

U.S. Presidential Scholarship Nomination Information

Common Eligibility Requirements

All high school seniors graduating between January and June, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents, and who attend public, parochial, or independent schools, as well as those who are home-schooled, are eligible to apply to the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. Successful nominees will go through an application process in which the State Department of Education will nominate individuals to the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program to receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion at a ceremony in their honor in Washington, DC. Please refer to the following information regarding the two applications from which nominees will be selected.

General Application Nomination Information

Each high school is eligible to nominate both male and female seniors for the general component of the scholarship program. We encourage nominated students to be those who demonstrate outstanding academic skills. It may be helpful to consider the following guiding questions as you contemplate the selection of your nominees:

1. What about the student makes him or her stand out as having outstanding scholarship?
2. Were there special challenges or hurdles this student has overcome while still achieving high academic success?

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Application Nomination Information

In addition to the general application nomination of students, each high school may nominate up to five additional students to be included as candidates for recognition for excellence in the CTE area. This recently added component of the program will honor students "on the basis of outstanding scholarship and demonstrated ability/accomplishment in career and technical education fields." The four areas that a CTE nomination application will cover are:

1. Academic Rigor
2. Technical Competence
3. Employability Skills
4. Ingenuity and Creativity

Please be advised that the application reviewers will be considering the following categories when forming the semifinalist list:

1. Involvement and Service (in school and community)
2. Leadership and Character
3. Writing Samples
4. Academic Achievements
5. Discretionary Points for Extraordinary Achievement
6. Heavy Workload
7. Family Responsibilities
8. Obstacles Overcome