alternates will be notified of their selection
- December 18, 2026: Selected delegates must confirm their attendance for Washington Week

Questions? Reach out to Dr. Courtney Halloran (courtney.halloran@alsde.edu)