



2024 IUCPTA / IUSD STUDENT ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Program Application

Travel Date: March 13th, 2024

Application Deadline: January 16, 2024

Goals for the Conference:

- Open to Juniors and Seniors from all IUSD high schools, this 6-week program provides students with the opportunity to learn about advocacy, explore issues impacting IUSD and their community, form and prioritize their personal views, and meet with state lawmakers and staffers to express their concerns regarding public education.
- Students will network with other students from Irvine, IUSD administrators, and IUSD board members.
- This 6-week program culminates with a trip to our state capitol. In Sacramento, students will meet and interact with a variety of experts in public education at the local, county, and state levels. Students will meet state lawmakers, policy analysts, lobbyists, and think tanks and have the opportunity to share with these leaders in education, our priorities and concerns.

1. **Application form:** Please submit your completed application to **Ms. Lauritzen** in the front office by **January 16, 2024**.
2. **Mandatory Meetings Before the Trip:**
5 weekly meetings held at the IUSD high school campuses scheduled between 2/7 thru 3/6 from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm.
3. **Travel Schedule:** Depart at 6:15 am on **March 13, 2024**, from Orange County Airport (SNA) and return the same evening around 8:00 pm. Students must be available all day to attend the trip.
4. **Registration Fee:** Your high school PTSA will cover fees which include round-trip airfare, ground transportation in Sacramento, lunch, and dinner. (Transportation to and from SNA will be on your own and students can bring money for incidentals.)
5. **Essay Questions:** Please respond thoughtfully and briefly to the three questions below. Your responses will assist the teacher/administrator panel in selecting the student attending this year's trip. Your answers should be typed on a separate paper and attached to this form. Depending on the high school, a personal interview may be required.

PLEASE ANSWER BRIEFLY:

1. What is an issue in California public education that you are passionate about? What are examples of questions you might ask state policymakers regarding this issue? Don't be afraid to do a little research if you need to.
2. Why do you think you are a good choice to represent your high school? What will you bring to the team (skills, knowledge, experience) that will benefit your peers?
3. How do you think you will grow from an experience like this?

While you don't need to be a PTSA member to apply, if selected, you must join your PTSA.

Questions? Contact your school administrator.

Please print neatly. Student Full Legal Name (as it appears on your government-issued ID):

_____ Circle one: Junior Senior

Student Cell #: _____ Student Email: _____

Student Birthdate: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Email: _____

Parent Phone#: _____