Disadvantaged Scholarship Program

The LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans has established a scholarship program supporting students of a disadvantaged background. This scholarship is designed to assist those who have not had the benefits of many students in the areas of primary and secondary education, family income and social and cultural experiences. Special consideration will be given those who have excelled academically. Scholarship support will be for a four year period providing you remain in good academic standing. The range of support is from $3,000 to $6,000 per year.

To be considered for a scholarship, you must write a letter stating why you believe you qualify. To assist you in this determination, please find attached a definition for disadvantaged. In your letter, you should specify your particular disadvantage in the areas cited. In addition, a copy of your and/or parents’ most recent federal income tax return is required. **YOU CANNOT BE CONSIDERED FOR THE DISADVANTAGED SCHOLARSHIP UNLESS THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS RECEIVED WITH YOUR STAGE 2 APPLICATION.** The only exception to this requirement would be if the applicant has been self-supportive for a number of years. In such cases, the most recent federal income tax returns from the applicant are required.

In addition, a few merit scholarships are available to accepted applicants independent of financial need. These scholarships for the first year will be awarded to qualified applicants by the Scholarship Committee upon the recommendations of the Admissions Committee. No application process is required.

Questions regarding this scholarship program can be directed to either Patrick Gorman in the Office of Financial Aid, Suite 215, Resource Center, (504) 568-4821 or the Office of Student Affairs, Suite 240, Medical School, (504) 568-4874.
DEFINITION OF DISADVANTAGED

Disadvantaged students are defined as those students who have not had the benefits of other students in the areas of primary and secondary education, family income and social and cultural experiences in life. Identification of disadvantaged student status is made from the following criteria.

1. Economic Disadvantage: This is based on parental income and the number and ages of dependents or other economic hardships. The extent of economic disadvantage is that parental income which could not support the direct educational costs of the student=s education.

2. Educational Disadvantage: This category represents those students who have overcome educational barriers to qualify for medical school. Disadvantage could begin at the grade school/high school level. Some rural and inner city schools might qualify.

3. Social Disadvantage: Students who have overcome social disadvantages to qualify for medical school could be considered in this category. Disadvantages may include: being raised in a one-parent family, being raised by grandparent(s), residing in a housing-project or isolated rural setting, being raised by parents who have limited formal education.