



The Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils

Developing, engaging, and celebrating leaders

Rose Ann M. Fulena, Executive Director

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Union Area Middle/High School

2106 Camden Avenue, New Castle, PA 16101

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Dear Principal,

Now in its 64th year, the United States Senate Youth Program offers an outstanding opportunity for exceptional student leaders. Here in Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) works collaboratively with the Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils (PASC) to administer the program.

Sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation, the program features an all-expense paid, week-long program (March 7-14, 2026) in Washington, D.C., as well as the award of a \$10,000 collegiate scholarship to each of two student delegates from each state. More information regarding this program can be accessed at <https://ussenateyouth.org/>.

All information you, and your student representative, need to successfully complete the online application, can be found at <https://www.pasc.net/senateyouth>. We ask that you please carefully review the rules of eligibility and selection criteria to ensure your student meets the eligibility requirements as established by the Hearst Foundation. Ineligible students will not be considered for this program under any circumstances. The website also contains guidance for helping you select the nominee from your school.

Please disseminate the information regarding this program as soon as possible, as time is of the essence. Your Social Studies teachers, School Counselors, Student Council and National Honor Society Advisors, Junior and Senior Class Advisors, FBLA, DECA, 4-H, FFA, Interact, Key Club, and JROTC Directors may be particularly interested in the program. Only **ONE** student may represent your school, and your signature is required on a separate form to certify that **the student represents your school**. Additional selection rules can be found on our website.

The application must be submitted no later than **October 3, 2025**. While we ask that all materials be submitted electronically, information on mailing or emailing materials separately are also on our website. As students are required to write several essays and obtain letters of recommendation, we suggest you do not delay starting this process.

As the Pennsylvania Coordinator for the Hearst Foundation, you may contact me at any time with questions regarding the application process. The best way to contact me is at senateyouth@pasc.net, and you may also contact me at 412-221-4542 x603 should you need assistance. I am happy to help you to ensure your school is able to nominate a student for this program.

Thank you for helping to make these programs a continued success in the Commonwealth, and best wishes for a successful school year.

Respectfully yours,

Felix J. Yerace

Felix Yerace, Ph.D.

Government Relations Coordinator, Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils
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