

## **CONTACT:**

Brian Griffith, Assistant Vice President - Marketing 509.713.9421 / <a href="mailto:bgriffith@gesa.com">bgriffith@gesa.com</a>

## Gesa Credit Union Announces 2016 Scholarship Program Gesa offering \$40,000 in scholarships for fall 2016

**RICHLAND, WASHINGTON** – Gesa Credit Union is proud to offer ten (10) \$2,000 scholarships and one (1) \$5,000 scholarship to local high school seniors entering college in the fall. In addition, Gesa is excited to offer five (5) \$2,000 and one (1) \$5,000 Continued Education scholarships for current college students who have plans to continue their higher education at any accredited college or university.

"Education has always been the foundation of our mission to serve our community," said Gesa President and CEO, Don Miller. "Offering scholarships for students who plan to further their education is a solid investment in the future of our community."

Eligibility requirements include the following: applicants must be Gesa Credit Union members in good standing, graduating high school with a 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA, and entering their freshman year of college as full-time student or returning as a full-time college student in the fall. Applicants will be selected based on academic performance, extracurricular activities, community involvement, and financial need. Applications are available at gesa.com and are due by February 28, 2016.

Since 1987, Gesa has given college scholarships to students attending colleges and universities throughout the state of Washington. To date, more than \$260,000 in Gesa scholarships have been awarded to deserving local students. In addition to college scholarships, Gesa offers low-interest private student loans to students of all ages who are looking for affordable ways to finance their higher education. More information about Gesa Scholarships and Student Loans can be found at gesa.com.

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Gesa Credit Union has served Washington State's Tri-Cities community since 1953, and is one of the state's largest credit unions with \$1.5 billion in assets and 130,000 members at December 31, 2015. Gesa is a full service financial institution that offers a complete array of consumer, mortgage and business products and services. Headquartered in Richland, Washington, Gesa operates 16 branch offices in the Kennewick, Richland, Pasco, West Richland, Walla Walla, Wenatchee, East Wenatchee, Yakima, Moses Lake and Spokane communities. Gesa also supports eight student-operated high school branches – the most in the state. Gesa's commitment to local communities includes support for Junior Achievement, Habitat for Humanity, annual youth scholarships, and free financial seminars open to members and the general public. For more information visit <a href="https://www.gesa.com">www.gesa.com</a>.