



AWSL
ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON
STUDENT LEADERS

Student Engagement.
Student Empowerment.
Student Voice.

2142 Cispus Road, Randle, WA 98377 | P: (360) 497-5323 | F: (360) 497-5324 | www.AWSLeaders.org

Greetings Advisers –

Thank you so much for registering your students for AWSL's Summer Programs! We are excited once again to offer dynamic, life-changing experiences for students!

The AWSL Summer program staff looks forward to providing students with an enriching learning experience with great excitement and anticipation. Students joining us for our summer programs will be able to develop leadership skills, network with educators and students from around the state, and strengthen their bond as a leadership team heading into the next school year.

Through an interactive camp experience, students learn and practice essential skills such as team building, communication, creative thinking, and leading within their schools. Our AWSL Summer Program staff comprises educators, counselors, administrators, professionals, and college-age role models dedicated to serving our programs and students.

AWSL Summer Programs is a time of adventure and discovery. Although exciting, being away from home may feel like a long time. Our staff is aware of your hesitation and is committed to helping students adjust once they arrive. There are many benefits to attending AWSL Summer Programs. Students leave our programs feeling empowered and confident in their abilities to succeed in all areas of life. Many students experience increased self-esteem, expectations of their future, and the ability to collaborate with others.

Please read the attached Adviser Letter from the session your students will attend.

Delegate Registration: The sooner we get delegate registrations in, the better. We know elections, and summer planning, have delayed securing the names of those who will be attending our summer programs. This information supports us in building dorm assignments and meal planning on our campuses. The sooner we can get those in, the better.

Cancellation Policy: All cancellations received after May 1 will result in a non-refundable processing fee of \$100 per registered person and applicable transportation costs. 15 days before the start of camp, full charges for camp plus transportation will apply to all cancellations. Same-gender substitutions are allowed up to the day before camp with no fee. Full charges apply for delegates who leave early or do not attend camp. **All cancellations must be received in writing from a school official by the specified date.**

Please feel free to reach out with any questions. We appreciate you and your continued support of AWSL!

AWSL Team Contact Information and Responsibilities:

- James Layman, AWSL Director | james@awsleaders.org
 - Summer Program logistics, operations, and programming
- Greg Barker, WSPEF Managing Director | greg@awsp.org
 - Summer Program reservations and registrations
- Travis Ruther, AWSL Associate Director | travis@awsleaders.org
 - La Cima logistics, and coordination
- Dianne Sympson, AWSL Administrative Assistant | dianne@awsleaders.org
 - Summer Program delegate registration



Adviser Letter

Welcome to Mission Peak Leadership Camp!

Mission Peak is for emerging or established leaders in Washington and is sponsored by the Association of Washington School Principals. We are thrilled that Mission Peak will emanate from the beautiful campus of Eastern Washington University! Students will spend time with their school groups and focus groups on building connections while analyzing, reflecting, and learning about the needs of their schools, peers, and stakeholders. We believe that culture emerges from life-changing environments. Environments emerge from small teams that foster discovery and the opportunity to bond. When positive teams and environments are created, a positive culture follows, and we believe Mission Peak sets the stage for this to happen.

Our senior staff consists of educators and working professionals from all over Washington. Our junior counselor staff is comprised of college-aged Mission Peak Alumni. These fantastic individuals take on leadership roles in their post-secondary endeavors and bring their incredible expertise to Mission Peak.

The week is packed full of learning and making memories. Eastern Washington University will provide all meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner), and students will stay in dorms at EWU (two per room).

For: Mission Peak is for any students who have demonstrated or have been identified as emerging or established leaders in ASB/Leadership, Athletics, Performing/Visual Arts, Clubs/Activities, and/or from their school at large. Schools are encouraged to send a full delegation (up to 16 students) representing and reflecting the entire school's student body.

Camp Curriculum Highlights: Mission Peak intentionally focuses on self and social awareness, connection, communication, transformative growth, and impact.

Camp Structure: Students spend 1/3 of the time in school groups, 1/3 of the time in mixed school groups, and 1/3 of the time in deep-dive sessions (**Influence and Impact, School Culture and Climate, Project Management, and Student Voice and Advocacy**).

How you can support students coming to Mission Peak:

- Please help assist by clearing the student's calendar for the entire week. It is highly disruptive when we lose individuals in the middle of camp to other commitments. It significantly reduces the total educational experience of the program. **All participants are expected to stay for the entire camp experience**, and only on rare occasions can we accommodate otherwise.
- Encourage Juniors and Seniors to apply for the USSYP scholarship opportunity. See page two for further details.
- You will hear from us in May to support us in building dorm assignments. Students are placed in dorm rooms – by school.

We have Health and Wellness care available 24 hours a day. Please make sure we know all allergies, health conditions, and concerns. If it becomes necessary for a delegate to return home because of an illness, families are responsible for picking up their students at EWU.

*** NEW FOR 2024 - MISSION PEAK ADVISER STRAND ***

Mission Peak Leadership Camp proudly announces a new Adviser strand for student activity advisers that will run concurrently with Mission Peak. This adviser strand will allow advisers to network, learn, and grow in your role as a student activity professional. **Register for the Adviser strand through the AWSL Portal.**

If you are attending as an adviser, be prepared for an active, information-filled experience. On occasion, you may get to connect with the student delegates. However, the bulk of your program will be with other advisers as you gain new skills to enhance the student leadership program at your school. Plan to arrive and depart at the same time as the student delegates. Advisers will be housed with other adults. Clock hours will be available.

Follow us on social media to keep updated on announcements, happenings, information, and videos before and during camp!

We encourage you to prearrange a date to meet with your students after they return from Mission Peak so they can share with you what they learned and their goals for the school year!

Thank you for trusting Mission Peak with your students!

James Layman
Mission Peak Director
james@awsleaders.org
Cell: 509-868-4732

Alina Harestad
Mission Peak Assistant Director
alina.harestad@ssd412.org
Cell: 425-205-8973

Le Ann Straehle
Mission Peak Associate Director
lstraehle@toppenish.wednet.edu
Cell: 509.945.2265

Social Media:

Website: <https://awsleaders.org/missionpeak>

Instagram: missionpeakleadershipcamp

Facebook: Mission Peak Leadership Camp

MISSION PEAK LEADERSHIP CAMP
July 22nd – July 27th | Eastern Washington University
www.awsleaders.org/missionpeak



United States Senate Youth Program

Each year, the William Randolph Hearst Foundation sponsors two high school juniors or seniors from 50 states and the District of Columbia to attend the United States Senate Youth Program - an all-expense-paid, week-long tour of Washington, DC and to receive a \$10,000 scholarship.



The Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP) administers the program in Washington State. Through the AWSL, AWSP sponsors nine-week-long High School Summer Leadership Camps for student body officers, class officers, and other student leaders.

A selection process is identified and implemented at each camp session. Two students from each camp are selected as finalists for the US Senate Youth Program scholarships, as well as other students who apply. In the fall, AWSP appoints a committee to review the 18 nominees from all the camps, along with selected finalists from the online applications, who then interview each finalist and select two as the delegates for the Washington state.

Only students entering their Junior or Senior years are eligible for nomination. The state winners will travel to Washington, DC, on dates set by the Senate Youth Program.

Attendance at AWSL high school summer camps allows Washington students to apply for the [United States Senate Youth Program and Scholarship](#). Each AWSL High School Summer Program chooses two finalists and two alternates to be forwarded to the state nominating panel. That panel will choose two nominees and two alternates for the Senate Youth Program the following spring. Please visit the individual camp pages for their application and nomination procedures.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please email james@awsleaders.org for application-specific to Mission Peak if you would like to apply. The application will be due July 24th at lunch. During camp, a committee reviews applicants, and those who qualify will be interviewed. Two will be selected and announced at the end of camp.

INFORMATION:

For more information about the United States Senate Youth Program, visit their website: <https://ussenateyouth.org/>