

CLOSE UP HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Program for New Americans



Sunday

Arrive in Washington
Meet your Close Up Concierge and explore DC with your school

Welcome Dinner

Group Orientation
Meet students from across the country and get to know your Close Up Program Instructor

Introduction Workshop*
What are the biggest issues that we face in our democracy today?

* Workshops are small learning communities comprised of students from various states. Each workshop community is led by the same Close Up Program Instructor for the duration of the trip.

* Study Visits led by highly-trained instructors provide unique opportunities to learn using historic sites and institutions as living classrooms.

Sample schedule subject to change.

Monday

Founding Documents Activity & Workshop

National Archives Study Visit
Explore American history through our nation's most significant documents:

Declaration of Independence

U.S. Constitution

Bill of Rights

Lunch at the Smithsonian American History Museum

Jefferson Memorial Study Visit
How do the rights outlined in the Founding Documents apply to our view of liberty today?

George Mason Memorial Study Visit

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Study Visit
Should government take an active role in providing for people's basic needs?

U.S. Marine Corps Memorial
Visit the larger than life representation of the iconic flag-raising at Iwo Jima

Dinner and Social Activity
i.e., National Zoo or Dave & Buster's

Tuesday

Bill of Rights Workshop
Examine the Bill of Rights and analyze different interpretations of a specific right.

Immigration Policy Seminar
Hear from a DC insider on key immigration issues

Lunch & Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Study Visit

U.S. Capitol Hill Orientation
An inside look at how Congress works

Capitol Hill Group Photo

University Study Visit
Explore a DC campus and learn about college life i.e., George Washington University

Dinner at DC's Historic Union Station

Mock Congress Workshop & Simulation
Debate, amend, and vote on the same issues elected representatives are currently considering

Wednesday

Capitol Hill Day
Meet with your members of Congress or their staff

Attend and observe Congressional Committee Hearings to see how laws and policies are formed

Explore the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center and Museum

Lunch at a Hill Cafeteria, a hot spot for Washington insiders

Visit the Supreme Court where many landmark cases are decided

Explore the Library of Congress, the largest library in the world, and view the symbolic art and architecture

Witness the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in action in the Galleries

White House Study Visit
Discuss the different roles of the President

Dinner at the Hotel

Mock Presidential Election
Discuss the role of the executive branch and elect a president for the program

Thursday

Sustaining Democracy Workshop
What citizen actions are necessary to foster and maintain a vibrant democracy?

Election Reflection Activity

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Study Visit
What actions can citizens take when they disagree with the government?

Lunch at National Place

On-Site Study Visit
Hear from a community service or advocacy group to learn about public policy

War Memorials Study Visit
What do the WWII, Vietnam, and Korean Memorials say about those who have served and sacrificed?

Lincoln Memorial Study Visit
Examine Lincoln's legacy as he struggled to lead the nation through crisis

Dinner at Pentagon City Mall

DC Cultural Event
See a performance at a renowned theater or cheer on the Washington Nationals baseball team!

Friday

Independent Day
Explore DC with your school

Closing Reflection
How will you stay engaged on issues that matter to you?

Banquet and Dance
Enjoy a fun-filled evening with your new friends as you dance the night away

Saturday

Sightsee in Washington
Prior to your departure, spend some more time in the city with your school

Depart for Home