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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****NSPA Launches First-of-its-Kind Scholarship Program Toolkit**

December 13, 2011 – For the first time, organizations that offer or are interested in offering a scholarship program will have a blueprint to do so. Created by the National Scholarship Providers Association (NSPA), the [Scholarship Program Toolkit](#) will give providers the ultimate resource to help them determine their goals for their program, as well as how to best meet their goals.

“Our ultimate goal with the creation of the Toolkit was to enhance and grow scholarship programs so more students can attend and graduate higher education institutions,” said David Tanner, Scholarship Program Toolkit Advisory Board Member.

Launching today, the Toolkit is a primer for those who are developing a new scholarship program as well as provides in-depth looks at best practices to streamline long-running programs. The Scholarship Program Toolkit was funded by a Public Benefit Grant from TG, a public, nonprofit corporation created by the Texas Legislature in 1979. TG offers resources to help students and families plan and prepare for college, learn the basics of money management, and repay their federal student loans.

“The Scholarship Toolkit will help college access programs and other educational institutions avoid potential challenges related with scholarship and grant administration, and improve college opportunities for students nationwide,” said Robert Westrick, Grants Administrator for TG’s Public Benefit and Charley Wootan Grant Programs.

NSPA developed the Toolkit in response to continued requests for policies and procedures for scholarship programs and draws on the expertise of a wide range of scholarship and financial aid professionals. The Toolkit is available at no cost to NSPA members; nonmembers are able to view Toolkit components and sample content at <http://www.scholarshipproviders.org>.

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The National Scholarship Providers Association (NSPA) is a membership organization that represents nearly 300 scholarship providers across the U.S. and Canada, including the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, Ron Brown Scholar Program, Daniels Fund, Boettcher Foundation, Fastweb.com, and the Gates Millennium Scholars Program. NSPA is dedicated to advancing the collective impact of scholarship providers, and the scholarships they award, through exchanging best practices, offering professional development opportunities, and promoting student access and success in higher education.