



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES  
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** June 7, 2018

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent   
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

**SUBJECT:** 2019 United States Senate Youth Program

**Please forward to all HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS and COUNSELORS.**

The 57<sup>th</sup> United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) provides an opportunity for qualified high school juniors and seniors to deepen their understanding of America's political processes. Please make sure this opportunity is available to all interested students.

Qualifications for this program are located at [www.ussenateyouth.org](http://www.ussenateyouth.org) in the 2019 brochure. Two students are selected from each state, and each will receive an all-expense paid trip to attend *Washington, D.C. Week*, from March 2-9, 2019, and a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship award.

The 2019 USSYP Application Packet consists of the following forms:

[Attachment A – School Instructions](#)

[Attachment B – Student Application](#)

All qualified high school juniors and seniors interested in applying *MUST* complete Attachment B.

**All schools are responsible for the administration of the USSYP Qualifying Essay, which is to be proctored onsite by a teacher or administrator from the district.** Please review the *School Instructions* sheet for further information.

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[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • 833-633-5788

After your students have completed the USSYP application, please mail it to the following address by Monday, October 1, 2018:

Tamara Shreiner, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
History, Social Studies Education  
Grand Valley State University  
D-1-214 Mackinac Hall  
1 Campus Drive  
Allendale, MI 49401

Office: 616-331-8568  
[shreinet@gvsu.edu](mailto:shreinet@gvsu.edu)

Finalists will be notified and asked to respond to an essay question and follow-up interview if necessary.

Packets arriving after October 1, 2018, will *NOT* be accepted. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Tamara Shreiner at [shreinet@gvsu.edu](mailto:shreinet@gvsu.edu) or you may call her at 616-331-8568.

This initiative aligns with the Michigan Department of Education Top 10 in 10 Years Goal #2, which states, "Implement, with strong district and building leadership, high-quality instruction in every classroom through a highly coherent, child-centered instructional model where students meet their self-determined academic and personal goals to their highest potential."

cc: Michigan Education Alliance