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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents
Career and Technical Education Directors

FROM: Jacob Oliva, Chancellor of Public Schools
Henry Mack, Chancellor of Career and Adult Education

DATE: December 11, 2020

SUBJECT: 2021 Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Program Scholarship

Contact Information:

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DPS: 2020-140

Florida is once again participating in the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Program (CBYX). As you may know, Nacel Open Door administers this scholarship/exchange program and provides an opportunity for 25 graduating high school seniors from across the United States to spend a gap year in Germany learning the German culture and exploring their career interests. Florida has been very well represented with the selection of students each year. There are currently four students from Florida participating in a virtual exchange program.

When able, please bring this scholarship/exchange program to the attention of students you believe are excellent candidates and encourage them to apply. Presently, the CBYX is moving forward in good faith with the expectation of an in-person exchange. However, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is closely monitored, both in the United States and in Germany, which will ultimately determine whether the exchange will be conducted in-person or virtually. That decision will be made in the spring or summer of 2021.

The German vocational education system is quite innovative and has provided participating Florida students with a unique and worthwhile learning experience. For further information, please review this [brochure](#), highlighting personal experiences of scholarship recipients and further program information.

Each high school in the state of Florida may nominate up to **three** students. Those nominated should possess the maturity and commitment necessary to be successful in an international exchange program. Although previous study of German is advantageous, it is not a prerequisite for scholarship selection.

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Student applications will be reviewed by Nacel Open Door and the Division of Career and Adult Education. Select applicants will be invited to interview with the selection committee, who will then submit their recommendations to Nacel Open Door to choose the final scholarship recipients.

Completed applications must be submitted via email to CBYX@nacelopendoor.org no later than **January 15, 2021**. Students/schools should submit completed application materials as directed in the instructions found on the Nacel Open Door website.

If you have any questions regarding this scholarship/exchange program, please contact our state CTE supervisor, Anne Nyman, at 850-245-9900 or via email at Anne.Nyman@fldoe.org.

JO/HM/an