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Thirty Students Receive College Scholarship from Iowa Nonprofit
High School Seniors Earn \$2,000 Each After Demonstrating Financial Know-How

WEST DES MOINES, IOWA (April 9, 2018) — High school seniors from across the state earned \$2,000 for college while learning important financial literacy skills through the 2017–2018 Iowa Financial Know-How Challenge: Senior Scholarship sponsored by Iowa Student Loan®.

More than 4,000 Iowa high school seniors registered for the scholarship between October 2017 and February 2018. Of those, nearly 2,000 completed two online financial literacy tools and a related assessment to qualify for one of 30 college scholarships. More than 70 students tied for a top score on the assessment. The 30 recipients were those who received the highest scores on an independently judged essay on what “responsible borrowing” meant to them.

Christine Hensley, Iowa Student Loan board chair, said that the Student Loan Game PlanSM and ROCI Reality Check tools, which participants are required to experience to qualify for the scholarship are designed to help students and families avoid the pitfalls of heavy student loan debt.

“Student loan debt must be carefully considered to be manageable later in life,” said Hensley. “The components to qualify for this scholarship help our state’s students understand the impact that student loan debt can have, and we’re pleased that so many high school seniors are exposed to these important lessons through the scholarship process.”

“The Iowa Financial Know-How Challenge allowed me to expand upon what my high school has already taught me about college spending,” said Regan Sylvester, a senior at Sioux Central High School and one of the 30 recipients of this year’s scholarship. “I now understand specifically my college expenses and career outlook.”

Sadie Brockett, a senior at Gladbrook-Reinbeck High School and a 2017–2018 recipient, agreed. “The financial tips I learned through this process will help me throughout my college years and into my future career.”

Each recipient’s high school will also receive a \$500 award to improve or implement financial literacy and scholarship programs.

Details are not yet finalized for the 2018–2019 Iowa Financial Know-How Challenge: Senior Scholarship. Interested families should watch for information about the program at www.iowaStudentLoan.org/SeniorScholarship.

Scholarship Recipients

The following students each earned a \$2,000 scholarship. Iowa Student Loan will send scholarship funds directly to recipients' colleges.

Student Name	Student High School	Student Name	Student High School
Ote Albrecht	Le Mars	Timber Kent	Clarke
Sydney Alt	Lone Tree	Ashley Koos	Marquette Catholic
Heather Baier	Southeast Polk	Carrington Kuehl	Indianola
Ryan Bonthius	Regina	Grant Meiners	Carroll
Sadie Brockett	Gladbrook-Reinbeck	Jeffrey Morische	Osage
Zachary Calvert	Dowling Catholic	Josh Pulse	Pleasantville
Emma Carlson	Des Moines Christian	Megan Rex	Oelwein
Matthew Current	Clinton	Elly Schuemann	Linn-Mar
Jacee De Vries	West Lyon	Rebecca Sharpe	Norwalk
Katelyn Finnegan	St. Edmond	Robyn Stillmunkes	Bellevue
Morgan Fritz	Lake Mills	Regan Sylvester	Sioux Central
Maci Gambell	Pekin	Shawn Thacker	West (Iowa City)
Megan Grimm	Prairie	Luke Thompson	Okoboji
Kayla Hospodarsky	Alburnett	Ethan Trepka	West (Iowa City)
Alyssa Jaeger	Springville	Allison Zelle	Linn-Mar

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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.