



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Iowa Families Learn to Plan for Total College Cost; Students Receive Monetary Awards for Educational Expenses

WEST DES MOINES, IOWA (*June 14, 2018*) — Eighteen new Iowa high school graduates and three younger students recently received monetary awards to help cover educational expenses after they or their families completed a free online tool to estimate the total cost of a four-year undergraduate degree.

Iowa high school students, and their parents or guardians, were able to enter their information for the drawings after completing the College Funding Forecaster between March 5 and May 11, 2018. This free consumer education tool provided by Iowa Student Loan® uses information from students' freshman year financial aid award packets, as well as outside scholarships and grants and family savings and earnings, to project estimated costs, funding gaps and potential student loan debt over four years.

“We really feel this tool is vital to help families plan for a complete undergraduate education,” said Christine Hensley, chair of the Iowa Student Loan board of directors. “We use the Giveaway contest to draw attention and expose families to the tool’s features, which help them estimate total costs over four years as part of an overall plan to minimize student loan debt. We are pleased to see so many families entering after going through the module this year.”

More than 900 qualifying entries were received from all over the state, representing nearly 280 Iowa high schools.

Sixteen 2018 Iowa high school graduates met the requirements to each claim an award of \$250 for education expenses after having their names randomly chosen in weekly drawings. They are:

Student Name	High School
Everett Willson	Burlington High School
Jordan Larson	Gehlen Catholic High School
Sadie Brockett	Gladbrook-Reinbeck High School
Nathan Butler	Highland High School
Madison Sommers	Indianola High School
Rachel Strang	Iowa City High School
Aaron Howe	MOC-Floyd Valley High School
Owen Meyer	North Cedar High School
Erin Gorackowski	North Union High School
Erech Hazen	Norwalk High School
Abby Crowner	Notre Dame High School
Andraya Sowers	Pleasantville High School
Reece Suter	Rock Valley High School
Nicholas Resch	Spirit Lake High School
Madeline Moen	Vinton-Shellsburg High School
Renee Kerr	Wilton High School

Three younger students also fulfilled the requirements to claim one of the weekly drawing awards.

Student Name	High School
Bethany Kallio (high school class of 2021)	Ballard High School
Grace Reekers (high school class of 2021)	Belle Plaine High School
Dahlyn Ott (high school class of 2019)	South Winneshiek High School

In addition, two high school seniors' names were randomly drawn by an independent third party to each receive a \$1,500 scholarship award to the colleges they will attend this fall.

Student Name	High School
Marissa Tunning	Carroll High School
Drake Beller	Sioux City North High School

The College Funding Forecaster is available online at www.iowaStudentLoan.org/Forecaster. The tool allows families to customize both expenses and available funding to adjust results for changes in students' situations over the four years. The results show yearly and total estimated costs of attendance, available funding and projected funding gaps. The tool also provides informational tips on how to reduce costs and potential debt.

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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 392,500 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.

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