WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Youth in the Legislature

Colleen Rust, Senate Director of Civic Education
- Legislative Internship Program
- Page Program and Page School
- Legislative Scholars
- Legislators in the Classroom
- Civic education partnerships
LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

• Full time, paid internship for the legislative session.
• Open to juniors and seniors of all majors.
• Competitive application process.
• Office placements are based on skills, policy interest, and ideology.
• Interns participate in educational seminars, professional development, a mock debate, and complete a job shadow.
• Students receive academic credit with completion of school requirements.
• Hands on civic education experience that combines Page School, Chamber Floor duties, and support for member offices.
• Must be 14-16 and sponsored by a member of the Legislature.
• Programs in both the House and Senate.
LEGISLATIVE SCHOLARS

• Week long professional development workshop for K-12 teachers.
• Goals are to:
  • Understand the legislative process and branches of government.
  • Recognize that their elected officials are accessible.
  • Be comfortable adapting and teaching what they learned.
  • Leave with ideas and resources to bring what they learned to the classroom.
  • Have confidence in their state government.
• Encourage legislators and staff to engage with classrooms in their local schools.
• Provide talking points, activities that stimulate classroom discussions, interactive games, supporting materials, and follow up lesson plans for teachers.
• Promote learning about the legislative process in all grade levels in schools across the state.
PARTNERSHIPS

- Legislative Youth Advisory Council (LYAC)
- Civic Education Day
- Secretary of State Office of Civic Education
- Judges in the Classroom
- Teach With TVW
- We The People
- Girls State/Boys State
- iCivics
- YMCA Youth & Government
- League of Women Voters
- History Day
- 4-H
- Washington State Council for the Social Studies