

Old Capitol Building
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ospi.k12.wa.us



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

September 24, 2024

() Action Required
Due date: October 25, 2024
(X) Informational

BULLETIN NO. 064-24 SECONDARY EDUCATION AND PATHWAY PREPARATION

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Business Managers
CTE Directors
High School Building Principals
High School Counselors

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: 2024–25 U.S. Presidential Scholars Request for Nominations

CONTACT: Maria Muto, Secondary School Counseling Program Supervisor
564-999-3916, maria.muto@k12.wa.us

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is seeking nominations for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. The [U.S. Presidential Scholars Program](#) was established in 1964 to recognize and honor our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. Each year, up to 161 students are named as Presidential Scholars across the nation, and each Chief State School Officer can nominate graduates for Overall Achievement and Career and Technical Education (CTE) recognition. Superintendent Reykdal considers school-based nominations in the state's selection process. These nominations are in addition to the Scholars selected at the federal level on the basis of Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and/or American College Test (ACT) exam results, or for excellence in the Fine Arts. Students who do not have an ACT/SAT exam score are eligible for nomination and will not be penalized for a lack of exam score.

This bulletin provides instructions and materials to assist high schools in submitting nominations for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, for both the overall achievement and CTE awards, which are two distinctly separate awards.

Eligibility

All Washington state high school seniors graduating between January and August of 2025, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents, and who attend a Washington state public or private high school, including those students who are experiencing homelessness, are eligible to be nominated. For overall achievement, ten (10) students identifying as male and ten (10) students identifying as female are nominated, and up to five (5) students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in CTE fields are also nominated.

Overall Achievement Award Application

Each school may nominate one student identifying as male and one student who identifies as female. Candidates should have demonstrated leadership, school and community involvement, academic and extracurricular achievement, and writing skills. Nominees may receive discretionary points for extraordinary scholastic achievement, long-lasting commitment to community service, heavy workload, additional family responsibilities, or significant obstacles which they overcame.

To nominate a student, please complete the Overall Achievement Nomination form, and include a one-to-two-page writing sample from each nominated student. Postmark or submit via email (preferred submission method) no later than **Friday, October 25th, by 5 pm** to:

Angelica Martinez

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

PO Box 47200

Olympia, WA 98504-7200

Email: presidentialscholars@k12.wa.us

Email Subject: Presidential Scholars Overall Achievement Nomination Form

Career and Technical Education Award Application

Each school may nominate high school seniors graduating between January and August of 2025 that have proved excellence in CTE programs. Qualified candidates will have demonstrated success in the evaluation categories of academic rigor, technical competence, employability skills, ingenuity, and problem solving. Nominees may receive discretionary points for accomplishments in state recognized Career and Technical Student Organizations, completion of high-quality work-based learning experiences, and earning industry recognized credentials or dual credit through their CTE experiences.

To nominate a student, please complete the Career & Technical Education Nomination form, and postmark or submit via email (preferred submission method) no later than **Friday, October 25th, by 5 pm** to:

Ellie Palmer
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
PO Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504-7200
Email: presidentialscholars@k12.wa.us
Email Subject: Presidential Scholars CTE Nomination Form

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

To learn more about the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program and the Commission on the Presidential Scholars, visit the [U.S. Department of Education](https://www.ed.gov). For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Maria Muto, Secondary Counseling Program Supervisor at 564-999-3916, or email maria.muto@k12.wa.us. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

Michaela W. Miller, Ed.D., NBCT
Deputy Superintendent

Rebecca Wallace
Assistant Superintendent
Secondary Education and Pathway Preparation

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Krista Fox
Director
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Attachment 1: Overall Achievement Nomination Form

Attachment 2: Career & Technical Education Nomination Form

OSPI provides equal access to all programs and services without discrimination based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at 360-725-6162/TTY: 360-664-3631; or P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200; or equity@k12.wa.us.