

## HEART Congressional Academy

A week-long Student Congressional Academy will be held in KY for 200 High-Need **high school** students together with lawmakers, academics, journalists, and business leaders to discuss the importance of applying the art of history and civics into their everyday life. To measure teacher effectiveness, students from participating teachers will have first consideration for the Academies. These students will include students who are at risk of educational failure, need of special assistance and support, who are living in poverty, who are far below grade level, who have left school before receiving a regular high school diploma, who are at risk of not graduating with a diploma on time, who are homeless, who are in foster care, who have disabilities, or who are English learners. During the summer of each year a one-week Congressional Academy (40 Hours) will be held in Kentucky Sponsored by Eastern Kentucky University. Carefully-chosen guest speakers engage with the students throughout the week. Curriculum is designed by the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, and capped off with a debate in the Old State Capitol. Students will also tour the Ashland Estate (Henry Clay's home), visit the Council for State Government's national office, and participate in dinners and discussions. The topics are listed below:

<b>Year 1 Theme: Legislative Branch</b>	
Topic	History, Elections, Foreign Policy, Veto Power
Sessions	How to write a Bill, How a bill Becomes a Law, Democracy, How does Constitution affect decisions? Mock Legislative Sessions
Guest Speakers	City Council, State Legislatures, Journalist
<b>Year 2 Theme: Presidential Branch</b>	
Topic	Duties, Powers, Term in office, Pay
Sessions	What does each individual do on a daily basis, What powers do you have, Is a President the same as a King? What is the electoral College?
Guest Speakers	Mayor, Governor, Presidents/CEO of local business
<b>Year 3 Theme: Judicial Branch</b>	
Topic	Court Duties, How to make decisions, How to become a lawyer/ judge.
Sessions	Mayor, Governor, Presidents/CEO of local business
Guest Speakers	Judges from local district, circuit or supreme courts, lawyers, interns

A second session (30 Hours) will be held for 50 selected students each year by traveling to Washington DC to experience firsthand how each of these branches works. A sample agenda can be found in Appendix C on pages 130 – 131 for the three-day session. During the three days they will meet one of their Legislatures and experience behind the scenes a day in the life

### **Congressional Academies for Students of American History and Civics**

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Criteria for Student Selection Point Value

From a high-need school within a participating district 10 points

Personal information including grades and extracurricular activity 15 points

Two Application Essays 10 points

Information from Leadership, Involvement and Service Form 5 points

Teacher Recommendation 10 points

High School Transcript 10 points

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