



2015 Year In Review

Board Leadership
Fulfilling our mission to provide the resources students and families need to successfully complete college and repay their student loans.

Financial Literacy Programs
Providing college finance education through innovative tools and funding programs.

College Planning Outreach
Expanding our reach to help more families prepare for college.

Borrower Assistance
Providing service and assistance for borrowers, shortage-area workers and America's service members.

Student Funding Opportunities
Helping students finance higher education through our Partnership Advance Education Loan and other unique programs.

Navigating College Finance

Year in Review, in its entirety online, fulfills the annual report requirement outlined in Iowa Code Section 7C.13(2) by highlighting our efforts in 2015 to help Iowa students and families obtain the resources necessary to succeed in postsecondary education.

View the entire report online at www.IowaStudentLoan.org/YearInReview2015

Iowa Student Loan has helped families navigate postsecondary education, including the various aspects of financing college, since 1979. And each year we find ways to help make that journey more successful for Iowa students and their families. A private, nonprofit corporation, Iowa Student Loan helps Iowa students and families obtain the resources necessary to succeed in postsecondary education. To date, Iowa Student Loan has helped more than 386,000 students pay for college.

Based in West Des Moines, Iowa, the organization and its subsidiary employ more than 200 people and manage \$2.6 billion in student loans. Iowa Student Loan is self-funded and self-capitalized. It is governed by a board of directors representing education, financial services and the general public that, since its inception, has been appointed by the governor of Iowa. The board provides extensive oversight and checks and balances, ensuring Iowa Student Loan adheres to its mission and meets its obligations.



Financial Literacy Programs

Borrowers face continuing struggles to repay student loan debt after they leave college. Our innovative tools increase students' understanding of the impact student loan debt can have on their future finances and ways to minimize borrowing through smart planning before they even apply for a student loan. These tools are utilized as part of our financial literacy programs and awards for families.

Student Loan Game Plan

Since 2010, Student Loan Game Plan has been helping students and borrowers understand the effects of borrowing too much for college and making a plan to reduce student loan debt.

Proven Features, New Appeal

On Oct. 21, 2015, a completely revamped high school version of Student Loan Game Plan became available online. This version spotlights the most important information by reducing text and providing interactive appeal.

All versions of Student Loan Game Plan highlight:

- ▶ Issues real borrowers have faced during repayment of their student loans.
- ▶ Customized estimated salaries based on actual salaries of graduates from specific majors.
- ▶ A suggested maximum borrowing level corresponding to expected starting salary.
- ▶ Total student loan payment amounts for realistic borrowing levels.
- ▶ An accurate monthly after-college budget.
- ▶ Strategies to reduce the need to borrow.
- ▶ A customizable and printable action plan to reduce overall spending and borrowing.



Shuling C.,
Johnston High
School, 2015
Scholarship
Recipient



ROCI Reality Check

ROCI Reality Check provides information on the return on college investment, or ROCI, students can expect from degrees of specific majors. ROCI Reality Check and the standalone ROCI Tool both provide many essential facts in one location for the ease of students. Users see information on:

- ▶ Jobs tied to specific majors.
- ▶ Starting salaries for common jobs.
- ▶ Potential for future job openings.
- ▶ Required training and responsibilities for jobs

Iowa Financial Know-How Challenge: Senior Scholarship

The 2015 Senior Scholarship program was open Jan. 19–Feb. 22, 2015, and awarded 20 scholarships of \$1,500 each to students who completed Student Loan Game Plan, ROCI Reality Check and a related assessment. More than 2,000 Iowa high school seniors from 98 counties registered. The final winners represented 17 schools.

2015 Senior Scholarship	
Alta-Aurelia High School	Linn-Mar High School
Ballard High School	Madrid High School
Benton Community High School	North Iowa High School
Boone High School (2)	Northwood-Kensett High School
Easton Valley High School	Prairie High School (Cedar Rapids)
Guthrie Center High School	Spirit Lake High School
Hempstead High School	Urbandale High School (2)
Johnston High School (2)	Valley High School (West Des Moines)
Lamoni High School	



Student Funding Opportunities

Individuals wishing to further their education whether through traditional channels or accelerated learning opportunities often find roadblocks when it comes to funding that education. Our products and programs offer competitive financing and transparent terms, helping learners continue their journey.

Partnership Loan

When it comes to supplemental private loans, our goal has always been to offer loan programs with reasonable costs and transparent terms. We were able to improve the Partnership Loan this year with that goal in mind.

To provide lower-cost loans for students and families with good credit histories, we made the Partnership Loan a tiered interest rate program. This means that a loan's interest rate was based on either the borrower's or cosigner's FICO score. In keeping with our desire for transparency, we provide details on the qualifying FICO scores for the loan's four tiers and the interest rates associated with those tiers up front, before a student begins the application process.

We are especially proud of how the Partnership Loan compares to loans offered by national lenders. For example, we looked at the fixed-rate, deferred payment Partnership Loan and compared it to similar loans offered by the three biggest national student loan lenders. Our lowest rates are competitive with their lowest rates and our highest rates are much lower than their highest rates.



Skills Fund Bootcamp Loans

We entered into a new venture in late 2015 with Skills Fund, an innovative startup company that provides financing for professionals attending highly skilled accelerated learning programs, or bootcamps. Skills Fund ensures that coding, data science and other bootcamp programs meet a stringent set of quality standards before providing access to competitive financing.



Bootcamps may not be a typical form for postsecondary education, but they are aligned with our corporate mission and vision by providing individuals with the education necessary to advance their career and fill high-need jobs within the technology industry, helping them to earn higher salaries and benefitting economic growth. These students don't qualify for federal aid or loans because the bootcamps are not an accredited form of higher education yet students still require financing.

We have formed a strategic alliance with Skills Fund to help them begin operations, originate loans and provide customer service for the loans.



Board Leadership

A dedicated leadership team with decades of student funding and education experience charged with ensuring adherence to Iowa Student Loan's corporate mission.

Iowa Student Loan Board of Directors

As of Dec. 31, 2015, the following Iowa Student Loan board members represented the general public, financial institutions and postsecondary institutions for four-year terms:

Board Member	Representation	City
Christine Hensley, Chair	State Banking Institutions	Des Moines
Tammy Bramley, Vice Chair	General Public	Ute
Dan Clute	General Public	Urbandale
Rob Denson	Iowa Community Colleges	Ankeny
Lorraine Groves	Iowa Credit Unions	Sioux City
Laurie Hempen	General Public	New London
Miles Lackey	Regent Institutions	Ames
Jim Schipper	Banking Institutions	Ankeny
Scott Schneidermann	Savings and Loan Institutions	Rock Rapids
Adam Voigts	Private Colleges and Universities	Indianola

Aspire Resources Inc. Board of Directors

Appointed annually by the Iowa Student Loan board of directors, the Aspire Resources board members, as of Dec. 31, 2015, were:

Board Member	Occupation	City
Dr. Norm Nielsen, Chair	President Emeritus, Kirkwood Community College	Cedar Rapids
Dr. John Hartung, Vice Chair	Consultant	Indianola
Catherine "Kay" E. Beyerink	Retired CEO, Telco Triad Community Credit Union	Sioux City
John Hintze	Shareholder, Ahlers & Cooney, P.C.	West Des Moines
Walter Witthoff	Senior VP, Iowa Student Loan	Urbandale