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Registration Opens for \$1,000 College Scholarship Program
*Scholarship for Out-of-State High School Seniors Planning for College in Iowa,
Provides Education on College Borrowing and Personal Finance*

WEST DES MOINES, IOWA (Feb. 15, 2016) — Registration is open for a scholarship that offers out-of-state high school seniors a chance to receive \$1,000 for college while learning important financial literacy skills. The scholarship is available to students planning to attend college in Iowa in fall 2016.

High school seniors may register for the Come 2 Iowa Senior Scholarship at www.iowaStudentLoan.org/Come2Iowa between now and May 13. Iowa Student Loan® will award \$1,000 scholarships to two students who complete two online financial literacy tutorials and score highest on a related assessment. The scholarship is open to high school seniors, regardless of financial need, grade point average, class rank or intended college within Iowa. Registered students receive emails highlighting financial literacy tips, such as the importance of early career and college planning and ways to reduce student loan indebtedness.

After registering for the scholarship, students receive emailed instructions for completing the three online components. Two tutorials — the newly revised Student Loan Game PlanSM and the ROCI Reality Check — were developed by Iowa Student Loan to help students understand the consequences of college borrowing and discover how to maximize their return on college investment, or ROCI.

The scholarship, which was introduced last year, appeals to students planning for the cost of college. Payton Diamond, a 2015 high school graduate from Illinois and a recipient of one of last year's Senior Scholarships, said, "Figuring out how to pay for college is definitely challenging and the online tools and assessment helped me better understand and weigh my options."

A related multiple choice assessment will check students' understanding of the concepts in the tutorials. The two high school seniors who score highest on the assessment test will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship that will be sent directly to their colleges in fall 2016. If top-scoring students tie, those students will be asked to write and be judged on a short essay so winners can be determined.

"We feel it's very important to help today's high school students, and their families, better understand college debt and ways to lower the amount they may need to borrow," said Christine Hensley, chair of the Iowa Student Loan board. "This scholarship program creates an incentive for those students to experience our tools and learn the steps they can take now and later to improve their financial situation."

The Come 2 Iowa Senior Scholarship is open to legal U.S. residents of states contiguous to Iowa, who are high school seniors in Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota or Wisconsin during the 2015–2016 school year, and who plan attend college in Iowa in fall 2016. It is a no-purchase-required program, and full rules and details are available at www.iowaStudentLoan.org/Come2Iowa.

Learn More

Students, parents and educators who are interested in learning more about the Come 2 Iowa Senior Scholarship may email scholarship@studentloan.org.

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About Iowa Student Loan

Established in 1979 as a private, nonprofit organization, Iowa Student Loan helps Iowa students and families obtain the resources necessary to succeed in postsecondary education. Iowa Student Loan has helped more than 386,000 students pay for college. The organization, based in West Des Moines, Iowa, also provides an array of borrower benefits, financial literacy tools and community reinvestment programs, including support for free college planning services for students and their families. For more information about Iowa Student Loan, visit www.iowaStudentLoan.org.