



August 19, 2019

Greetings!

**The 2019-20 U.S. Senate Youth Scholarship Program (USSYP) is now open to Montana Juniors and Seniors who meet the USSYP qualifications!** This year, the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) and The Hearst Foundations have made changes to the scholarship selection process, so please read this notice in full.

**Qualifications:** The Hearst Foundations have very specific rules regarding qualifications, attendance, and code of conduct for delegates. The state of Montana requires qualifying applicants to turn in a complete application packet, and semifinalists must participate in an interview. Please read the enclosed brochure. You can find a PDF of the brochure and more information about Montana's requirements on the *Student Scholarships & Student Exchange* webpage at [opi.mt.gov](http://opi.mt.gov).

**Who Will Win:** Two students from Montana will be selected to receive one \$10,000 scholarship each, along with a required, one-week, all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for Washington Week, March 7-14, 2020.

**To Apply:** The application is available on the *Student Scholarships & Student Exchange* webpage at [opi.mt.gov](http://opi.mt.gov).

**Application Deadline:** Complete application packets must be postmarked no later than 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, October 1, 2019.

**Selection:** If a student from your school is selected as a semifinalist, the student must participate in an interview via Skype or Go-To-Meeting. I will contact the student in late October to arrange a date and time for the interview. I anticipate the interviews will be conducted between November 1 and November 15. The judges will select two delegates to receive the scholarship and attend Washington Week. Two alternates will be selected as well. If one of the delegates forfeits the scholarship, an alternate will be awarded the scholarship and be expected to attend Washington Week. The successful delegates and alternates will be notified in early December 2019.

**For Questions:** Contact Kristen Bokovoy by telephone at 406-444-2417 or email at [kristen.bokovoy2@mt.gov](mailto:kristen.bokovoy2@mt.gov).

Thank you for sharing this information with your counselors, teachers, and high school juniors and seniors. I look forward to seeing outstanding applications from your students.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristen Bokovoy".

Kristen Bokovoy  
Montana United States Senate Youth Program Coordinator