



NEWS RELEASE

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Lela scholarships and programs help students SCORE cash for college

BATON ROUGE—As colleges and universities kick off the 2007 Fall semester on campuses across Louisiana, the Louisiana Education Loan Authority (Lela) is helping students score cash for their college education by giving them a chance to win a \$1,000 quarterly scholarship as they research ways to finance their education.

Lela is now offering students who visit the Lela website at www.lela.org an opportunity to win one of four \$1,000 scholarships to be awarded each quarter. The Lela website is a financial aid playbook for Louisiana students to access information about Lela's student loan programs, savings and other ways to access funds to pay for college. Links to apply online for federal Stafford loans, Parent Plus and GRAD Plus student loans as well as additional scholarships are also featured on the site.

"Two years after the devastating storms of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, we continue to encourage students to enroll and return to their colleges and universities," said Tricia Dubroc, Lela's Vice President of Student Loans. "We want students to know that there are many financial aid options available for those who wish to continue their college careers. Our website is a valuable resource for interested students to formulate a game plan to pay for college."

In addition to scholarships, Lela offers savings on federal student loans to students pursuing undergraduate, graduate and professional school degrees. Through Lela discounts offered on Stafford, parent PLUS and Grad PLUS loans, students, parents and graduate and professional students can pay for college and graduate schools and save up to 55 percent in interest, principal and fees throughout repayment. HELP Teachers and HELP Nurses programs through Lela offer teachers and professionals in the nursing field an opportunity to obtain loans to further their education at zero percent interest if they work in Louisiana after graduation. Get the extra points and facts about these programs by visiting the Lela website at www.lela.org.

Lela also is involved in several outreach activities to spread the word about financial aid. Lela, recently, held extended customer service hours during college registration to assist new and returning students with their financial aid questions. Lela participated in numerous financial aid workshops throughout the state and continually schedules on-site visits to colleges and universities to share information on obtaining financial aid and Lela programs. Lela's major outreach effort will be launched this upcoming February 2008 during Financial Aid Awareness Month (FAAM). The FAAM campaign is a statewide effort to reach all high school seniors throughout the state to encourage them that college is attainable and affordable. Look for more information about FAAM in the upcoming months on the Lela website.

Lela, a division of the Louisiana Public Facilities Authority (LPFA), is Louisiana's non-profit student loan provider. Lela is committed to only one thing: making higher education more accessible and affordable to the people of Louisiana.

Be a WINNER! Get the BEST student loan with the MOST savings through Lela. For more information about Lela's winning plan for college and other Lela programs, call (800) 228-4755 or visit the Lela's website at www.lela.org.



Lela's Winning Team

Left-Right (Bottom): Tricia Dubroc, Ann Carmichael and Emily Landry .

Left-Right (Top): Brinda White, Joni Leggio, Christie Smith and Danielle Chauvin.