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LCTCS, LDOE Announce Next Round of \$1,000 Statewide Construction Scholarship for Jump Start Graduates

BATON ROUGE, LA - Today, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS), Louisiana Construction Education Foundation (LCEF), and the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) announced applications for the Jump Start Construction Connect Scholars program will open on January 23, 2024. This scholarship is the state's only scholarship dedicated exclusively to Jump Start graduates who earn a Jump Start credential and a Louisiana high school diploma and subsequently enroll full-time in an LCTCS Construction Pathway Program or an Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) training program the summer or fall immediately following graduation. The scholarship will help graduates gain the necessary training to earn industry employment in construction crafts and STEM-related fields aligned to high-demand and high-income jobs.

"We are delighted to extend this exceptional opportunity to eligible high school seniors statewide," expressed Milton Graugnard, Chairman of the Louisiana Construction Education Foundation. "Our enthusiasm stems from supporting these talented individuals as they commence their journey towards success in the construction industry, spearheading the increasing demand for skilled craftspeople in our community."

"Today's announcement is workforce development in its purest form," said Monty Sullivan, LCTCS President, and LCTCS board member. "This scholarship will impact students across the entire state. Jump Start students need to know there are opportunities in their communities to continue their education at community and technical colleges in construction and STEM fields and that these programs can lead to good-paying careers."

Any high school senior who has a National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) credential will earn a Jump Start Career Diploma and enroll full-time in an LCTCS Construction Pathway Program or an ABC training program in the summer or fall semester immediately following high school graduation is eligible to apply for the scholarship. For the 2024-2025 school year, up to 40 one-time scholarships at \$1,000 per recipient are expected to be awarded to qualified applicants from across the state.

The LCEF Board will select recipients of this scholarship based on the strength of the industry credential(s) they earned in high school, letters of recommendation, participation in career and technical student organizations, and academic achievements such as GPA, career and technical

course work, and skills competition recognition.

Timeline
1/23/2024
Application Release
4/19/2024
Application Deadline
4/24-26/2024
Selection of Recipients
4/30/2024
Recipient Notification

The application is available online at louisianabelieves.com. Questions about the application process or criteria should be directed to suzette.rabalais@LA.GOV.

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