



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CSLF Continues to Waive Guarantee Fee

Rocky Hill, CT – February 13, 2004 – The Connecticut Student Loan Foundation (CSLF) is pleased to announce that it will continue to waive the one-percent insurance premium (guarantee fee) on all Federal Stafford Loans and Federal PLUS Loans. CSLF plans to extend this waiver through the end of the 2004-2005 academic year, as long as changes to financial aid programs related to Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act do not mandate that CSLF collect this fee.

“CSLF has waived the one-percent guarantee fee on all Federal Stafford Loans and Federal PLUS Loans guaranteed under the Federal Family Education Loan Program since June 1999, providing over \$11 million in savings to our borrowers,” said CSLF President, Mark W. Valenti. “CSLF is pleased to be able to waive this fee for the sixth consecutive year, especially during a time when many other agencies are unable to do so. CSLF currently maintains a healthy federal reserve balance and will continue to offer the guarantee fee waiver for as long as possible,” said Mr. Valenti.

Current regulations specify that guarantors are required to maintain a minimum reserve ratio. A guarantor may collect a guarantee fee up to one-percent of the total loan amount from the borrower for its reserve, which is used to pay claims on defaulted loans.

Mr. Valenti also stated that CSLF will continue to closely monitor its reserve ratio and legislative proposals, which address the guarantee fee. “CSLF partners can feel confident that CSLF will continue to act in the best interests of its student and parent borrowers, while maintaining the financial strength and integrity of CSLF and the Federal Family Education Loan Program,” said Mr. Valenti.

***ABOUT CSLF** – Connecticut Student Loan Foundation (CSLF) is a national, non-profit agency, which administers, guarantees, finances, and services loans within the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) and other alternative loan programs. CSLF has over 35 years of experience providing assistance to students and parents seeking to finance a higher education. As a guarantor, CSLF assures that low-interest Federal Stafford Loans and Federal PLUS Loans remain available to eligible students and parents. CSLF also is a lender and provides financing directly to educational institutions on behalf of students and parents. Learn more about CSLF at www.cslf.com*