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For immediate release

Washington TRU Solutions Offers \$19,500 in Scholarships

CARLSBAD, N.M., February 24, 2005 – Washington TRU Solutions (WTS) is offering up to \$19,500 in two separate scholarship programs for 2005 Eddy and Lea County high school seniors and college students.

Two different applications are available now from area high school and college counselors and financial aid officers. WTS will award scholarships this spring at area high schools and jointly with Carlsbad Foundation and Carlsbad area non-profit organizations, Dick Raaz, WTS general manager, announced.

Scholarships are available in three specific areas of study at any accredited community college, technical school or university.

- Math, science or engineering degree
- Education degree with emphasis in math, science or technology
- Accredited technical programs in radiation technology, waste handling or waste management

Washington TRU Solutions scholarships totaling more than \$179,500 over the past 11 years demonstrates our long-term investment in vital community partnerships," Raaz said. "By preparing students for careers in science, engineering and technology, WTS further supports our future work force in southeast New Mexico."

WTS is offering \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors selected by Carlsbad, Loving and Artesia High Schools in Eddy County, as well as Hobbs, Eunice, Tatum, Jal and Lovington High Schools in Lea County.

Each participating high school selects student recipients based on WTS criteria, student merit and need. Carlsbad High School will award two scholarships. The other seven high schools in Eddy and Lea counties will award one scholarship. These scholarships originated in 2000.

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A second WTS scholarship program began 11 years ago. WTS and the Carlsbad Foundation, Inc. award scholarships to Eddy and/or Lea County graduating seniors and returning college students selected competitively by a joint steering committee. Scholarship awards are dependent on proceeds from a permanent fund established in 1994 at Carlsbad Foundation.

Additionally, WTS will contribute matching funds to four Carlsbad area non-profit organizations that sponsor annual scholarships for public high school students. WTS committed \$2,000 each in funds to be matched equally by Carlsbad League of United Latin American Citizens and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Fund. For 2005 graduation night events, WTS will match scholarships at the rate of \$2,000 for Class Act at the Carlsbad High School and \$1,000 for Falcon Fest at Loving High School. Applications and awards are managed directly by those organizations.

Interested students should contact their school counselor for information and applications for all WTS scholarships.

WTS has managed the U.S. Department of Energy's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant for 20 years. WTS opened and has safely operated WIPP, the nation's first permanent geologic repository for defense nuclear waste since 1999. Washington Group International headquartered in Boise, Idaho, is the parent company of WTS.