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**VANTAGE WEST OPENS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION WINDOW**

*10 Students to Receive \$1,000 Each for College*

TUCSON, Ariz. (January 28, 2016) – Vantage West Credit Union ([www.vantagewest.org](http://www.vantagewest.org)), Southern Arizona’s largest credit union, has opened the application window for its scholarship program, which will award \$1,000 each to 10 college-bound students in May. The 10 scholarships available this year are twice as many as Vantage West offered in 2015.

The scholarship program selects recipients based on a number of criteria, including academic merit, the quality and content of a written essay, and a student’s character as demonstrated by activities and volunteerism.

Submissions will be evaluated by a panel of judges. The application deadline is April 9, 2016.

“This year, we made the decision to invest in our local communities by making the scholarships available to students pursuing higher education in Arizona,” Robert D. Ramirez, Vantage West president and CEO, said. “It is our hope that these scholarships will assist deserving students as they continue along that vital academic journey toward successful careers.”

Applicants must either be Vantage West Credit Union members in good standing, or have a parent or legal guardian who is a member in good standing. In addition, applicants must be attending an institution of higher education within the State of Arizona for the fall 2016 semester.

To apply, visit [vantagewest.org/scholarship](http://vantagewest.org/scholarship). Official Rules (including additional eligibility information) for the scholarships can also be found on the Vantage West website.

**About Vantage West Credit Union**

*Vantage West Credit Union is a \$1.5 billion financial institution in Arizona, which serves a growing membership of nearly 135,000. Vantage West has branches in Pima, Pinal, Maricopa and Cochise counties and serves its vast membership via online channels, as well. Vantage West is a full service financial institution, offering consumer and business loans, credit cards, and deposit products, as well as retirement accounts and other financial services.*

*Some products and services are subject to approval. Certain restrictions may apply. Vantage West is federally insured by NCUA. [www.vantagewest.org](http://www.vantagewest.org)*