## LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER - SHREVEPORT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE Office of Multicultural Affairs 1501 Kings Highway Shreveport, LA 71130

Date: February 15, 2014

To: In-coming Freshman Medical Students, Class of 2018

Re: Disadvantaged Scholarship Requirements

The Louisiana State University School of Medicine in Shreveport has established the **Disadvantaged Scholarship**, which is designed to assist students from disadvantaged backgrounds, by reducing the amount of debt incurred while attending medical school. The need – based scholarship is administrated by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and is awarded by the Scholarship Committee in the amounts of \$3,000 to \$6,000. The scholarship focus on a student's **Economic**, **Educational and Social Disadvantaged** status. Their family financial history and economic hardships are also taken into consideration. **Only students who are citizens of the United State of America are eligible to apply.** 

## To be eligible for scholarship consideration an applicant must:

- 1) Complete the Information Release Form, which is distributed by the Office of Student Financial Aid at http:sh-aux.lsuhsc.edu/financialaid. This will allow the Scholarship Committee to review records.
- 2) Complete a FAFSA at website http://www.fafsa.ed.gov
- 3) Document that the Student Financial Aid Office has received a valid ISIR (ISIR, is the electronic result of a FAFSA, necessary to document financial need). Please note that completion of items 1-3 automatically places an in-coming medical student in competition for the Nathan Bernstein Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000 which is based on academic excellence and financial need.
- 4) Complete a Disadvantaged Scholarship Application, by answering questions 1-19, in sequential order. If a question is not applicable to you circumstances, enter N/A by the number. If a question is addressed, it must be succinctly discussed by explaining the personal impact or hardship as it relates to need. It is suggested that special attention be given to questions which addresses secondary (high school) and post-secondary (college) years. Please provide all documents, and adhere to the requirements listed in numbers 20-23. However, any additional information that will assist the committee in determining financial need may also be submitted.

Submit the Disadvantaged Scholarship Application to the Office of Multicultural Affairs, using the following instructions. The application must be typed or computer-generated in a font size no smaller than 10, not to exceed six double-spaced pages, dated, signed and notarized.

Carefully, adhere to the instructions and deadlines and do not make any references to your age, gender, religion or national origin.

## **Disadvantaged Scholarship Application**

- 1. Have you or your family received Medicaid benefits within the past eight years?
- 2. Has you or your family resided in government subsidized housing or use subsidized payments for housing within the past eight years?
- 3. What is the primary language spoken by you and members of your immediate family?
- 4. List disadvantages (economic, educational, or social) that occurred during grades 9-16.
- 5. Were you raised in a single-parent household which created hardships, if so explain?
- 6. State parents' occupations and education levels.
- 7. Were you raised by grandparent(s) under circumstances which created hardships, if so explain?
- 8. State grandparent(s) occupations and education levels.
- 9. Did you attend public school(s) grades K-12?
- 10. Did you participant in a subsidized school lunch program in grades K-12? Explain.
- 11. How many siblings in your family are currently attending school, grades K-16?
- 12. Did you obtain a primary or secondary education, grades K-12, in a school district where test scores were below the state average? If yes, provide documentation.
- 13. Where you employed during high school? If so provide the following information: I employer and company name, contact person(s), number of hours worked per week and phone number(s).
- 14. Are you the first person in your immediate family to attend or graduate college?
- 15. Were you awarded TOPS, Pell Grant, or other federal or state funds to subsidize your undergraduate education? If so, list the years and amounts.
- 16. Did you work to support yourself during high school or college? If so, list employer, year and hours worked per week, and any hardships related to this experience.
- 17. Describe your hometown (location and population). Did you reside in a rural or inner city setting? If so, describe the lack of available amenities (transportation, hospitals, libraries, etc.), if applicable to the stated hardships.
- 18. Did you grow-up in a medically underserved parish? If so, describe related hardships.
- 19. Describe your efforts to overcome past and present hardships or disadvantages.

## Also, the following requested documentation and guidelines adhered too:

20. A "Certification Statement" is attached as the last page of the application and must be signed and dated in the presence of a Notary.

- 21. The Disadvantaged Scholarship is need-based and therefore, you must attach a copy of your 2012 and 2013 Federal Income Tax forms if applicable. You must also submit a copy of **your parent's income tax forms for years 2012-2013**, even if you are considered financially independent. A mailed photocopy is preferable but a legible faxed copy is acceptable. FAX to the Office of Multicultural Affairs as 318-675-4332.
- 22. Submit **two** letters of reference (non-family members) who can validate your hardship(s), such as a minister, teacher, family friend, and please do not submit references from peers (college roommate or friend who simply can attest to your character). Letters should be sent to the Office of Multicultural Affairs at the address on the letterhead.
- 23. Mail the applications with letters of references, income tax forms, and other supporting documentation to the Office of Multicultural Affairs. All documentation must be received by April 18, 2014 for scholarship consideration. The scholarship Committee will review applications and make selection of students to be awarded. The Disadvantaged Scholarship is awarded for four academic years providing the recipient's financial circumstances are unchanged and the student remain in good academic standing. However, the scholarship recipient must submit a written request to the Scholarship Committee prior to the renewal date each year for continued awards. Students receiving scholarships for 2013 will be notified by mail no later than May 15, 2014.

NOTE: IF YOU WISH TO VERIFY RECEIPT OF THE APPLICATION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS, YOU MAY CONTACT THE OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS at (318) 675-5049.

Shirley Roberson, Director

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Applicant's Signature	Social Security Number		Date
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORE TO This	day of	2014	
Signature	e and Seal of Notary	Public	