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## Conversion of student start-up scholarships to loans

### GSA Council Policy Statement

#### GSA Position

GSA condemns federal legislation that has moved to convert Student Start-up Scholarships to loans.

#### Rationale

Student Start-Up Scholarships were created so that lower-income students would receive financial assistance to meet the costs of studying each semester, such as purchasing textbooks and other necessary equipment.

Changing these scholarships to loans undermines the intent of this scheme, to support lower-income students in accessing and completing higher education, and means that students with the least resources will end up with more debt at the end of their degrees.

#### Record of Review

Date	Reason for Review	Created/Revised by
December 2015	Adopted by GSA Council	
December 2018	Re-approved by GSA Council	