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## **ADEQ Director Steve Owens Announces 2008 Recycling Scholarship Program for High School Seniors**

PHOENIX -- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Director Steve Owens today announced that ADEQ is encouraging Arizona high school seniors interested in environmental issues to apply for ADEQ's 2008 Arizona Recycling Scholarship Program.

Under the Recycling Scholarship Program, ADEQ will award scholarships of \$1,000 each to up to 10 high school seniors to be used for expenses at a college or university in Arizona. To apply, students need to submit a proposal outlining a waste reduction or recycling project in their school or community to be implemented during March 2008. All Arizona high school students in their senior year are eligible to apply for the scholarships. The scholarship recipients will be selected by ADEQ based on the proposals submitted.

"This is a very exciting program that encourages Arizona students to think about ways to protect the environment while helping them meet the escalating costs of college," Owens said. "We launched this scholarship program two years ago, and we have seen some absolutely terrific recycling ideas from students who have participated in it."

Owens said ADEQ developed the scholarship program in 2005 to encourage school recycling activities throughout the state and get high school students involved in protecting the environment. ADEQ has awarded a total of 16 scholarships over the last two years to high school seniors who have implemented recycling projects at their schools or in their communities. Funding for the scholarship program comes through the ADEQ Recycling Grant Program.

Proposals must be received by ADEQ no later than Feb. 1, 2008, and the scholarship winners will be announced during February 2008. The winning projects will be implemented during March 2008. ADEQ will provide scholarship funds to the students after receiving proof of enrollment at a community college or university within the state of Arizona.

"This is a win-win program for the students and the environment," Owens added.

The scholarship package and informational materials is being sent to every high school in Arizona and also are available on ADEQ's Web site at <http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/waste/solid/program.html>