



# GiveBack 365

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## The GiveBack365 Scholarship

COLA is pleased to offer \$1,500 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, Inc. is a physician-directed organization whose purpose is to promote health and safety through accreditation and educational programs. In 1993, COLA was granted deemed status by CMS to provide laboratory accreditation. As a leading laboratory accreditor in the United States, COLA operates its laboratory accreditation program in accordance with a quality management system certified to ISO 9001. 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. Laboratories of all types and sizes are evaluated and mentored to produce the highest quality laboratory services 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 a US accredited institution
- Have successfully completed at least one semester in their program
- Be seeking an associate, baccalaureate or master's degree

### Please include in your application packet:

- Completed signed application form
- An unofficial school transcript indicating your enrollment in a laboratory science program.
- A letter of recommendation from someone that knows you in an academic, work or professional capacity.
- An essay of approximately 500 words on the following topic:



Identify two tactics you would use to promote public awareness of careers in Medical Laboratory Science and explain why you chose the specific tactics. Develop a plan to implement the selected tactics and explain how you would measure the success of your plan.

Please submit the completed application and all supporting materials via email to [scholarships@cola.org](mailto:scholarships@cola.org) no later than **December 16, 2024**.

The scholarship selection committee will verify all eligibility requirements are met and group applications by degree. A team of volunteer COLA staff members evaluate the letter of recommendation, short answer questions and essay. Scores are compiled for each candidate. The applicants receiving the highest scores in each degree (associate, bachelor and advanced degrees) are awarded the scholarships. Winners will be notified by email on or before **Jan 31, 2025**.



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## Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Program of Study:

College or University: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Degree Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Director Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Director Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach copy of most recent unofficial transcript

### Letter of Recommendation:

Select an individual that knows you well from an academic, work or professional capacity and can communicate how you will contribute to advancing the field of Medical Laboratory Science. Provide the selected individual with [this link](#) to prepare their letter of recommendation.

**Once the recommendation is written, please include the letter with the rest of this application.**

COLA's scholarship committee is a team of volunteers that are passionate about our careers in medical laboratory science. We value hard work, professionalism, lifelong learning, and the desire to give back. In the short answer questions below, please tell us a little bit about yourself, your accomplishments, your challenges and your desire to help others succeed.

**Short Answer questions (maximum of 300 words each)**

1. Why did you select medical laboratory science as a field of study?
2. What challenges have you encountered in pursuit of your education?
3. What is your greatest accomplishment to date and what makes it significant to you?
4. How will receiving this scholarship inspire you to give back?

**Essay question: (Approximately 500 words)**

Identify two tactics you would use to promote public awareness of careers in Medical Laboratory Science and explain why you chose the specific tactics. Develop a plan to implement the selected tactics and explain how you would measure the success of your plan.

**Terms and Conditions:**

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**Applicant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_