



**#275-21**

**Commonwealth of Virginia  
Virginia Department of Education  
Superintendent's Memo #275-21**

DATE: September 24, 2021  
TO: Division Superintendents  
FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction  
SUBJECT: **2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Nomination Process for Students in Career and Technical Education**

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964 and since that time, the program has honored almost 8,000 outstanding high school seniors. As the program has grown from the initial recognition based upon SAT or ACT scores, additional Scholars candidates have been invited to apply for accomplishments in the visual and performing arts or creative writing. Beginning in 2016, outstanding students who demonstrate excellence in Career and Technical Education (CTE) were included for recognition.

The Virginia Department of Education is accepting nominations of Virginia candidates for 2022 recognition "on the basis of outstanding scholarship and demonstrated ability and accomplishment in career and technical education fields." The Criteria for Candidate Identification and Nomination (**Attachment A**) provides detailed information and lists the categories that will be used by the Commission on Presidential Scholars selection committee.

School divisions are invited to nominate an outstanding senior CTE student for the 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. Using the form identified as **Attachment B**, the following information must be submitted for nominees through the Virginia Department of Education

secure [Single Sign-on for Web Systems](#) (SSWS) drop box to the attention of Judith P. Sams, no later than Friday, November 5, 2021:

- Student's name, gender, home mailing address, and email address
- High school name and mailing address
- Nominator's name and contact information
- High School College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) code
- A summary of the student's activities and CTE courses using page two of Attachment B
- Strong and relevant supporting nomination documents (Please use the Criteria for Candidate Identification and Nomination to select appropriate nomination documents.)

Candidates who are nominated and choose to apply, and whose applications are complete, will be reviewed by a committee of qualified individuals experienced in career and technical education. Five state semi finalists will be selected and nominated by the Virginia Selection Committee. The U.S. Presidential Scholars program office will invite those nominees to apply in mid-to-late January 2022, completed applications will be due in February 2022, and the Scholars will be announced in mid-May 2022.

### For more information

If you have any questions, please contact Judith P. Sams, CTE Presidential Scholars Coordinator, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, at [CTE@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:CTE@doe.virginia.gov) or by telephone at (804) 371-0196.

JFL/GRW/aar

- A. Attachment: [CTE Criteria U.S. Presidential Scholars 2022](#) (DOCX)
- B. Attachment: [CTE U.S. Presidential Scholars Nomination Form](#) (DOCX)