



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2025

### Deadline nears for LAFCU essay contest offering \$20K in scholarships

*Michigan high school seniors encouraged to submit a one-page essay by March 31*

LANSING, Mich. — Michigan high school seniors have until March 31 to apply for LAFCU's Write to Educate Essay Contest, which will award a total of \$20,000 in scholarships to four students. Each recipient will receive a \$5,000 scholarship for college, and LAFCU will donate \$500 to a charity chosen by each winner, contributing an additional \$2,000 to local organizations.



The contest is open to all Michigan high school seniors, regardless of GPA, financial need, or LAFCU membership. Participants must submit a one-page, 500-word essay answering the prompt: *"If you could introduce a new high school course, what would it be and why would it benefit students?"*

"Education is a vital tool for success, and we want to give students a chance to share their unique ideas and perspectives," said Kelli Ellsworth Etchison, chief marketing officer and chief diversity officer, LAFCU. "This contest is designed to be inclusive, removing traditional academic barriers so that all students have an equal opportunity to earn scholarship support for their future."

Essays must be typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font, single-spaced, with one-inch margins. Submissions exceeding one page or falling short of 500 words will not be eligible. Winning essays will be published in the Lansing State Journal, the contest's media partner.

Alyssa Troub, LAFCU's digital marketing and community engagement specialist, added, "This contest goes beyond academics; it empowers students to think critically and creatively. It's inspiring to see how their ideas can spark meaningful conversations and support charitable causes at the same time."

Additional information is available online at [www.lafcu.com/writetoeducate](http://www.lafcu.com/writetoeducate).

### **About LAFCU**

Founded in 1936, LAFCU (pronounced laugh-cue) is a not-for-profit, member-owned credit union open to all who live, work, worship or attend school in Michigan, and to Michigan businesses. LAFCU serves more than 74,000 members and holds over \$1 billion in assets. With a particular focus on serving people of modest means, LAFCU is committed to enhancing its members' financial well-being and creating long-lasting positive change across generations. Awarded the prestigious Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Community Service Award, LAFCU is known for its people-helping-people mission, which has led to award-winning financial literacy programs for all ages. Honored as a national 'Best Credit Union to Work For' and recognized globally for its diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, LAFCU stands out for its commitment to creating an inclusive workplace. Learn more at [www.lafcu.com](http://www.lafcu.com).

###