



These efforts by MOHELA complement national, statewide and regional efforts, including the Math, Engineering, Technology, and Science (METS) Alliance, which was an initiative created by Governor Matt Blunt and included representatives from state and local governments, public school systems, and businesses. In its final recommendations, the alliance called for increasing the quality and supply of math and science teachers in Missouri.

"MOHELA continues to be a strong and viable presence in Missouri providing low cost student loans and great borrower benefits such as these loan forgiveness programs," Governor Matt Blunt said. "I am very pleased that MOHELA is supporting our Math, Engineering, Technology and Science (METS) Initiative and finding ways to encourage students to enter important fields, such as engineering and teaching. Education is my highest priority as Missouri's governor and I support this effort to encourage teachers to pursue careers in math and science, and students to consider careers in engineering by offering these generous loan forgiveness programs."

"We appreciate the leadership provided by members of the national Business-Higher Education Forum and the Missouri Math, Engineering, Technology and Science (METS) initiative," said Raymond H. Bayer, Jr., Executive Director and CEO of MOHELA. "They have made clear the vital role math, science and engineering will play in our economic future. We are supporting their efforts by helping Missouri schools keep and recruit quality math and science teachers while encouraging more college students to pursue degrees in engineering."

These new borrower benefits are made possible, in part, by MOHELA's access to tax-exempt bonding authority granted by the Missouri Department of Economic Development. Since its creation in 1981, MOHELA has offered lower-cost education funding to over 500,000 borrowers. In addition, this year alone, MOHELA has forgiven approximately \$6 million in student loan balances, as well committing as much as \$5 million for the new pre-engineering loan forgiveness program.

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*MOHELA is one of the largest participant sin the nonprofit sector of the student loan secondary market industry in America, and is a leading holder and servicer of student loans with more than \$5.5 billion in assets and loan purchase activity in excess of \$1.5 billion per year. MOHELA advances its benevolent mission of eliminating barriers for students so they can access higher education through local, regional, and national partnerships with a variety of educational and financial institutions.*

For more information on this and other MOHELA programs,  
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