



Senator Connie M. Leyva

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APPLICATION INFORMATION

California Legislature
Senator Connie M. Leyva
SENATE DISTRICT 20

DEAR STUDENT,

Thank you for your interest in the Senate District 20 Young Senators Program. The program provides high school juniors and seniors with a unique opportunity to learn about government services and the legislative process.

Participants work in the Senator's district office for up to nine months. Duties include attending meetings with legislative staff and the Senator, researching local issues and assisting constituents. This firsthand experience can give participants a better understanding of how representative government works and whether they would like to pursue a career in public service.

Applying is simple. Fill out the attached form and drop it in the mail. List your volunteer and community activities, and explain why you are interested. I am passionate about public service, and I hope you are, too.

Sincerely,

SENATOR CONNIE M. LEYVA
DISTRICT 20

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

This program is open to high school juniors and seniors who reside in Senate District 20. If you are unsure if you live within the district, visit my website at SENATE.CA.GOV/LEYVA to see a district map. Applications accepted until August 31, 2017.

DO SCHOOLS PROVIDE ACADEMIC CREDIT?

The Young Senators Program is an extracurricular activity. In some cases, school credit may be earned for participation. For more information, please check with your school academic advisor to see if you qualify for credit.

YOUNG SENATOR PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE

Young Senators serve as representatives of the Senate as an institution in addition to the Senator whose program they are participating in. Therefore, it is recommended that Young Senators dress in casual business attire or dress appropriate to their program responsibilities.

I first heard about Senator Connie M. Leyva's Young Senator's Program from my history teacher in high school. He encouraged me to apply and although I believed I would not get accepted, I did. I am incredibly happy to have been part of this program. Through the events I attended I have learned networking skills, public speaking skills, and how the government works. I was given the opportunity to meet key leaders throughout the Inland Valley. At most events we were introduced to inspiring leaders that had made a difference throughout our community. One of the highlights of the program is being able to go to the state capital. During our time there we get to have breakfast with the senator and her staff. Later we are introduced to the senate floor and get to watch the senate floor session. Due to the program being directed towards high school students it is the first time the majority of us visit the capital. Throughout the day we meet a diverse group of people that work there. We get to hear about their decisions and other programs they were involved in. The backgrounds of staff members and lobbyists that we get to hear from allow us to have an idea of what we should do in high school and college in order to one day have those jobs. For the first time many of us were being introduced to programs such as the senate fellows, the assembly fellowship, and the judicial fellowship. The best part of this was that we were getting to hear from people who had successfully been accepted. This was a true privilege and will hopefully benefit us when we apply for these programs.

Throughout the program my knowledge and passion of politics grew and it motivated me to get involved. Six friends and I decided to start our own political club. With the support of the

staffers in the program the club was able to do a voter registration for the 300 seniors in our high school. The networking skills I learned throughout the program gave me the confidence and knowledge of leading the club into creating the first mayoral debate in the city of Pomona in ten years. Almost a year later, I still use the skills the program has taught me. I am finishing my first year at the University of California Riverside as a double major in Political Science and Computer Science. I have been elected as the 2017-2018 Communications Director for the College Democrats at the university. I was also accepted into the Center for Community and Environmental Justice Boards and Commissions Training Program. I have served as a Ambassador for the Clean the Air Program. Most recently I have been accepted into the All Hands Volunteer Program, which allows people from all over the United States to help rebuild homes that have been affected by hurricanes and other natural disasters in Louisiana, Missouri, Peru, and Nepal.

One of the best decisions I have ever made was applying for the Young Senator's Program. Ever since I was accepted it has positively influenced my involvement in politics, as well as in my community. That one day at the capital showed me how many opportunities are available and the different pathways you can take to achieve your goals. I encourage any high school student to apply and I hope you are able to help Senator Leyva in exposing students to these opportunities.

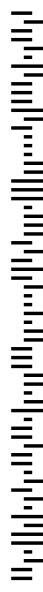
— EMELIA MARTINEZ, SENATE DISTRICT 20 YOUNG SENATOR'S PROGRAM

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE PLEASE VISIT SENATE.CA.GOV/LEYVA

PLEASE
PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

DISTRICT OFFICE

Attn: Maria Arias, District Representative
11760 Central Avenue, Suite 100
Chino, CA 91710-6499



CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE YOUNG SENATORS PROGRAM

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Young Senators develop skills that help empower them as community leaders.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Young Senators serve their community and those who live in the Senator's district.

WHY BECOME A YOUNG SENATOR?

Young Senators learn how representative government works.

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE **YOUNG SENATORS PROGRAM** APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

HIGH SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL YEAR _____ EXPECTED GRADUATION _____

1. VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE (NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY)

ORGANIZATION	DUTIES	DATES FROM – TO
EXAMPLE: Red Cross	volunteer	10/5 – 12/5, 2015

2. ESSAY ON WHY YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A PART OF THE YOUNG SENATORS PROGRAM

[SUBMIT ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER 2 PAGE MAXIMUM]

3. SPECIAL SKILLS / STRENGTHS

4. INTERESTS / HOBBIES / GOALS
