The GiveBack365 Scholarship

COLA is pleased to offer $500 scholarships to aid students currently pursuing a degree in the field of Medical Laboratory Science within an accredited program. This scholarship was formed in 2012 to foster awareness of careers in the medical laboratory and to support the individuals who will become the future of the industry.

COLA is a physician-directed organization whose purpose is to promote excellence in laboratory medicine and patient care through a program of voluntary education, consultation, and accreditation. In 1993 COLA was granted deemed status by CMS to provide laboratory accreditation. As a leading laboratory accreditor in the United States, COLA is the only laboratory accreditation provider that operates its accreditation program in accordance with a quality management systems certified to ISO 9001:2015. This means we offer our customers a unique, standardized program and staff dedicated to satisfaction and laboratory quality. Our surveyors and technical advisors are guided by a coaching approach and uncomplicated quality engineered processes. Laboratory of all types and sizes are evaluated and mentored to produce accurate test results and meet CLIA regulations.

At the heart of COLA’s mission, there is one objective: to enhance patient safety. COLA supports that objective through exciting opportunities to celebrate its successes, engage in professional development and community reinforcing activities, as well as give back efforts. COLA continues to increase awareness about the medical laboratory sciences professions through the GiveBack365 Scholarship Program.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be actively enrolled and in good standing within a Medical Laboratory Science or Technology program at an US accredited institution
- Have successfully completed at least one semester in their program
- Seek a master, baccalaureate or associates degree
- Have a minimum program GPA of 3.0
- Have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0

Please include in your application packet:

- A letter of recommendation from a member of your program’s faculty or its director
- An unofficial school transcript indicating your program and overall GPA
- An essay of approximately 500 words on the following topic:

If you could have a conversation with any laboratory scientist, past or present, who would it be and why? What would you hope to learn from the scientist and how would you apply that information?
Please submit the completed application and all supporting materials by **June 1, 2020** using one of the following:

1. Email application to scholarships@giveback365.org
2. Mail application to:
   
   COLA Inc.
   Attn: GiveBack365
   9881 Broken Land Parkway, Suite 200
   Columbia, Maryland 21046

The scholarship selection committee will inform the winning applicants on or before **August 7, 2020**, after verification that all eligibility requirements have been met.