

# Senior Handbook Class of 2024

Senior Counselor Mrs. Shannon Klapatch-Francis, LPC-S, NCC,NCSC 100 Bulldog Drive Mandeville, LA (985) 892-7112

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION TO SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM	
	Introduction	4
	Counseling Services	5
	Objective	6
	Senior Calendar - Important dates to remember	7-8
	ACT/SAT Test Dates	9
II.	SENIOR YEAR	
	Graduation Requirements – TOPS University Diploma	
	Graduation Requirements – TOPS Tech Diploma	
	FAFSA	
	LEAP 2025	
	FHS Honor Graduate	
	FHS Rank in Class Policy	
	College Visits	11
III.	POST SECONDARY OPTIONS	
111.	Four Year Colleges	12
	Community and Technical Schools	
	Transferring from Community to Four Year College	
	Career Information Websites	
	Career information websites	12
IV.	COLLEGE PLANNING	
	College Search Process	13
	Campus Visit	14
	Admission Decision Plans and Deadlines	15
	College Application Process	16-17
	College Transcript Request for DE courses	18
	Letters of Recommendation	19
	Writing the Essay (Admission and Scholarship)	19-21
	The Interview	
	Questions to Ask a College Admissions Counselor	
	Resume' of High School Activities	
	Louisiana Colleges and Universities' Websites	25
	College Counseling on the Internet	
	Resources	
	College Comparison Worksheet	

V.	LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS	20
	Board of Regents Minimum Admission Standards for First-Time Freshmen	
	Louisiana State University Admission Requirements	30
VI.	COLLEGIATE ATHLETES	
	NCAA	31
	NAIA	31
VII.	FINANCIAL AID	
	Types of Financial Aid	32
	Applying for Financial Aid	33
VIII.	SCHOLARSHIPS	
	General Scholarship Information	34
	TOPS	
	TOPS Core Curriculum	
	TOPS Tech Core Curriculum	
	TOPS Award Amounts	
	Your TOPS Rights & Responsibilities	
	Your TOPS Tech Rights & Responsibilities	
	Local Scholarships	

STPPS adheres to the equal opportunity provisions of federal and civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, or disability.

#### SECTION I: SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this handbook is to assist you and your parents through your senior year of high school. There are many options available to you beyond high school so use your time wisely to explore these options and seek to broaden your outlook on college possibilities.

At first glance, the college application and admission process can seem daunting. Your senior counselor is here specifically to assist you in this process. You are the most important person in the process, and our job is to facilitate the journey.

In addition to thoughtful planning, there will be a great deal of important paperwork to complete and good organization is the key. You must be willing to investigate <u>both</u> the **colleges** and **yourself.** The first step involves an in-depth look at **you** and your desires, needs, strengths, and talents. You must also make an honest appraisal of your academic strengths and weaknesses.

With over 2,000 colleges to consider, you retain the choice up to the point when the application is filed. You do not control the colleges' admission decision, but you surely make the decision to which colleges you will apply. In order to make the most of this process, it is our hope that you will commit yourself to two very important prerequisites: **perspective and a sense of humor!** 

- **Perspective:** While choosing a college is indeed an important decision and a great opportunity, it is unlikely to be the most important choice you will ever make in your life. Neither is it irrevocable. There are many fine schools where you will be happy and do quite well.
- Sense of Humor: This should be a time when you enjoy learning about yourself and the possibilities for your future. If this process becomes dreary and stressful, something is wrong!

This is a new and exciting time in your life, and we look forward to working with you as you embark on this new endeavor!

Mrs. Shannon Klapatch-Francis Academic Senior/Post Secondary Counselor Shannon.Klapatch-Francis@stpsb.org (985) 892-7112, ext. 2070 Fax: (985) 893-4799

#### **COUNSELING SERVICES**

- Comprehensive knowledge of the student through personal contact, student records, and teacher evaluations.
- Armed Forces personnel on campus to meet with students and answer questions concerning the military and educational opportunities. Selective service registration.
- Senior Parent Meeting in the fall.
- ACT/SAT registration information.
- Regular announcements concerning scholarships.
- College representatives on campus to meet with students and answer questions.
- Assistance with all aspects of the application process.
- Publication of college events, deadlines, available scholarships, enrichment programs, test dates, and other pertinent information will be posted on the FHS website.



# **IMPORTANT CODES**

CEEB ACT FHS Code TOPS C 191659 1595		SAT TOPS Code 9019
--------------------------------------	--	--------------------------

# **OBJECTIVES**

#### **School Counselor**

- Will work honestly and willingly to assist you in the college selection process.
- Will present your transcript and the official school statement (counselor recommendation) to the colleges, which require this information.
- Will serve as your advocate in the process.
- Will be available for counsel and advice through the decision-making process.

#### Student

- Will engage in honest, thoughtful reflection and analysis of your strengths, weaknesses, ideas, goals, and dreams and apply this knowledge thoughtfully in the college search and application process. Believe in yourself.
- Will do the research necessary to find and apply to a variety of colleges you would be happy to attend.
- Will do the best academic work of which you are capable.
- Will take control of and responsibility for the process.
- Will complete applications and essays with care and attention.
- Will be responsible for all deadlines and other calendar events.
- Will communicate with the counselor as interests and priorities change.

# 2023-24 SENIOR CALENDAR - IMPORTANT DATES

September	
22	ACT Registration deadline for October 28 test date
October	
6 11 12 28	Parish Fair Day College and Career Fair at The Castine Center 5:00-8:00P.M. End of first quarter ACT at FHS
November 3 15 20-24	ACT registration deadline for December 9 test date Early Action Deadline for some universities Thanksgiving holidays – NO SCHOOL
December  1  1  9 15  22 25-5	FAFSA- An exact date has not been released yet for FAFSA submission Scholarship deadine for some universities ACT at FHS Louisiana State University Priority Scholarship Deadline/Honor Application Deadline End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> grading period and End of first semester Winter/Christmas Break – NO SCHOOL

ACT registration deadline for February 10 test date

Application deadline for LSU regular admission

Scholarship deadline for many universities

January

8

5

15

February

1 10

12-16

School Re-opens

Mardi Gras Holidays

ACT

<u>March</u>	
8	ACT registration deadline for April 13 test date
14	End of 3rd 9 week period
23	Senior Prom
29-5	Spring/Easter Break
<u>April</u>	
13	ACT
15-16	Senior LEAP Testing as needed
19-24	Senior Exams
TBA	Senior Breakfast
May	
	FHS GRADUATION – SLU 7:00
<b>3</b> 3	ACT Registration deadline for June test
<u>June</u>	
8 30	ACT test date (Qualifier for TOPS with a penalty) FAFSA DEADLINE FOR TOPS
30	TAI SA DEMDERAL POR TOTA
<u>July</u>	ACT
13	ACT

ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

# **ACT TEST DATES**

Test Dates	Registration Deadlines	Late Registration Deadlines	Standby Deadline Photo Upload Deadline
October 28	September 22	October 6	October 20
December 9	November 3	November 17	December 1
February 10	January 5	January 19	February 2
April 13	March 8	March 22	April 5
June 8	May 3	May 17	May 31
July 13	June 7	June 21	July 5

# SAT TEST DATES

Test Dates	Registration Deadline
October 7	September 7
November 4	October 5
December 2	November 2

# Graduation Requirements for Entering Freshmen 2014–2015 and Beyond

CUD ITATA	TOPS UNIVERSITY DIPLOMA			CAREER DIPLOMA		
SUBJECTS	# Units	Courses	# Units	Courses		
	1	One of the following: English I, English Language Part 1:	1	One of the following: English I, English Language Part 1: Cambridge IGCSE, or English Literature Part 1: Cambridge IGCSE		
English		Cambridge IGCSE, or English Literature Part 1: Cambridge IGCSE  One of the following: English II, English Language Part 2:	-	One of the following: English II, English Language Part 2:		
	1	Cambridge IGCSE, or English Literature Part 2: Cambridge IGCSE	1	Cambridge IGCSE, or English Literature Part 2: Cambridge IGCSE		
	1	One of the following: English III, AP English Language and Composition, IB Literature, IB Language and Literature, IB Literature and Performance, English Language Part 1: Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors), or Literature in English Part 1: Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors)	2	The remaining units shall come from the following: Technical Writing, Business English, English III, English Language Part 1: Cambridge AICE - AS (Honors), Literature in English Part 1AICE - AS (Honors), English IV, any AP or IB English course, English Language Part 2: Cambridge AICE - AS (Honors), Literature in English Part		
	One of the following: English IV, AP English Literature and Composition, IB Literature, IB Language and Literature, IB Literature and Performance, English Language Part 2: Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors), or Literature in English Part 2: Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors)			2: Cambridge AICE - AS (Honors), or comparable Louisiana technical college courses offered by Jump Start regional teams as approved by BESE		
	NOTE:	If a student chooses to take the A level Cambridge course, the secon	d unit w	ill count as an elective credit.		
	1	Algebra I	1	Algebra I, Applied Algebra I, or Algebra I-Part 2 (The elective course Algebra I-Part 1 is a prerequisite.)		
	1	Geometry		The remaining units shall come from the following: Geometry,		
	1	Algebra II		Financial Literacy (formerly Financial Math), Math Essentials, Algebra II, Advanced Math-Functions and Statistics, Advanced		
Aathematics	1	One of the following: Algebra III, Advanced Math–Functions and Statistics, Advanced Math–Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus, IB Math Studies (Math Methods), Calculus, AP Calculus AB, IB Mathematics SL, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, IB Further Mathematics HL, IB Mathematics HL, Probability and Statistics, AP Computer Science A, Statistical Reasoning, Additional Math–Cambridge IGCSE, Math 1 (Probability and Statistics): Cambridge AICE (Honors), Math 1 (Pure Math): Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors), Math 2 (Part 1): Cambridge AICE—A Level (Honors), or Math 2 (Part 2): Cambridge AICE—A Level (Honors)	3	Math—Pre-Calculus, Algebra III, Pre-Calculus, Business Math, Probability and Statistics, Statistical Reasoning, Transition to College Math, or comparable Louisiana technical college courses offered by Jump Start regional teams as approved by BESE, Integrated mathematics I,II, and III may be substituted for algebra I, geometry, and algebra II and shall count as three math credits, Additional Math: Cambridge IGCSE, Math 1 (Pure Math): Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors), Math 1 (Pure Math): Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors)		
	NOTE:	The Integrated Mathematics I, II, and III sequence, including the Ca a I, Geometry, and Algebra II sequence.	mbridge	GCSE Integrated Math sequence, may be substituted for the		
	1	Biology I	1	Biology I		
	1	Chemistry I	1	One of the following: Chemistry I, Physical Science, Earth Science, Agriscience II*, Environmental Science, Principles of Engineering, any AP or IB science course, PLTW Principles of Engineering, Principles of engineering (LSU Partnership), Physics I: Cambridge IGCSE, Biology II: Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors), Chemistry II: AICE—AS (Honors), or Physics II: Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors)		
Science	2	Two units chosen from the following: (a) Earth Science; (b) one of Environmental Science, Environmental Awareness; (c) one of Physical Science, Principles of Engineering, PLTW Principles of Engineering, Ptrociples of Engineering, Ptrociples of Engineering, Principles of Engineering (LSU Partnership); (d) Agriscience Il*; (e) one of Chemistry II, AP Chemistry, IB Chemistry II, BC Chemistry II, Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors); (f) one of AP Environmental Science, IB Environmental Systems; (g) one of Physics I, IB Physics I, AP Physics I, Physics I: Cambridge IGCSE; or (h) one of AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism, AP Physics C: Mechanics, IB Physics II, AP Physics II, or Physics II: Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors); (i) one of Biology II, AP Biology, IB Biology I, IB Biology II, Biology II, Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors), or Human Anatomy and Physiology				
	*The	elective course Agriscience I is a prerequisite for Agriscience II.	_	One of the following: U.S. History, AP U.S. History, or IB History of		
	1	One of the following: U.S. History, AP U.S. History, or IB History of the Americas I	1	the Americas I		
	1	One of the following: Civics, American Government, AP U.S. Government and Politics: Comparative, or AP U.S. Government and Politics: United States	1	One of the following: Civics, American Government, AP U.S. Government and Politics: Comparative, or AP U.S. Government and Politics: United States		
Social Studies	2	Two units chosen from the following: (a) one of European History, AP European History, Western Civilization, or History (European): Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors); (b) one of World Geography, AP Human Geography, IB Geography, Physical Geography, or Geography: Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors); (c) one of World History, AP World History, IB History of the Americas II, or History (International): Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors); (d) History of Religion; (e) one of IB Economics, Economics, AP Macroeconomics, AP Microeconomics, or Economics: Cambridge AICE—AS (Honors); (f) AP Psychology, History of Religion, or African American history*				
	0.5	Health Education	0.5	Health Education		
Health and Physical Education	1.5	Physical Education I and II; Adapted Physical Education I and III for eligible students in special education; JROTC I, II, III, or IV; or Physical Education I (1 unit) and 1/2 unit of Marching Band, extracurricular sports, Cheerleading, or Dance Team	1.5	Physical Education I and one half unit from among the following: Physical Education II, Marching Band, extracurricular sports, Cheerleading, Dance Team Adapted PE for eligible students or JROTC or may be substituted		
	NOTE	: JROTC I and II may be used to meet the health education requirer	nent. Re	fer to §2347.		
World Language	2	Two units from the same language (§2345)	ATT II			
Art	1	Art (§2333), Music (§2355), Dance (§2337), Theatre (§2369), Speech III and IV (one unit combined), Fine Arts Survey, Drafting, Media Arts (§2354), Photography I/II, Digital Photography, or Digital Design (§ 2338)				
Electives/	3	Electives	9	Jump Start course sequence, workplace experiences, and approved credentials (a minimum of one industry-based credential is required for graduation)		

Refer to <u>Bulletin 741</u> and the <u>LDOE Graduation Requirements</u> page the most current information. \*African American History is pending final approval through the notice of intent process. See the <u>African American History course guidance</u> for specifics on this new course.

#### **FAFSA**

<u>ALL SENIORS</u> in Louisiana public high schools will be required to SUBMIT THE FAFSA OR APPLY FOR A WAIVER IN ORDER TO GRADUATE. See page 33 for details.

#### **LEAP 2025**

Seniors who entered high school in 2010-2011 and beyond are required to take the LEAP 2025 tests for graduation purposes. Students must score APPROACHING BASIC on LEAP 2025 tests in the following three groups: Algebra I or Geometry, English I or English II, and Biology or U.S. History. This requirement is in addition to the required number of Carnegie Units. Students have numerous opportunities to retake any LEAP 2025 not passed. Remediation is available to students who do not pass LEAP 2025 tests in accordance with St. Tammany Parish Pupil Progression Plan.

# **FHS HONOR GRADUATE**

In order to graduate from Fontainebleau High with honors you must have a cumulative grade point average ranging between 3.5 and 3.999. Seniors with a 4.0 and above at the completion of the senior year will graduate with Top Honors. This is based on a weighted GPA. Honor graduates will receive a white cord to wear during graduation, and Top Honor graduates will receive a gold cord.

# **FHS RANK IN CLASS POLICY**

Rank in class is determined upon graduation and is based on the quality points a student completes in grades 9-12. Although a full time student may complete more than 28 credits, only 28 credits will be applied toward a student's rank in class. Rank in class is determined based upon a student's best 28 credits completed in grades 9-12 AND a student's best 16 weighted courses from the designated course list completed in grades 9-12. Consequently, the student who earns the most quality points will be ranked number one in the graduating class. Per St. Tammany Parish School Board Policy, rank in class is not official or released until after graduation. Please see Ms. Francis if you require this information for college admission or scholarship consideration. An approximate percentage of your rank will be provided.

# **COLLEGE VISITS**

Each senior is granted two excused absences for college visits. The student <u>must</u> provide verification of attendance from the college/university <u>on official letterhead</u> upon returning to school to Student Services. <u>College visits are counted as field trips.</u>

# SECTION III: POST SECONDARY OPTIONS

"What do I want to do after I graduate from high school?" Will you continue your education beyond high school by attending a four-year college, a community, or technical college or perhaps join the military? These are questions you will have to think about and plan for before leaving high school.

#### Four Year College/University

See Section IV: College Planning for additional information on four-year schools.

#### **Community and Technical Schools**

Community colleges constitute one of the largest sectors of American higher education. Today more than 6 million students attend approximately 1,200 public and independent community colleges throughout the U.S. Here are some reasons why students select community colleges:

- o Transfer to Four-Year College/University
- o Cutting Edge Technology
- Lower Cost
- Accessible Faculty
- o Small Classes

# Transferring from Community College to Four Year College

Many students begin their undergraduate studies at community colleges with the intention of transferring to four-year colleges. If you plan to transfer to a four-year college, you must make sure you follow the proper steps to help ensure a smooth transition. Visit for more information.

#### CAREER INFORMATION WEBSITES

- Career Interest Inventory <u>www.unlockmyfuture.org</u>, <u>www.mynextmove.org</u>
- Personality Test- www.personalitypage.com
- College Majors- http://collegemajors101.com
- <a href="https://pathful.com/explore">https://pathful.com/explore</a> ( Students can access this site by going to their moodle account-textbook-High School)

# SECTION IV: COLLEGE PLANNING

# THE COLLEGE SEARCH PROCESS

Before beginning the college search, it is important to realize that there is no "one and only perfect college." A student's needs may be met by a number of colleges. If you are applying to several schools, it is a good idea to include a "safety" and "probable" school as well as your "dream" school.

In choosing a college, the first things you will probably consider will be the type of academic program and the availability of the major you are considering pursuing. Listed below are some other things to consider when comparing colleges. How you rank these other factors will depend on your personal preferences and needs.

**Admission Requirements** 

Difficulty of coursework

**GPA** Rank

Environment Type of school

School setting (urban/rural) Co-ed, male, female

Religious affiliation

Diversity

College Expenses

Tuition

Room and board

Books Other

Size

Physical size of campus

Enrollment

Financial Aid

Deadline

Financial aid package

Scholarships

Part-time employment

Housing

Residence Hall requirements

Availability Types and sizes Meal plans

Academics

Majors offered Accreditation

Student-faculty ratio

Location

Distance from home

Climate

**Facilities** 

Academic Recreational

Other

Activities

Sports (Athletics)

Clubs, organizations

Greek life Intramurals

Other

**Campus Visits** 

When to visit

Special opportunities Register online for tour

Class size

**College Information Resources** 

Your school counselor, teachers, parents, students, and alumni

College and Career Expo

College Reps who visit FHS

Campus Visits

College websites and Internet searches

FHS School Counseling website

#### THE CAMPUS VISIT

A visit to the college or university is necessary to determine if the school meets your needs and future goals. The campus visit is probably the most important step in helping you decide which college to attend. Here are some tips to arrange the campus visit.

- CALL the Admissions Office 3-4 weeks in advance to request a campus visit.
- Have a particular DATE and TIME in mind, but be flexible.
- Plan to meet with an admissions staff member and take a tour of the campus. You may want to schedule your interview before the tour while you are still fresh. Some colleges require a formal interview, but most do not.
- Weekday visits are preferable to weekend visits, especially if you want to speak with professors or sit in on classes.
- If you plan to stay overnight, you may want to request a listing of hotels/motels and restaurants in the area. Ask for a campus map so you will know where you are going!!
- When calling to schedule your visit and appointments write down the name of the person SCHEDULING your appointment and the name of the person CONDUCTING your interview.
- Ask for written confirmation of your appointments.
- Remember to obtain verification of attendance on college/university letterhead in order to count as an official College Visit Day for senior exemptions.
- Colleges sponsor Open Houses, Visitation Days, Football Weekends, etc., which are excellent opportunities to learn and explore.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK prior to the campus visit. Read the college brochures and note any questions you may want to ask. Avoid questions that are already answered in the viewbook or printed materials. Take notes shortly after you leave in order to remember key impressions. You may wish to take your camera to add a few photos to aid in your recollections.

- Bookstore...is it well stocked and easily accessible?
- Counseling and Health facilities...available and adequate?
- Career Services...evidence of job postings and interviewers on campus?
- Information and Ride boards...variety of activities going on?
- Dining halls...? Mostly good reports from students? Try the food for yourself, if possible!

Read the campus newspaper to see what issues are important to the students. Read the bulletin boards. Approach students randomly and ask why they chose this particular college and how they like the college now. Do you feel comfortable on campus and think you would be happy to call it home for 4 years?

#### **DECISION PLANS AND DEADLINES**

Seniors need to consider multiple deadlines when applying to colleges. All schools have different deadlines. Students should check the deadline and notification dates for each school to which they are applying since these can vary. Please make sure you check the college(s) deadlines for admission, financial aid and scholarships. Many colleges have priority scholarship deadlines which means you must apply for admission to the school by that date to be considered for scholarships.

#### Early Decision (Binding)

This admissions decision requires that you commit to a college at the time of application. If you are accepted, you are required to enroll and withdraw all other applications. Consider the cost of the school and your financial situation before applying Early Decision. You should apply Early Decision only if you are certain that this is the school for you. You may only apply Early Decision to one school.

#### Restrictive Early Action (Non binding)

This admissions decision is non-binding, but students may only apply to one private school REA. They can usually apply Early Action to public schools, however.

# **Early Action (Non binding)**

This admissions decision permits you to apply to a college and receive your admissions decision early during your senior year. You are not committed to attend the college and you may apply to other schools.

# **Regular Decision**

The majority of applicants apply regular decision and the deadlines will vary from institution to institution.

# **Rolling Admission**

Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render decisions throughout the admission cycle. There is no one set deadline for submitting an application. Applications continue to be submitted as long as there is space available.

#### THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

1. <u>The Application</u>: The single most important step in completing a college admission application is also the simplest: read the instructions before filling out the form. Colleges expect you to read and follow directions; accomplishing this can set the stage for a favorable decision.

Some schools provide their own web-based applications. Others use one of the following services: Common Application (www.commonapp.org) or the Coalition Application at <a href="https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/">https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/</a> See the website for a list of the partner schools. This service allows students to fill out one application online and submit the materials to multiple colleges.

- 2. <u>Application Fee</u>: Application fees range from \$25-80. This is a non-refundable fee. If you qualify for free/reduced lunch please see Ms. Jackson about a waiver.
- 3. <u>Test Scores</u>: Test scores are only official when sent through ACT. It is YOUR responsibility to request that ACT send your test scores to the college(s). If you do not have an ACT account, you will need to create an account at the following website: <a href="https://my.act.org">https://my.act.org</a>. Once you have an account you will sign in and click on send scores which will walk you through the process. \*\*Many colleges are still test optional. Please check with individual colleges to determine if they are using test optional for admissions, scholarships or both.
- 4. <u>High School Transcript</u>: The method used to send your transcript will be determined by the college and type of application used. Louisiana public schools can retrieve your transcript from the state system. Private and out of state schools who do not use one of the services below or provide an electronic upload service will require the high school to mail your transcript. Please see Ms. Francis or Ms. Fox in the counseling office.
  - Common Application electronically
  - Coalition Application electronically
- 4. <u>High School Transcript Request Form</u>: USE THIS FORM IF AND ONLY IF YOUR TRANSCRIPT MUST BE MAILED TO THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY. You will complete a "transcript request form" in the counseling office. After completing the form you will pay Ms. Fox, the school counseling secretary. It will cost you \$1.00 for the first copy, .25 for each additional copy, and an additional .75 to mail each copy. Ms. Fox will mail your transcripts. It takes Ms. Fox one week to process and mail your transcripts. Please plan ahead!
- 5. <u>Essay</u> Many colleges require essays as part of the application. Think of the essay as a vehicle for conveying your "personal factor" to the college. Your writing must reveal your true personality, whatever that may be. Show us who you are and what you will bring to our program. Show us the contribution that only *you* can make.

- 6. Letters of Recommendation and FERPA Should you waive your right to see a recommendation letter? Why is this important? FERPA (The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. FERPA gives you the right to have access to your records after you enroll at a college unless you voluntarily waive your access to certain parts of that record. Admission offices recommend that you waive your access to counselor and teacher recommendations. There is an expectation of confidentiality between your teachers and counselors and the admission office. If you do not waive access, colleges will wonder if the recommender was cautious in writing. Often the strongest letters are actually those that include some insight into a student's weaknesses as well as strengths. Waiving your right gives the letter an extra measure of weight in the eyes of the admissions officer who reads it. SEE PROCEDURE FOR REQUESTING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION ON PAGE 18.
- 7. <u>Apply for Financial Aid</u> Beginning in December you can complete and submit the FAFSA form. . COMPLETION OF THE FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) IS A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT. The FAFSA form is used to determine eligibility for federal and state aid based on need. The 2023-24 FAFSA Completion Guide and Workbook will be posted on the FHS website as well as Class of 2024 Google Classroom. We will announce the FAFSA Presentation as soon as we have a date. Please see page 33 for specific directions.
- 8. <u>Apply for Scholarships</u> The best and largest source of scholarship money is still the university. You apply for an academic/merit scholarship through the individual universities. Louisiana public universities use their application for admission as their scholarship application. Many private/selective/out of state universities require a separate scholarship application. Please check with individual colleges/universities for specific information.
- 9. <u>College Transcript for Dual Enrollment Courses</u>: Seniors enrolled in a DE course through Southeastern Louisiana University and/or Northshore Technical Community college must complete a request through the college/university to have the college transcript mailed to the college they plan to attend in the fall. This task is not completed until the end of the year when you complete your DE course. (See senior handbook for details)

Don't be afraid of fear. Because it sharpens you, it challenges you, it makes you stronger; and when you run away from fear, you also run away from the opportunity to be your best possible self.

- ED HELMS

# **DUALLY ENROLLED SENIORS - REQUESTING TRANSCRIPTS**

Seniors, it is IMPERATIVE that you request your college transcript be sent to the university you plan to attend in the fall. FHS cannot do this for you. You will not be allowed to enroll in the fall if the university does not have this information on file. Instructions are provided below for requesting your college transcript from Southeastern Louisiana University, Northshore Technical Community College, Nunez Community College and the University of New Orleans.

1. Southeastern Louisiana University - (You will need your "W" number)

Access the website below and follow the directions: http://www.southeastern.edu/admin/registrar/transcript\_request/index.html

2. Northshore Technical Community College

Use link below to order NTCC college transcript: https://www.northshorecollege.edu/admissions/transcript-request

#### LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Many colleges require letters of recommendation from your counselor and/or teachers. The colleges ask the counselor or teachers to comment on your academic performance, character, extracurricular activities, personal qualities and other information that may help clarify the student's application and set you apart from other students. Some things to consider in requesting letters of recommendation:

- Choose a teacher who knows you well and who will write a favorable letter for you. Ask
  the teacher if they would be willing to write a letter of recommendation for you. <u>Please</u>
  make sure you make this request in person.
- Give them a minimum of 3-4 weeks or longer to write your recommendation.
- Make sure to tell the teacher why you need this recommendation. Provide the teacher(s) with a copy of your resume' or the Personal Brag Sheet in the counseling office.
- Several days before the deadline, check with the teacher to be sure that it has been completed.
- Never ask for a copy of a teacher or counselor letter of recommendation.
- You should write the teacher a thank you note and inform them of any acceptances that involve schools to which they wrote letters of recommendation for you.
- It is your responsibility to keep up with your deadlines. You should follow up with each university approximately two to three weeks after your deadline to verify the university has received all of your information.

# WRITING THE ESSAY (ADMISSION AND SCHOLARSHIP)

An important part of the college application is the essay or personal statement. Some colleges provide questions for students to answer while others leave it open-ended. For some colleges you may have to write more than one essay. It is our policy to recommend that you write an essay even if the college considers it optional. If a college does not have an essay for admission, it may have one for scholarship applications. Most outside scholarship applications also request essays.

Colleges and scholarship committees ask for an essay because it allows them to hear your voice and understand you as an individual, apart from test scores, grades, and activity sheets. The application essay or personal statement is the only guide admissions officers have of a student's personality. However, while students might spend weeks or months preparing for ACT, the average student spends only two hours writing the application essay.

Most students applying to selective schools will have similar grades and test scores. The primary way admissions officers choose among thousands of similar applicants is by evaluating their admissions essays.

Below is an excerpt from an article entitled, "Undergraduate Essay Writing Tips & Strategies" found at http://www.ivyleagueadmission.com.

#### What the Admissions Committee Seeks

In a tumultuous world economy, getting into an Ivy League school is more competitive than ever. Each year, Harvard, Yale and other Ivy League programs receive thousands of applications from candidates who have exceptional grades and SAT scores. How can you possibly distinguish yourself in such a formidable applicant pool? Write an impressive and unforgettable set of essays.

In our admissions work, we frequently see well-intentioned essays fall flat because they do not capture the reader's interest and convey the writer's true personality. Far too often, the essays simply reiterate material that is presented elsewhere in the application, which wastes a golden opportunity to present a new side of you.

Do not underestimate the committee's interest in your maturity and interpersonal strengths (or lack of them). Due to the high ethical standards and level of critical thinking expected in the Ivy League, your character and motivation will be highly scrutinized during the admission process. Use the essay set to sell your whole self, not just the individual pieces that you think they want to see.

# **Writing Tips**

In a typical day, an admissions officer will read between 25 and 50 application essays from candidates around the world. What stands out and makes a positive impression? Contrary to popular opinion, it's not simply academic prowess. Indeed, many candidates with exceptional grades are rejected each year. For most competitive applicants, the key to admissions success is selling your unique (non-academic) strengths.

Before you write, consider your audience and their objective. Committee members are vibrant people with unique personalities and talents. Their goal is to select a class of diverse, passionate students who will best contribute to the class. The ultimate class roster will include talented athletes, musicians, scientists and poets. No two successful candidates are alike, nor are their essays. A "great essay" can be about football, a dance recital, a family vacation or an embarrassing moment. What is the common denominator? Your writing must reveal your true personality, whatever that may be. Show us who you are and what you will bring to our program. Show us the contribution that only you can make.

Are there specific guidelines to follow? Absolutely! We surveyed thirty admission officers on what they expect to see in college application essays. Here is what works:

- Answer the question that was asked.
- Write naturally, but concisely.
- Use excellent grammar and punctuation.
- O Show your real personality (let us get to know you).
- o Personalize your essay as much as possible.
- o Use humor only if it works.
- o Convey a positive message (avoid cynicism).
- o Write about topics you are passionate about.
- Use the active voice.
- o Explain events whenever appropriate
- o Be specific and focused.
- o Proofread several times and get feedback from valued sources.
- o Revise and polish until it is perfect.

For more information, giving examples on the above guidelines read the entire article.

"The drama of the essay is the way the public life intersects with my personal and private life. It's in that intersection that I find the energy of the essay."

Richard Rodríguez

#### THE INTERVIEW

Some colleges require or suggest a formal campus interview. Generally this is a time to share information and have questions answered. Arrive on time or a few minutes early. Dress neatly, attractively, and SMILE! Speak clearly and look at the interviewer. Be yourself...be honest, sincere, and interested. Be prepared to discuss your academic profile: GPA, ACT/SAT scores and curriculum. Be prepared to tell why you chose this school and what you hope to gain during your four years there. Refer to the "LIST" of questions to formulate your personal questions to ask. Here are some questions that students are often asked: Be prepared!!

- How did you first hear about our college?
- How familiar are you with this college and its programs?
- What accomplishments/activities have had a significant impact on your life?
- What are your academic strengths/weaknesses?
- What is the most significant contribution you have made to your school and/or community?
- What books or articles have made a lasting impression on your way of thinking?
- What might you be interested in as a future profession?
- What are your priorities in selecting a college?

# **QUESTIONS TO ASK A COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELOR!**

- How many and what majors does this college offer?
- What is the teacher/pupil ratio?
- Are there special services for students with disabilities?
- What are the three most popular majors?
- What does the admission office consider when deciding to admit a student?
- Does the college have an athletic program?
- What division are your intercollegiate sports?
- Does the college have a health fitness center on campus?
- How competitive is the academic program?
- Does the college recognize AP courses and what is the policy for granting credit?
- Does the college recognize DE from SLU and what is the policy for granting credit?
- How many courses or credits are required for graduation?
- Is the college on the Quarter, Semester, or Trimester System?
- Do most students graduate in four years?
- How safe is the campus?
- What security policies are in place?
- What styles of residence halls/dorms are available for in-coming freshmen?
- Does the college provide housing for all four years?
- Does the college have an honors college?
- Do you have a co-operative education program or formalized internships available?
- What is the cost of attending including room, board, and tuition?

#### RESUME' OF HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

A high school résumé shows your achievements outside the classroom. Many college and scholarship applications require a résumé. There are many ways to organize and format your résumé. It is recommended that you include your résumé when you request a letter of recommendation. A sample is provided for you.

Full Name Street Address City/State/Zip Phone with Area Code Email Address

#### **ACADEMICS**

GPA (weighted and unweighted) Honors Curriculum ACT/SAT score

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR**

#### Clubs

NHS (11<sup>th,</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>) Honor Roll (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>) Clubs (List All)

#### Sports

Football (11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>) Cross-Country (12<sup>th</sup>) Softball (12<sup>th</sup>)

#### Leadership

Senior Class President Captain of Football Team (All offices)

#### **AWARDS**

Principal's Honor Roll (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>) Literary Rally Participant (11<sup>th</sup>)

#### CIVIC, CHURCH, COMMUNITY SERVICE

St. Tammany Parish Hospital Junior Volunteer (10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>) National Honor Society Tutor (10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>) CCD teacher at Our Lady of the Lake (11<sup>th</sup>)

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

Raising Canes (Cashier) June 2010 through August 2010

#### SAMPLE STUDENT RESUME

YOUR NAME HOME ADDRESS TELEPHONE EMAIL ADDRESS

CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL:	DATE OF GRADUATION:

#### **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

- Yearbook Staff: I, II, III, Editor IV
- Honor Society: I, III, IV
- Debate Team: III, President IV
- Youth Legislature: II, III

#### ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

- Academic Letters: I, II
- Placed in numerous mathematics tournaments: I, II, Ill
- Competed and placed in Science Olympiad
- National Merit Semifinalist

#### ATHLETIC ACHEIVEMENTS/PERFORMING ARTS ACHEIVEMENTS

- · Cross country JV Co-captain: I,II
- · Cross country Varsity Captain: III, IV

#### **OUT OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

- Church Youth Organization: I, II, III, President IV
- Church Youth Choir Member: I, II, III, IV
- Competed for the recreation department swim team summer I, II

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Habitat for Humanity: I, II, III, V
- Special Olympics Volunteer: III, Head Volunteer IV
- Camp Sunshine Counselor (Camp for children with terminal illness): III, Head Counselor IV

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

- Worked as a bookkeeper for a furniture store for two summers and as an office aid during the school year.
- Had a lawn cutting service during the summer of 2009

#### **FUTURE GOALS**

• Upon college graduation, I would like to attend Pharmacy school.

#### LOUISIANA COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES' WEBSITES

#### Louisiana Technical College System

LA Transfer Degree Guarantee
Baton Rouge Community College
Bossier Parish Community College
Delgado Community College – New Orleans
LE Fletcher Technical Community College-Houma
Louisiana Delta Community College-Northshore Technical Community College
Nunez Community College
River Parishes Community College-Sorrento
South Louisiana Community College-Lafayette
SOWELA Technical College-Lake Charles

www.ltc.edu
http://LaTransferDegree.org
www.mybrcc.edu
www.bpcc.edu
www.dcc.edu
www.ftcc.edu
www.ladelta.cc.la.us
www.northshorecollege.edu
www.rpcc.edu
www.rpcc.edu
www.slcc.c.la.us

#### **Public Colleges & Universities**

Grambling State University
Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge)
Louisiana State University (Alexandria)
Louisiana State University (Eunice)
Louisiana State University (Shreveport)
Louisiana Tech University
McNeese State University
Nicholls State University
Northwestern State University
Southeastern Louisiana University
Southern University (New Orleans)
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
University of New Orleans

www.gram.edu
www.lsua.edu
www.lsua.edu
www.lsus.edu
www.lsus.edu
www.latech.edu
www.mcneese.edu
www.nicholls.edu
www.nsula.edu
www.selu.edu
www.suno.edu
www.louisiana.edu
www.ulm.edu
www.uno.edu

#### Private Colleges & Universities

Centenary College
Dillard University
Louisiana College
Loyola University
Our Lady of Holy Cross College
Our Lady of the Lake College
Tulane University
Xavier University

www.centenary.edu
www.dillard.edu
www.lacollege.edu
www.loyno.edu
www.olhcc.edu
www.ololcollege.edu
www.tulane.edu
www.xula.edu

#### COLLEGE COUNSELING ON THE INTERNET

#### **Career Information**

Bureau of Labor and Statistics Career Interest Inventory Majors Search Occupational Outlook Handbook College and Career Planning Pathful Explore

#### **College Information**

Louisiana Colleges & Universities
College Search
College Quest
College View
Catholic Colleges
Hispanic Colleges
Historically Black Colleges
Mapping Your Future
Virtual College Tours

#### Common Applications

Common Application Coalition Application

#### **Testing Tips and Information**

ACT
College Board (SAT, AP, CLEP)
Kaplan
Princeton Review
Practice Tests
U.S. Army

#### Financial Aid and Scholarship Sites

Academic Common Market
CSS Profile
FAFSA
Fin Aid
Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (TOPS)
Scholarship Searches

Scholarship Scams

### Essay Writing

http://essayinfo.com http://www.gradesaver.com www.essayedge.com www.bls.gov https://gno.headed2.com/assessments http://collegemajors101.com www.bls.gov/oco www.myoptions.org https://pathful.com/explore

See page 25
http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/
www.collegequest.com
www.collegeview.com
www.catholiccollegesonline.org
www.hacu.net
www.edonline.com/cq/hbcu/
www.mappingyourfuture.org
www.eCampusTours.com

www.commonapp.org www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org

www.myact.org www.collegeboard.org www.kaplan.com www.princetonreview.com www.number2.com www.march2success.com

http://asa.regents.state.la.us/ACM www.collegeboard.org/profile www.fafsa.ed.gov www.finaid.org mylosfa.la.gov www.cappex.com www.scholarshipexperts.com www.fastweb.com www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams

#### RESOURCES

# **College Information**

<u>Cass & Birnbaum's Guide to American Colleges</u> / Harper Perennial
<u>The College Handbook</u> / College Board
<u>Lovejoy's College Guide</u> / Macmillan
<u>Peterson's Four-Year Colleges</u> / Petersons

# Resources with subjective evaluations and descriptions

<u>The Insider's Guide to the Colleges</u> / St. Martin's Griffin The Multicultural Student's Guide to Colleges by Robert Mitchell

# Resources with college rankings and ratings

Barron's Best Buys in College Education Barron's Colleges That Change Lives by Lauren Pope The Fiske Guide to Colleges by Edward B. Fiske Peterson's Competitive Colleges / Petersons

# **SAT and ACT Preparation Guides**

Kaplan ACT/Kaplan SAT/ Simon & Schuster

Cracking the ACT / Princeton Review

ACT Success / SAT Success / Petersons

10 Real SATs / College Board

How to Prepare for the ACT/How to Prepare for the SAT / Barron's

# Financial Aid and Scholarship Information

Paying Less for College / The Princeton Review
Don't Miss Out / Octameron
The A's and B's of Academic Scholarships / Octameron
The Scholarship Book by Daniel Cassidy/Prentice Hall
Kaplan Scholarships / Simon & Schuster

The local parish libraries offer many free available resource.

# **COLLEGE COMPARISON WORKSHEET**

Name of College	Name of College	Name of College	Name of College
LOCATION			
Distance from home			
SIZE			
Enrollment			
Physical size of campus			
ENVIRONMENT			
Type of school (2 yr., 4 yr.)			
School setting (urban, rural)			
Location & size of nearest city			
Co-ed, male, female			
Religious affiliation			
ADM. REQUIREMENTS		The second secon	
Deadline			
Tests required	19 19 11		
Av. Test scores, GPA, rank		0.00	
Notification			
ACADEMICS			
Your major offered			
Special requirements			
Accreditation			
Student-faculty ratio			
Typical class size			
COLLEGE EXPENSES	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Tuition, room & board			
Estimated total budget			
Application fee, deposits			
FINANCIAL AID			
Deadline			
Required forms		4	
% Receiving aid			
Scholarships		10	
HOUSING			
Residence Hall requirement			100
Food plan			
Availability			
Types and sizes			
FACILITIES			
Academic			
Recreational			
Other			
ACTIVITIES			
Clubs, organizations			
Greek life			
Athletics, intramurals			
Other			Su = I
CAMPUS VISITS			0 1 1 1 1
When			
Special opportunities			
one of an analytic for the first of the firs			

# **SECTION V:** LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

**FLAGSHIP UNIVERSITY** 

(TIER 1)

Louisiana State University - (See page 30)

**STATEWIDE UNIVERSITIES** 

(TIER 2)

Louisiana Tech University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and University of New Orleans

1. Completion of the Board of Regents High School Core Curriculum (LA Core 4)

AND

2. Require NO developmental courses (ACT English 18, ACT Math 19)

AND

3. Meet one of the following requirements:

A high school **CORE GPA of 2.5** on 4.0 scale, <u>OR</u> Minimum **ACT composite of 23** 

**REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES** 

(TIER 3)

Grambling, LSUA, LSUS, McNeese, Nicholls, NSU, SLU, SUBR, SUNO, ULM

1. Completion of the Board of Regents High School Core Curriculum (LA Core 4)

AND

Minimum of a 2.0 Overall HS GPA

Require NO more than one developmental course (ACT English 18, ACT Math 19)
AND

4. Meet one of the following requirements:

A high school **CORE GPA of 2.0** on 4.0 scale, <u>OR</u> Minimum **ACT composite of 20** 

These are the minimum requirements set by the Board of Regents.Check with the individual universites to find out if additional requirements are needed.

# LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Inits	eep in mind everything is reviewed holistically on an individual case basis.  ENGLISH
4	ENGLISH I, II, III, IV
4	MATH
	One unit of Algebra I
	One unit of Algebra II
	One unit of Geometry
	One unit consisting of Algebra III; Advanced Math (Functions and Statistics); Advanced Math (Pre-calculus); Calculus; AP Calculus AB or BC; IB Further Mathematics HL; IB Math Studies (Math Methods); IB Mathematics SL or HL; Pre-Calculus; AP Statistics; Probability and Statistics; or AP Computer Science  *A sequence of Integrated Math I, II, and III can substitute
4	NATURAL SCIENCES
	One unit of Biology
	One unit of Chemistry
	Two units consisting of the following: Biology II (one unit maximum from: Biology II, AP Biology, IB Biology I or IB Biology II); Chemistry II (one unit maximum from: Chemistry II, AP Chemistry, IB Chemistry I, or IB Chemistry II); Earth Science; Environmental Science; one unit from AP Environmental Science or IB Environmental Systems; one unit from Physics I or IB Physics I; one unit from AP Physics C (Electricity and Magnetism), AP Physics C (Mechanics) or IB Physics II; both AP Physics I and AP Physics II; Physical Science; or Agriscience II (must have completed Agriscience I as a prerequisite)
4	SOCIAL SCIENCES
	One unit of U.S. History One unit of the following: Civics or American Government
	Two units of the following: one unit from European history, AP European History, or Western Civilization one unit from World Geography, AP Human Geography, or IB Geography; one unit from World History, AP World History, or IB History of the Americas II; IB Economics; Economics; AP Macroeconomics; AP Microeconomics; or History of Religion
2	FOREIGN LANGUAGES
	Two consecutive units in a single language: American Sign Language, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Latin, or Spanish
1	FINE ART
	On unit of the following: Fine arts survey, a music performance course, a dance performance course, a theatre performance course, a studio art course, or a visual art course
19	19 total units

# SECTION VI: COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

# NCAA - Steps to NCAA Eligibility Requirements

- 1. At the completion of your junior year or early in your senior year you must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at the following website: **www.eligibilitycenter.org**
- 2. You are responsible for submitting your official ACT/SAT scores to the NCAA Clearinghouse. The NCAA Eligibility Center Code is 9999.
- 3. Ms. Francis will be notified by an email through NCAA to upload your transcript to the Eligibility Center website once you have completed registration.
- 4. **Academic Eligibility**: You must meet the NCAA academic requirements in order for the eligibility center to certify you to play college athletics. The requirements are different for the three divisions. Visit http://www.ncaa.org/guide-college-bound-student-athlete for more information.

# **NAIA**

The NAIA is the National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics. It offers fewer sports and recruiting restrictions than the NCAA, but its level of play is similar to that of the NCAA Division II. There are close to 300 schools in the NAIA. Schools that are part of the NAIA tend to be smaller in campus size and student enrollment, making this division a good choice for students looking for a supportive environment both on and off the playing field.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION:

- If a student has been certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center, would that student need to be certified by the NAIA Eligibility Center, too?
  - Yes. Certification of NAIA eligibility is separate from NCAA certification two different associations, two different sets of eligibility rules, two different certification processes.

**NAIA Louisiana colleges** include Dillard University, Louisiana State University (Alexandria and Shreveport), Loyola University, Southern University at New Orleans, Xavier University. For additional information, see **(www.naia.cstv.com)** 

# SECTION VII: FINANCIAL AID

# **Types of Financial Aid**

Be sure you understand the differences between types of financial aid so you are fully prepared to apply for each. One or more of these financial resources may make it possible to pursue the education you want.

Grants

Financial aid, often based on financial need, which does not need to be repaid (unless, for example, you withdraw from school and owe a refund).

**Scholarships** 

Scholarships, also called "merit aid," are awarded for academic excellence. Repayment is not required.

Loans

Student loans, which have lower interest rates, may be college-sponsored or federally sponsored or may be available through commercial financial institutions. Loans must be repaid with interest, generally after you have graduated or left school.

College Work-Study

College work-study is a federally sponsored program that enables colleges to hire students for employment. If eligible, students work a limited number of hours throughout the school year. Many private colleges offer forms of "self-help employment" aid as their own supplement to the diminishing supply of federally funded work-study.

Louisiana Rehabilitation Services

**Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)** is a program that provides services to help persons with disabilities obtain the job skills and other resources they need to get a job, keep a job, and develop a career. VR assists persons with a broad range of disabilities. For more information, please call (504) 838-5180.

**Academic Common Market** 

The Academic Common Market is a tuition savings program especially for college students who live in the 16 states that are members of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). If you live in an SREB state, you may be able to enroll in an eligible degree program offered in another SREB state – but pay in-state tuition rates. For more information visit <a href="https://www.sreb.org/acm.asp">www.sreb.org/acm.asp</a>.

#### HOW DO I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

# \*\*BEGINNING WITH THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR, ALL SENIORS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND FILE THE FAFSA AS PART OF LOUISIANA GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.

# Follow the 5 steps below:

- 1. Apply for admission to college.
- 2. You and one parent will each need to create your own FSA ID at www.FSAID.ed.gov.
- 3. On or after **December 2023**, you can complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <a href="www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> using your 2022 Federal Tax Return.
- 4. After submitting your FAFSA you will receive a confirmation email. The email will read "Congratulations on submitting your FAFSA." BRING A COPY OF THIS EMAIL TO MS. FRANCIS. THIS SERVES AS VERIFICATION THAT YOU HAVE MET THIS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT.
- 5. After submitting your FAFSA you will receive your Student Aid Report (SAR) within 3-5 days through the email you provided. It is crucial that you review your SAR and make any corrections needed on the FAFSA.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The results of your FAFSA will be sent to the colleges/universities you listed on the FAFSA application. You can list up to 20 schools.
- Once you are accepted to the college, the admissions office provides you with information to set up an account. This is referred to as the student's portal. Check this account regularly for important messages from the college financial aid office.
- All male students are required to register with the Selective Service in order to receive any kind of financial aid, including TOPS! This is part of the FAFSA.
- Many four-year private colleges require the CSS PROFILE in addition to the FAFSA.
   The PROFILE is a need analysis report, not an aid application. Check with the individual university to determine if the CSS profile is required as well as the deadline for submission. The CSS PROFILE is available at: <a href="www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>
- It is important that you check your state and school deadlines so you do not miss out on any aid. State deadlines are on fafsa.gov and school deadlines are on the schools' websites.

# SECTION VIII: SCHOLARSHIPS

# GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

#### ACADEMIC/MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS: **(1)**

The best and largest source of scholarship money is the university. You apply for an academic scholarship through the individual universities. Louisiana public universities use their application for admission as their scholarship application. Many private/selective/out of state universities require a separate scholarship application. Please check with the individual college/university for specific information. Academic scholarships are based primarily on your core GPA and test scores. The deadlines range from October 1 through February 1 depending on the university.

#### **LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS: (2)**

We receive numerous scholarship applications throughout the year. As we receive the information, I will notify students via google classroom. You will also be notified through the morning announcements, your English IV teachers and email. A comprehensive list of all scholarships we receive through our office can be found in your senior handbook in the "Scholarship Chart." IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP UP WITH YOUR SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES.

#### SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH WEBSITES **(3)**

www.cappex.com

www.niche.com

www.fastweb.com

www.lela.com

www.unigo.com

https://pathful.com/explore (use your moodle log in to access)

www.bigfuture.com

# Other Scholarships:

- 1. Investigate the possibility of scholarships that might be offered through the company for which your parent(s) work. Many companies offer scholarships for the children of their employees.
- 2. If you are the son or daughter of a veteran, investigate the possibility of aid through veterans' organizations.
- 3. Athletic Scholarships-Fontainebleau High can nominate student/athletes for several scholarships each year offered through the LHSAA. Please see your counselor or coach for information on specific scholarships. Available in March.

# TOPS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

#### What is "TOPS"?

Louisiana's Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) is a comprehensive program of state scholarships and one of the most innovative and progressive student assistance programs in the nation. TOPS has four award components including Opportunity Award, Performance Award, Honors Award, and Tech Award.

# How Do I Qualify for the TOPS Scholarship?

**Opportunity Award:** 20 composite score on ACT

2.5 GPA in 19 core courses

**Performance Award:** 23 composite score on ACT

3.25 GPA in 19 core courses

Additional \$400/year

Honors Award: 27 composite score on ACT

3.5 GPA in 19 core courses

Additional \$800/year

Must meet the two-year residency requirement as determined by the LOSFA office.

# How & When to Apply for TOPS?

The application used to apply for TOPS is the <u>FAFSA</u>. To apply for TOPS, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which is a graduation requirement in Louisiana. You may complete the On-Line Application for TOPS <u>instead of the FAFSA</u> ONLY if you meet the following two requirements. 1) TOPS is the only state program for which you are applying and 2) You do not qualify for Federal Grant Aid (Federal Pell Grant).

# What is the Deadline to Achieve a Qualifying Score on the ACT/SAT?

You must achieve a qualifying score on or before the ACT national test date in April in the academic year you graduate from high school. Beginning with graduates of 2021, you may qualify on a test taken after the ACT national test date in April, but prior to August 1, by using May, June, and/or July test scores, including scores from a special ACT or SAT, but your period of eligibility for the award will be reduced by one semester or two quarters.

In very limited circumstances, the Board of Regents may grant an exception to the April deadline IF it determines that the applicant had registered for a test prior to August 1 but was prevented from taking the test prior to August 1 of the year of graduation due to circumstances beyond the immediate control of the student AND attributable to the administration of the test. If it makes this determination, a student will not be penalized one semester or two quarters. Scores earned on an ACT/SAT taken after August 1 but before September 30 immediately following high school graduation may be accepted on a very limited basis. The Board of Regents must grant an exception to the August 1 deadline because it determines that the applicant was prevented from taking the test prior to August 1 of the year of graduation due to circumstances beyond the immediate control of the student AND attributable to the administration of the test. Illnesses, lack of transportation, death in the family, and similar circumstances are not attributable to the administration of the test and will not support an exception to the ACT deadline.



# **TOPS Core Curriculum**

For the Opportunity, Performance and Honors Awards For High School graduates of 2018 and thereafter

Units	Courses <sup>1</sup>
ENGLISH = 4 Units	
1 Unit	English I
1 Unit	English II
1 Unit from the following:	English III, AP English Language Arts and Composition, or IB English III (Language A or Literature and Performance)
1 Unit from the following:	English IV, AP English Literature and Composition, or IB English IV (Language A or Literature and Performance)
MATH = 4 Units	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N
1 Unit	Algebra I
1 Unit	Geometry
1 Unit	Algebra II
1 Unit from the following:	Algebra III; Advanced Math - Functions and Statistics, Advanced Math - Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus, or IB Math Methods I (Mathematical Studies SL); Calculus, AP Calculus AB, or IB Math Methods II (Mathematics SL); AP Calculus BC; Probability and Statistics or AP Statistics; IB Further Mathematics HL; IB Mathematics HL
SCIENCE = 4 Units	
1 Unit	Biology I
1 Unit	Chemistry I
2 Units from the following:	Earth Science; Environmental Science; Physical Science; Agriscience I and Agriscience II (one unit combined); Chemistry II, AP Chemistry, or IB Chemistry II; AP Environmental Science or IB Environmental Systems; Physics I, AP Physics B, or IB Physics I; AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism, AP Physics C: Mechanics, or IB Physics II; AP Physics I and AP Physics II; Biology II, AP Biology, or IB Biology II
SOCIAL STUDIES = 4 Units	
1 Unit from the following:	U.S. History, AP U.S. History, or IB U.S. History
1 Unit from the following:	Civics, Government, AP U.S. Government and Politics: Comparative, or AP U.S. Government and Politics: United States
2 Units from the following:	Western Civilization, European History, or AP European History; World Geography, AP Human Geography, or IB Geography; World History, AP World History, or IB World History; History of Religion; IB Economics, Economics, AP Macroeconomics, or AP Microeconomics
FOREIGN LANGUAGE = 2 Units	
	Foreign Language, both units in the same language, which may also include the following AP and IB courses: AP Chinese Language and Culture, AP French Language and Culture, AP German Language and Culture, AP Italian Language and Culture, AP Japanese Language and Culture, AP Latin, AP Spanish Language and Culture, IB French IV, IB French V, IB Spanish IV, and IB Spanish V
ART = 1 Unit	
1 Unit from the following:	Performance course in Music, Dance or Theatre; Fine Arts Survey; Art I, II, III, and IV; Talented Art I, II, III, and IV; Talented Music I, II, III and IV; Talented Theater Arts I, II, III, and IV; Speech III and Speech IV (one unit combined); AP Art History; AI Studio Art: 2-D Design; AP Studio Art: 3-D Design; AP Studio Art Drawing; AP Music Theory; IB Film Study I; IB Film Study II; IB Music I; IB Music II; IB Art Design III; IB Art Design IV; IB Theatre I or Drafting
TOTAL = 19 Units	
	e (substitute) equivalents to the TOPS Core Curriculum

Core Curriculum Course(s)	Recently Approved Equivalent (Substitute) Course(s)
Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II	Integrated Mathematics I, II and III
Art	Media Arts I - IV; Photography I, Photography II, and Digital Photography
Algebra III; Advanced Math - Functions and Statistics, Advanced Math - Pre-Calculus, Pre- Calculus, or Math Methods I IB (Mathematical Studies SL); Calculus, AP Calculus AB, or Math Methods II IB (Mathematics SL); AP Calculus BC; Probability and Statistics or AP Statistics; IB Further Mathematics HL; IB Mathematics HL	AP Computer Science A
Biology II	Human Anatomy and Physiology
Western Civilization, European History, or AP European History; World Geography, AP Human Geography, or IB Geography; World History, AP World History, or IB World History; History of Religion; IB Economics, Economics, AP Macroeconomics, or AP Microeconomics	AP Psychology
Foreign Language	Mandarin Chinese I-IV Hindi I – IV Portuguese I-IV Vietnamese I-IV

<sup>1</sup> <u>GIFTED COURSES:</u> Any core curriculum course that is taken by a student who has been identified as gifted pursuant to State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) policy and that is taken in fulfillment of the student's Individualized Education Plan shall be considered a "Gifted Course" and shall fulfill the core curriculum.

Beginning with students entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2014-2015 and graduating in the 2017-2018 school year and thereafter, the calculation of the TOPS Core Curriculum grade point average (GPA) will use a five- (5.00) point scale for grades earned in certain designated Advanced Placement (AP) courses; International Baccalaureate (IB) courses; Gifted courses; Dual Enrollment courses, Honors courses and Articulated courses offered for college credit by the Louisiana School for the Math, Science and the Arts used to complete the TOPS Core Curriculum. The courses currently designated to be calculated on the 5.00 point scale can be viewed at <a href="https://www.osfa.la.gov/5scale">https://www.osfa.la.gov/5scale</a>. For the designated courses, five quality points will be assigned to a letter grade of "A", four quality points will be assigned to a letter grade of "B", three quality points will be assigned to a letter grade of "C", two quality points will be assigned to a letter grade of "D", and zero quality points will be assigned to a letter grade of "B". Note that students earning credit in courses graded on the five (5.00) point scale may earn a grade point average on the TOPS Core Curriculum that exceeds 4.00.



This core curriculum is accurate as of the date of publication and includes courses listed in TOPS statue.

Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) A program of the Board of Regents P.O. Box 91202, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202 (800) 259-5626 custserv@la.gov www.osfa.la.gov

Updated: 09/06/2017





# **TOPS Tech Core Curriculum**

For the TOPS Tech Award – JumpStart Curriculum

For High School graduates of 2018 and thereafter

Students may also qualify for the TOPS Tech Award by completing the TOPS

Core Curriculum for the Opportunity, Performance and Honors Awards

Units	Courses
1 Unit	English I
1 Unit	English II
2 Units	English III, English IV, AP or IB English courses, Business English, Technical Writing, or comparable Louisiana Technical College courses offered by Jump Start regional teams as approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.
1 Unit	Algebra I; or both Algebra I, Part 1 and Algebra I, Part 2; or an applied or hybrid algebra course
3 Units	Geometry, Algebra II, Math Essentials, Financial Literacy, Business Math, Algebra III, Advanced Math -Functions and Statistics, Advanced Math - Pre-Calculus, Pre-calculus, or comparable Louisiana Technical College courses offered by Jump Start regional teams as approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Integrated Mathematics I, II, and III may be substituted for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II, and shall equal three mathematics credits
1 Unit	Biology
1 Unit	Chemistry I, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Agriscience I and Agriscience II (both for one unit), Physical Science, Physics, or AP or IB science courses
1 Unit	U.S. History, AP U.S. History, or IB U.S. History
1 Unit	Civics, Government, AP U.S. Government and Politics: Comparative, or AP U.S. Government and Politics: United States
9 Units	In Jump Start course sequences, workplace experiences, and credentials. A student shall complete a regionally designed series of Career and Technical Education Jump Start coursework and workplace-based learning experiences leading to a statewide or regional Jump Start credential. This shall include courses and workplace experiences specific to the credential, courses related to foundational career skills requirements in Jump Start, and other courses, including career electives, that the Jump Start regional team determines are appropriate for the career major.

TOTAL: 21 units



This core curriculum is accurate as of the date of publication and includes courses listed in TOPS statute and those determined to be equivalent by the La. Board of Regents and BESE. Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance

A program of The Board of Regents

(800) 259-5626

custserv@la.gov www.osfa.la.gov

P.O. Box 91202, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202 Updated: 10/01/2018



TOPS OPH ANNUAL AWARD AMOUNTS FOR 2023-24

Ir	nstitutions	Legislatively Set TOPS Annual Amount	2023-24 TOPS Annual Amount(3) (5) 2 Year	Fall Semester/ Quarter 2023-24 TOPS Maximum Payment	Winter Quarter 2023-24 Maximum TOPS Payment	Spring Semester/ Quarter 2023-24 Maximum TOPS Payment	TOPS Stipend Amounts
Baton Rouge Commu	mity College(1)	\$3,086.08	\$3,086.08	\$1,543.04		\$1,543.04	111
Bossier Parish Comm		\$3,080.08	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	1
	chnical Community Col.(1)	\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	
Delgado Community		\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	1
. E. Fletcher Techni		\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	HONORS = \$800
ouisiana Delta Com		\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	PERFORMANCE = \$400
SU – Eunice	mainty conege(t)	\$2,710.64	\$2,710.64	\$1,355.32		\$1,355.32	Annually
	Community College(1)	\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	
	Technical Comm. Col.(1)	\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	1
Junez Community C		\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	HONORS =
River Parishes Comm		\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	\$400/semester or
South Louisiana Com		\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	\$266.66/quarter/term
OWELA Technical		\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08	
U-Shreveport	Commit Conlege(1)	\$2,618.00	\$2,618.00	\$1,309.00		\$1,309.00	PERFORMANCE =
0-Silleveport		\$2,018.00	4 Year	31,509.00		\$1,507.00	\$200/semester or
Frambling State Univ	versity	\$5,139.75	\$5,139.75	\$2,569.87		\$2,569.88	\$133.33/quarter/term
SU – Alexandria	Costly	\$4,894.25	\$4,894.25	\$2,447.12		\$2,447.13	
SU – BR		\$7,462.98	\$7,462.98	\$3,731.49		\$3,731.49	1 "
SO - BK	Allied Health	\$7,673.22	\$7,673.22	\$3,836.61	Jan and Maria	\$3,836.61	Ť
	Nursing	\$5,611.50	\$5,611.50	\$2,805.75		\$2,805.75	
SU HSC – NO	Dental Hygiene	\$5,517.00	\$5,517.00	\$2,758.50		\$2,758.50	
30 H3C - NO	Dental Lab Tech	\$4,987.26	\$4,987.26	\$2,493.63		\$2,493.63	
	Public Health	\$8,858.00	\$8,858.00	\$4,429.00		\$4,429.00	1
SU HSC – Shrevep		\$7,182.56	\$7,182.56	\$3,591.28		\$3,591.28	1
SU – Shreveport	ort	\$5,372.29	\$5,372.29	\$2,686.14		\$2,686.15	
Louisiana Tech Univ	arcity (Ouarters)	\$5,553.00	\$5,553.00	\$1,851.00	\$1,851.00	\$1,851.00	1
McNeese State Univ	THE STATE OF THE S	\$5,147.34	\$5,147.34	\$2,573.67	\$1,051.00	\$2,573.67	1
Nicholls State Univer		\$4,922.28	\$4,922.28	\$2,461.14		\$2,461.14	
Northwestern State U		\$5,180.00	\$5,180.00	\$2,590.00		\$2,590.00	
		\$5,652.21	\$5,652.21	\$2,826.11		\$2,826.10	-
Southeastern La Univ	versity	\$4,973.10	\$4,973.10	\$2,486.55		\$2,486.55	
SU-Baton Rouge SU-New Orleans		\$4,236.21	\$4,236.21	\$2,118.10		\$2,118.11	1
		\$5,406.96	\$5,406.96	\$2,703.48		\$2,703.48	1
JL – Lafayette JL – Monroe		\$5,787.52	\$5,787.52	\$2,893.76		\$2,893.76	
Jniversity of New O	Irlane	\$6,090.37	\$6,090.37	\$3,045.19		\$3,045.18	1
University of New O	Tieans		tions for Hearing Imp				
Gallaudet University		\$5,718.00	\$5,718.00	\$2,859.00		\$2,859.00	1
Rochester Institute o	of Tech.	\$5,718,00	\$5,718.00	\$2,859.00		\$2,859.00	1
LAICU Institutio	ons: Centenary, Dillard, Louis	siana College, Loyola, NC	Baptist Seminary, Uni	versity of Holy Cross, Fr	ranciscan Missionaries o		
All Schools (Acaden Graduate and Profes	nic Programs - including sional Programs)	\$5,718.00	\$5,718.00	\$2,859.00		\$2,859.00	
0	matalagu Sahasis		ary and Cosmetology S		\$793.33	\$793.34	
Proprietary and Cost		\$2,380.00 OPS Eligible Students in	\$2,380.00	\$793.33		₩193.34	
All Condens D			\$8,858.00	\$4,429.00		\$4,429.00	
All Graduate Progra	ms(4) (Semester) ms(4) (Quarter)	\$8,858.00 \$8,858.00	\$8,858.00	\$2,952.67	\$2,952.67	\$2,952.66	1

(2) Schools/Programs that are specifically designed to accommodate deaf and hard-of-hearing students. Includes both Academic and Technical Programs.

(5) Actual amounts payable subject to appropriation and funding.

Revised 7-17-23

<sup>(3)</sup> The total amount does not include summer payments allowed for students enrolled full time in technical programs or students in an academic program that elect to have their award paid for a qualified summer session. The amount of the award may not exceed the tuition amount charged to the student for summer attendance.

<sup>(4)</sup> The TOPS Award Payment for TOPS eligible students enrolled in a graduate/professional program is limited to the full tuition charged by a school for enrollment in the respective graduate program or the maximum TOPS Award amount listed here, whichever is less.

<sup>(6)</sup> A student's award payment may be less than that listed on this chart if the student is enrolled in less than 12 hours, but is considered to be full-time for their program of study.

T	-	I	00	, ,	Г	71	T	A	N	IN	T	T	A	T		4	X	17	A	D	T	•	A	T	1	-	I	T	T	Т	C	L	-	1	D	2	n	22	-	1	
	•	) t	-	1	1 1			A	. 17	ш	v	1	А	1	. 1	4	v	v.	А	к	ч	,	Α	AΝ	VI	٠.	"	11	v		•	r	•	"	к	L	.,,	L	-/	4	

Institutions		TOPS TEC	H ANNUAL	AWARD AN	<b>IOUNTS FOR</b>	2023-24	4= = II
TECHNICAL PROGRAMS OF STUDY (Associate of Applied Science-AAS, Career Technical Certificate-CTC, Technical Diploma-TDP*   State Ronge Community Collegian   \$3,386.08   \$3,386.08   \$1,543.04   \$1,5		Institutions	TOPS Annual	TOPS Annual	2023-24 TOPS	24 Maximum TOPS	The same of the sa
State Region   S.   S.   S.   S.   S.   S.   S.   S	TECHNICAL P	ROGRAMS OF STUDY (Asso					
South Particle Community Collegen   \$3,244,15   \$3,244,15   \$3,244,15   \$3,047,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,6	Brah Area Cas		AND SECTION OF THE SE			AAAT BAATS	
Control Locidisis Technical Community Collegion   \$3,214,15   \$3,214,15   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,08   \$1,607,07   \$1,607,08   \$1						-	
Deligate Community Collegion							
Section   Sect							
Section   Sect							
South Louisian Community Colleges)	Louisiana Delta Comr	munity College(I)					
Sembroute Louissua Technical Community Collegon  S. 3,214,15 S. 3,	LSU - Eunice		\$2,710.64	\$2,710.64	\$1,355.32		\$1,355.32
Size			\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		
Size Particles Community Collegen   Size 14.15   Size 14.15   Size 14.15   Size 16.07.07   Size 16.07.08							
South Louisina Community Collegen							
SOVELA Festivated Comm. Collegen   \$3,214.15   \$3,214.15   \$1,607.07   \$1,007.08   \$1,309.00							
Sign							
Publics otherwise indicated, all technical programs at all campuses of each of these schools are TOPS Tech clapable.   Technical programs to all campuses of each of these schools are TOPS Tech clapable.   Technical programs called: Associate of Applied Science-ASS, Carer Technical Certificate-CTC, Technical Diploms-TD   APPROYED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**   Samuel Computer Science (AS)   \$3,086.08   \$3,086.08   \$1,543.04   \$1,5		Contain Contage(1)					
Burines (AS)   \$3,086.08   \$3,086.08   \$1,543.04   \$1,543.04		licated, all technical programs at all campus					01,507100
Business (AS)   S3,086.08   S1,543.04			, Career Technical Certif	icate-CTC, Technical D	iploma-TD		
Busines (AS)	APPROVED A	CADEMIC PROGRAMS**		2 and 4 Veer			
Computer Science (AS)   \$3,086.08   \$3,086.08   \$1,543.04   \$1,5		Business (AS)	\$3.086.08		\$1.543.04		\$1,543.04
RRCC***    Criminal Austice (AS)   \$3,086.08   \$3,086.08   \$1,543.04   \$1,543.							
Paralegal Studies (AS)   \$3,086.08   \$3,086.08   \$1,543.04   \$1,							
Nursing (ASN)   \$3,086.08   \$3,086.08   \$1,543.04	BRCC***	Paralegal Studies (AS)	\$3,086.08		\$1,543.04		
Surgisal Technology (AS)		Pre-Engineering (AS)	\$3,086.08	\$3,086.08	\$1,543.04		\$1,543.04
Am Sign Lang Interpreting (AA)		Nursing (ASN)					
PCC.   CHCC, CHCC   Cardiopalmonary Care Science (AS)   \$3,214.15   \$3,214.15   \$1,607.07   \$1,607.08   \$1,607.07   \$1,607.08   \$1,607.0							
Cardiopalmonary Care Science (AS)   \$3,214.15   \$3,214.15   \$1,607.07   \$1,607.08	BPCC,						
Computer Science (AS)   S3,214,15   S3,214,15   S1,607.07   S1,607.08	CLTCC,						
Care Delta CC,   Circinian Justice (AS)   S3,214,15   S3,214,15   S1,607.07   S1,607.08   S1,607.08   S3,214,15   S3,214,15   S3,214,15   S1,607.07   S1,607.08   S1,607.08   S1,607.08   S3,214,15   S3,214,15   S1,607.07   S1,607.08   S1,607.09   S1,607.08   S1,607.08   S1,607.09   S1,607.08	Delgado CC,						
Northshore TCC, Namez CC, Namez CC							
N. La TCC, Numer CC. Healthcare Mgmt (AS)							
Numez CC, Renzer CC, Renzer CC, Renzer CC, St. La Cc, La Cc, St. La Cc, La Cc, St. La Cc, La C	N. La TCC,						
S.La CC, Sowella TCC   Paralegal Studies (AS)   \$3,214.15   \$3,214.15   \$3,1607.07   \$1,607.08   \$1,	Nunez CC,	Industrial Technology (AS)	\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15	\$1,607.07		\$1,607.08
Sowela TCC	CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	Nursing (ASN)	\$3,214.15	\$3,214.15			
Surgical Technology (AS)   \$3,214.15   \$3,214.15   \$1,607.07   \$1,607.08	Sowela TCC						
Supervised and ILCTC scheels    Visual & Perf Arts (AA)   S.3,214.15   S.3,214.15   S.1,607.07   S.1,607.08	(If a program is approved at						
Nursing (ASN)   S5,553.00   S5,553.00   S1,851.00   S1,851.00   S1,851.00   S1,851.00   S1,851.00   S1,851.00   S1,851.00   S1,190.00	approved at all LCTC schools.						
Medical Lab Science (AS)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00   \$1,190.00	La Tech (Quarters)					\$1.851.00	
Nursing (ASN)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00   \$1,190.00	La recii (Quarters)					\$1,051.00	
Radiologic Technology (AS)   \$4,894.25   \$2,447.12   \$2,447.13	LSU - Alexandria						
Criminal Justice (ASCJ)   \$2,710.64   \$2,710.64   \$1,355.32   \$1		Radiologic Technology (AS)					\$2,447.13
Health Science (AS)   \$2,710.64   \$2,710.64   \$1,355.32   \$1,355.32     Nursing (ASN)   \$2,710.64   \$2,710.64   \$1,355.32   \$1,355.32     Radiologic Technology (AS)   \$2,710.64   \$2,710.64   \$1,355.32   \$1,355.32     Respiratory Care (AS)   \$2,710.64   \$2,710.64   \$1,355.32   \$1,355.32     LSU HSC - NO   Dental Lab Tech   \$4,987.26   \$4,987.26   \$2,493.63   \$2,493.63     McNeese   Paralegal Studies (AA)   \$5,147.34   \$5,147.34   \$2,573.67     Care & Dvlpt Young Childra (AS)   \$4,922.28   \$4,922.28   \$2,461.14   \$2,461.14     S2,461.14   \$2,461.14     Culinary Arts (AS)***   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Safety Technology (AS)   \$4,922.28   \$4,922.28   \$2,461.14     Engineering Technology (AS)   \$4,922.28   \$4,922.28   \$2,461.14     Engineering Technology (AD)   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Veterinary Technology (AD)   \$5,180.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Southeastern   Industrial Technology (AAS)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     SU - New Orleans   Drug & Substance Abuse (AA)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     SU - Shreveport   Computer Science (AS)   \$2,618.00   \$2,618.00   \$1,309.00     Susiness Management (AS)   \$2,618.00   \$2,618.00   \$1,309.00     Susing (ASN)   \$2,618.00   \$2,618.00   \$1,309.00   \$1,309.00     Suring (ASN)   \$2,618.00   \$2,618.00   \$1,309.00   \$1,30		Care & Dvlpt Young Chldrn (AS)	\$2,710.64		\$1,355.32		\$1,355.32
Nursing (ASN)   \$2,710.64   \$2,710.64   \$1,355.32		Criminal Justice (ASCJ)					
Radiologic Technology (AS)   \$2,710.64   \$2,710.64   \$1,355.32	LSU - Eunice						
Respiratory Care (AS)   \$2,710.64   \$2,710.64   \$1,355.32   \$1,355.32							
LSU HSC - NO   Dental Lab Tech   \$4,987.26   \$4,987.26   \$2,493.63   \$2,493.63     McNeese   Paralegal Studies (AA)   \$5,147.34   \$5,147.34   \$2,573.67     Care & Depth Young Childrn (AS)   \$4,922.28   \$4,922.28   \$2,461.14   \$2,461.14     Culinary Arts (AS)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Safety Technology (AS)   \$4,922.28   \$4,922.28   \$2,461.14     Engineering Technology (AS)   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Safety Technology (AS)***   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Safety Technology (AS)***   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Northwestern   Nursing (ASN)***   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Veterinary Technology (AD)   \$5,180.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Sutheastern   Industrial Technology (AAS)***   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Sutheastern   Industrial Technology (AAS)***   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Sutheastern   Drug & Substance Abuse (AA)***   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Sutheastern   Drug & Substance Abuse (AA)***   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Sutheastern   Drug & Substance Abuse (AA)***   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00     Sutheastern   Drug & Substance (AB)**   \$2,618.00   \$2,618.00   \$1,309.00     Sutheastern   Drug & Substance (AB)   \$2,618.00   \$2,618.00   \$1,309.00     Sutheastern   Drug & Substance (AB)   \$2,618.00   \$2,618.00   \$1,309.00     Sutheastern   Drug & Substance (AB)   \$2,618.00   \$1,309.00     Sutheastern   Drug & Substance (AB)**   \$2,618.00   \$1,309.00     Sutheastern   Dru						- 1 Table 1	
McNeese   Paralegal Studies (AA)   \$5,147.34   \$5,147.34   \$2,573.67   \$2,573.67	I SITHSC - NO						
Care & Dulpt Young Childrn (AS)   \$4,922.28   \$4,922.28   \$2,461.14   \$2,461.14							
Culinary Arts (AS)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00   \$1,190.00							
Petroleum Services (AS)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00   \$1,190.00	N						
Safety Technology (AS)   \$4,922.28   \$4,922.28   \$2,461.14   \$2,461.14	inicholis					1 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	
Northwestern   Nursing (ASN)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00   \$1,190.00							
Veterinary Technology (AD)   \$5,180.00   \$5,180.00   \$2,590.00   \$2,590.00							
Southeastern   Industrial Technology (AAS)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00   \$1,190.00	Northwestern						
SU - New Orleans    Drug & Substance Abuse (AA)****   \$2,380.00   \$2,380.00   \$1,190.00   \$1,190.00	C						
Accounting (AS) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00  Business Management (AS) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00  Computer Science (AS) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00  Human Services (AS) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00  Nursing (ASN) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00  \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00							
Business Management (AS) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00  SU-Shreveport Computer Science (AS) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00  Human Services (AS) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00  Nursing (ASN) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00	SU - New Orleans						
SU-Shreveport         Computer Science (AS)         \$2,618.00         \$2,618.00         \$1,309.00         \$1,309.00           Human Services (AS)         \$2,618.00         \$2,618.00         \$1,309.00         \$1,309.00           Nursing (ASN)         \$2,618.00         \$2,618.00         \$1,309.00         \$1,309.00						1000	
Human Services (AS)         \$2,618.00         \$2,618.00         \$1,309.00           Nursing (ASN)         \$2,618.00         \$2,618.00         \$1,309.00           \$1,309.00         \$1,309.00         \$1,309.00	SU -Shreveport						
Nursing (ASN) \$2,618.00 \$2,618.00 \$1,309.00 \$1,309.00	• •						
	UL - Monroe****	Occupational Thpy Assting (AS)	\$5,787.52	\$5,787.52	\$2,893.76		\$2,893.76

<sup>\*</sup>Other School/Programs of Study May Become Eligible: Includes program changes approved by the Board of Regents and the Workforce Investment Council on 10-20-21. To check your School, e-mail custserv@la.gov.

\*\*\*\*\*The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program at University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) will become a BA program, as of Spring 2024. Continuing students will be allowed to complete the OTA program, but new students will not be accepted, effective fall 2023.

Programs at Approved Proprietary and Cosmetology Schools Proprietary and Cosmetology Schools\*\*\*\* \$793.33 \$2,380.00 \$2,380.00 \$793.33

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>In the event the programs listed for other LCTCS schools become available at BRCC, they are approved for TOPS Tech.

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup>The TOPS Award Amount for TOPS Tech eligible students who enroll in a proprietary or cosmetology school or in an associate's degree program at a school that offers a baccalaureate degree in that same program is an average of the amounts paid to TOPS Tech eligible students in all other TOPS Tech eligible programs.

Notes: (1) Includes all campuses within the designated colleges

<sup>(2)</sup> The total amount does not include summer payments allowed for students enrolled full time in technical programs or students in an academic program that elect to have their award paid for a qualified summer session. The amount of the award may not exceed the tuition amount charged to the student for summer attendance.

(3) Actual amounts payable subject to appropriation and funding.

# YOUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS)

Read Carefully! These are your rights and responsibilities for receipt and retention of a TOPS Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award. This is accurate as of the date it was produced; however, you are responsible for complying with all governing statutes and rules applicable to this program, which may change from time to time, whether disclosed or not. Notices of statutory or regulatory changes are available through the website of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) at <a href="https://mylosfa.la.gov/">https://mylosfa.la.gov/</a>. When you have questions about TOPS, you should <a href="reference Your Rights and Responsibilities on the Student Hub">reference Your Rights and Responsibilities on the Student Hub</a>, visit our website at <a href="https://mylosfa.la.gov/">https://mylosfa.la.gov/</a>, or email <a href="mailto:custserv@la.gov">custserv@la.gov</a>.

STAY ON TOP OF YOUR TOPS AWARD! Maintain your current email address and cell phone number on the Student Hub so that we may provide you with critical updates about your award! We no longer mail award notifications.

TOPS Awards are dependent upon an annual appropriation of funds for TOPS by the state legislature. Eligibility for a TOPS Award does not guarantee that your award will be fully funded.

# You have established your eligibility for a TOPS Award. To receive the award:

- You must enroll for the first time as a full-time student at an eligible institution NO LATER THAN the first regular semester or quarter that is one year after your high school graduation. (If you graduated in May 2022, you must enroll no later than the fall semester or quarter of 2023). If you choose to first enroll in an eligible out-of-state institution, and do so by the first semester following the first anniversary of your high school graduation, you may transfer to an eligible Louisiana school and reinstate your award PROVIDED that you have met all requirements for renewal of the award. You will lose one semester (quarter) of eligibility for each semester (quarter) you were enrolled in an out-of-state institution. You must apply for a TOPS Award by submitting an Application to Return from an Out-of-State College no later than July 1 immediately following the fall, winter or spring semester or quarter that you transfer to an eligible Louisiana school or within 120 days after that July 1 for a reduced award. The supporting documentation must be received no later than January 15 of the following year. You can download the application at https://mylosfa.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/ROOS-Application.pdf.
- If your application or the required documentation is not received by the applicable deadline, it will **NOT** be considered and you will **NOT** be eligible to receive a TOPS Award.
- If you enlisted and began serving on active duty in the United States Armed Services within one year of the date you graduated from high school and before you enrolled in college as a full-time student, you are allowed to defer your enrollment at an eligible institution for the period of time you are continuously on active duty, including reenlistments, and until the first regular semester following the one year anniversary of your separation from active duty. You must provide a copy of your DD Form 214 "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty" before you will be eligible for your TOPS Award.

To retain your TOPS eligibility, you must be registered each semester or quarter as a full-time student as of the 15th class day at a semester institution or the 10<sup>th</sup> class day at a quarter institution and remain continuously enrolled. Correspondence courses do not count toward full-time enrollment.

Your TOPS Award may be combined with other financial aid (scholarships, grants or loans) but if your total financial aid package exceeds the cost of attendance established by your institution, your TOPS Award amount may be reduced. If other aid exceeds your cost of attendance and your TOPS payment is zero, that semester will <u>not</u> be counted toward your 8 semesters (or 12 quarters) of TOPS eligibility. Contact the financial aid office at the institution you are attending for an explanation of how your award may be affected by other aid.

# AWARD DURATION:

- You may receive a TOPS Award for a maximum of 8 semesters or 12 quarters. (Summer sessions in academic programs will be paid only under specific conditions and only if funding is sufficient. Intersessions will not be paid. Check with the financial aid office at your school to learn whether your award can be paid for a summer session. If you use your TOPS Award to pay for a summer session, it will count as one of your 8 semesters or 12 quarters of eligibility.)
- Out-of-state transfer students' eligibility will be reduced by the number of semesters or quarters attended at the eligible out-of-state institution.
- If you have semesters/quarters of eligibility remaining once you complete your first undergraduate degree, you may use any remaining semesters/quarters for **postgraduate study**, provided you enroll in a graduate/professional school no later than the fall semester/quarter following the one year anniversary of completion of your undergraduate degree. You <u>CANNOT</u> use remaining semesters/quarters of eligibility to pursue a <u>second</u> undergraduate degree.
- If you complete a non-academic (technical) program of study, you may use remaining semesters/quarters of eligibility to enroll in another technical program or to enroll in an academic program.

# PROPRIETARY AND COSMETOLOGY SCHOOLS

- To be eligible to receive your TOPS Award, you must be enrolled full-time according to your school on one of the following dates: September 1, December 1, and March 1. (Note: If the 1<sup>st</sup> falls on a weekend or holiday, you must be enrolled and attending classes prior to that weekend or holiday for your award to be paid for that term).
- To maintain your award, you must meet federal grant aid requirements for steady academic progress at your school.

**PRIVACY INFORMATION:** If you are either 18 years old or are actually attending college, the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) does not allow disclosure of your personal information to anyone, including your parents or custodian, unless you grant them access to your records. You may grant your parents access to your records through the LOSFA Student Hub. Have your parents sign up for a parent account in the Student Hub, and they will have the option to request permission to see your records. You would then grant that permission through your account.

## TO RENEW YOUR AWARD

You must annually apply for federal grant aid by completing the FAFSA or Renewal FAFSA in its entirety by July 1 each year, <u>unless you determine yourself ineligible for federal grant aid</u> using the software provided for that purpose at <u>www.finaid.org/calculators</u>. If you used the TOPS On-Line Application for your initial TOPS application, you are not required to apply for renewal.

The information in the following two sections does NOT pertain to proprietary and cosmetology schools. Refer to the PROPRIETARY AND COSMETOLOGY SCHOOLS SECTION on page 1 for continuation requirements for these schools.

# **ENROLLMENT AND CREDIT HOUR REQUIREMENTS:**

- You must enroll full-time each semester or quarter, remain continuously enrolled (except for summer sessions) and <u>earn</u> (<u>PASS</u> with at least a "D") at least 24 credit hours during each Academic Year.
- The Academic Year begins with the fall semester/quarter/term of the award year and concludes immediately before the next fall semester/quarter/term commences. It includes all intersessions and summer sessions.
- If you enrolled as a first-time, full-time student in the middle of the Academic Year (spring semester or winter/spring quarter), you will not be required to meet the 24 hour requirement that year.
- Credits from Advanced Placement, CLEP, and Credit by Exam are not included in Academic Year Earned Hours. Correspondence courses are only included in hours earned if completed and credit is given during the Academic Year.
- You must meet the requirement to earn 24 hours even if you drop courses, change majors, or transfer to another school. If you do not earn at least 24 hours, your TOPS Award will be canceled at the end of the Academic Year unless you are granted an exception for cause. See "Requesting an Exception" at the bottom of this page.
- The grade for courses reported as "Incomplete" will be counted as "F" unless a subsequent report from your school shows otherwise.
- If you resign from all classes, your award will be canceled unless you submit a Request for Exception and are granted an exception.
- If you must resign from all classes during the semester or quarter (or if you transfer to another college after the semester or quarter has begun), you should officially resign with the Registrar's Office so that you do not receive failing grades in all of the courses in which you were enrolled. If you do not, your TOPS Award may be suspended or canceled.

# STEADY ACADEMIC PROGRESS and CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE REQUIREMENTS:

- You must make <u>Steady Academic Progress</u> (SAP) (earn a cumulative GPA of at least 2.00 on a 4.00 scale) at the end of every semester/quarter/session for which grades are reported. If you do not earn at least a 2.00, your award will be suspended since you did not make SAP.
- In addition, you must meet the minimum required TOPS Cumulative Grade Point Average (TOPS Cum GPA) for your award at the end
  of each summer semester or quarter to maintain your award. Depending on the hours completed, you must maintain the following TOPS
  Cum GPA:

2.30	with 24 or more total earned hours
2.50	with 48 or more total earned hours
2.50	with 24 or more total earned hours
3.00	with 24 or more total earned hours
	2.50 2.50

**NOTE:** Your TOPS Cum GPA is calculated on all college coursework you attempted at all schools, including dual enrollment and repeated courses. It is based on hours, grades, and quality points reported by <u>all</u> schools you have attended, so it may be different from the grade point average calculated by the school you attend. Repeat-delete and +/- grades do not apply for calculation of your TOPS Cum GPA.

- If you have been awarded the TOPS Performance or Honors award and you have earned at least 24 hours with a TOPS Cum GPA of less than a 3.00 Cum GPA at the end of any **summer semester or quarter**, your award will be permanently changed to the Opportunity award for the remaining period of eligibility and you will not receive the stipend that goes with the award. Once a stipend is lost, it cannot be regained. There are no exceptions.
- To continue to receive any TOPS Award, you must earn at least the TOPS Cum GPA required for the Opportunity Award at the end of the summer semester or quarter, or your TOPS Award will be suspended until you have achieved the required TOPS Cum GPA.
- If you have been awarded the TOPS Opportunity, Performance or Honors Award and you are enrolled in an academic or technical program, if you do not achieve the required TOPS Cum GPA within **two** years of suspension, your award will be permanently canceled. There are no exceptions.

# REQUESTING AN EXCEPTION

An exception for cause to the requirement to enroll for the first time as a full-time student by the deadline, to enroll full-time each semester or term thereafter, to remain continuously enrolled and/or to earn 24 hours may be granted if, by the deadline specified in the notice advising you of the cancelation of your award, you submit a Request for Exception form with the required supporting documentation sufficient to justify a failure to comply with these requirements. You can download the Request for Exception form with instructions and a list of the required documentation at <a href="https://mylosfa.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Exception-Request-Form4.pdf">https://mylosfa.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Exception-Request-Form4.pdf</a>. Email your completed form to <a href="mailto:tops.exceptions@la.gov">tops.exceptions@la.gov</a>. If your Request for Exception form is not received by the deadline, it will <a href="mailto:NOT">NOT</a> be considered. When your form is received, the date of receipt will be posted in the Student Hub. You will be contacted if additional information is needed. You will be notified in your account on the Student Hub and by mail whether an exception is granted.

# YOUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TOPS TECH TAYLOR OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS (TOPS)

Read Carefully! These are your rights and responsibilities for receipt and retention of a TOPS Tech Award. This is accurate as of the date it was produced; however, you are responsible for complying with all governing statutes and rules applicable to this program, which may change from time to time, whether disclosed or not. Notices of statutory or regulatory changes are available through the website of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) at <a href="https://mylosfa.la.gov/">https://mylosfa.la.gov/</a>. When you have questions about TOPS, you should <a href="reference Your Rights and Responsibilities on the Student Hub">reference Your Rights and Responsibilities on the Student Hub</a>, visit our website at <a href="https://mylosfa.la.gov/">https://mylosfa.la.gov/</a> or email <a href="custorycontrolledge">custorycontrolledge</a>.

STAY ON TOP OF YOUR TOPS AWARD! Maintain your current email address and cell phone number on the Student Hub so that we may provide you with critical updates about your award! We no longer mail award notifications.

TOPS Tech Awards are dependent upon an annual appropriation of funds for TOPS by the state legislature.

Eligibility for a TOPS Award does not guarantee that your award will be fully funded.

# You have established your eligibility for a TOPS Tech Award.

- To receive the award, you must enroll for the first time as a full-time student at an eligible institution in a TOPS Tech eligible program NO LATER THAN the first regular semester or quarter that is one year after your high school graduation. (If you graduated in May 2022, you must enroll no later than the fall semester or quarter of 2023).
- Eligible institutions, including public, private and proprietary institutions that offer eligible programs and eligible cosmetology schools, are included with the notification of your TOPS eligibility on your account in the Student Hub.
- If you enlisted and began serving on active duty in the United States Armed Services within one year of the date you graduated from high school and before you enrolled in college as a full-time student, you are allowed to defer your enrollment at an eligible institution for the period of time you are continuously on active duty, including reenlistments, and until the first regular semester following the one year anniversary of your separation from active duty. You must contact this office and provide a copy of your DD Form 214 "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty" when you are ready to activate your award.

To retain your TOPS Tech eligibility, you must be enrolled in an eligible program of study each semester or quarter during the academic year as a full-time student as of the 15th class day at a semester institution or the 10<sup>th</sup> class day at a quarter institution. See the Section on Proprietary and Cosmetology Schools on the following page for enrollment dates.

Your TOPS Award may be combined with other financial aid (scholarships, grants or loans) but if your total financial aid package exceeds the cost of attendance established by your institution, your TOPS Award amount may be reduced. If other aid exceeds your cost of attendance and your TOPS payment is zero, that semester will not be counted toward your two years of TOPS Tech eligibility. Contact the financial aid office at the institution you are attending for an explanation of how your award may be affected by other aid.

## AWARD DURATION:

- You may receive a TOPS Tech Award for a maximum of 2 years. If you complete your program of study before you use 2 years of eligibility, you may use any remaining eligibility to enroll in another qualifying program.
- Summer terms in TOPS Tech eligible programs are considered part of the academic year and are eligible for award payment if you enroll full-time, provided that funding is sufficient.

<u>PRIVACY INFORMATION:</u> If you are either 18 years old or are actually attending college, the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) does not allow disclosure of your personal information to anyone, including your parents or custodian unless you grant them access to your records. You may grant access through the LOSFA Student Hub. Have your parents sign up for a parent account in the Student Hub, and they will have the option to request permission to see your records. You would then grant that permission through your account.

# TO RENEW YOUR AWARD:

<u>APPLICATION:</u> You must annually apply for federal grant aid by completing the FAFSA or Renewal FAFSA in its entirety by July 1 each year, <u>unless you determine yourself ineligible for federal grant aid</u> using the software provided for that purpose at www.finaid.org/calculators.

The information in the following two sections does NOT pertain to proprietary and cosmetology schools. Refer to the PROPRIETARY AND COSMETOLOGY SCHOOLS SECTION below for continuation information regarding these schools.

# **ENROLLMENT AND CREDIT HOUR REQUIREMENTS:**

- You must enroll fulltime each term, remain continuously enrolled and <u>earn</u> (<u>PASS with a "D" or better</u>) at least 24 credit hours during each Academic Year. (Summer sessions are optional.)
- The Academic Year begins with the fall semester or term, includes the winter term (if applicable), the spring semester or term and ends with the summer session. If you have earned at least 24 hours prior to the summer session, you are not required to attend the summer session to maintain your award. However, if you have not earned 24 hours by the end of the spring semester/quarter, you must enroll in and earn enough hours during the summer session to meet the 24 hour requirement.
- If you enrolled as a first-time, full-time student in the middle of the Academic Year (spring semester or winter/spring quarter), you will not be required to earn 24 hours that year.
- Credits from Advanced Placement, CLEP, or Credit by Exam are not included in Academic Year Earned Hours.
- You must earn 24 hours even if you drop courses, change majors or transfer to another school. Failure to earn 24 hours will result in the cancelation of your TOPS Tech Award at the end of the Academic Year.
- The grade for courses reported as "Incomplete" will be counted as "F" unless a subsequent report from your school shows otherwise.
- If you must leave school completely during the semester or quarter, or if you transfer to another eligible institution after the semester or quarter has begun, you should officially resign with the Registrar's Office so that you do not receive failing grades in all of the courses in which you were enrolled. If you do not, your TOPS Tech Award may be jeopardized. If you resign, your award will be canceled and you must submit a Request for Exception form to be considered for an exception.

# REQUESTING AN EXCEPTION

An exception for cause to the requirement to enroll for the first time as a full-time student by the deadline, to enroll full-time each semester or term thereafter, to remain continuously enrolled and/or to earn 24 hours may be granted if, by the deadline specified in the letter notifying you of the cancelation of your award, you submit a Request for Exception form with the required supporting documentation sufficient to justify a failure to comply with these requirements. You can download the Request for Exception form with instructions and a list of the required documentation at https://mylosfa.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Exception-Request-Form4.pdf. Email your completed form to <a href="www.tops.exceptions@la.gov">www.tops.exceptions@la.gov</a>. If your Request for Exception form is not received by the deadline, it will <a href="mailto:NOT">NOT</a> be considered. When your form is received, the date of receipt will be posted in the Student Hub. You will be contacted if additional information is needed. You will be notified in your account on the Student Hub and by mail whether an exception is granted. Exceptions cannot be granted for failure to make

# STEADY ACADEMIC PROGRESS and CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE REQUIREMENTS:

Steady Academic Progress or failure to earn the minimum TOPS Cum GPA.

- You must make <u>Steady Academic Progress (SAP)</u> (earn a cumulative GPA of at least 2.00 on a 4.00 scale) at the end of every semester, quarter or session for which grades are reported. If you do not earn at least a 2.00, your award will be suspended, and if you do not achieve the required TOPS Cum GPA within one year, your award will be permanently canceled.
- Your TOPS Cum GPA is calculated on all college coursework you attempted at all schools, including dual enrollment and
  repeated courses. It is based on hours, grades and quality points reported by all schools you have attended, so it may be
  different from that grade point average calculated by the school you attend.
- You must have at least a 2.50 TOPS Cum GPA at the end of the summer semester or quarter, regardless of the number of hours you have earned, or your award will be suspended. If you do not achieve the required TOPS Cum GPA of at least 2.50 within one year, your award will be permanently canceled.

# PROPRIETARY AND COSMETOLOGY SCHOOLS

- To be eligible to receive your TOPS Tech award, you must be enrolled full-time according to your school on one of the following dates: September 1, December 1 and March 1. (Note: If the 1st falls on a weekend or holiday, you must be enrolled and attending classes prior to that weekend or holiday for your award to be paid for that term).
- To maintain your award, you must meet federal grant aid requirements for steady academic progress at your school and maintain continuous enrollment.

# SCHOLARSHIP CHART This chart consists of a list of scholarships FHS receives throughout the school year. Availability changes from year to year

	(Based on previous year	
American Italian Renaissance	October	Applicant must be Italian heritage, have participated in sports at the high
Foundation		school level, resident of Louisiana and will attend college in 2021. Visit
		www.americanitalianculturalcenter.com for more information.
Coca-Cola Scholars' Foundation	October	Awarded to 250 students annually. Go to the following website:
		https://www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org/apply/
Voice of Democracy	October	Students must record a 3-5 min. essay on CD. See scholarship file for an
		application,
Wendy's Heisman High School Award	October	This award is for a student athlete who participates in a school-sponsored
		sport. Student athlete must have a minimum 3.0 GPA, demonstrate
		leadership in your school and community and serve as positive role model.
		Apply today: http://www.wendysheisman.com
Elks National Foundation "Most	November	Applicant must be a U.S. citizen to apply. Eligibility is based on scholarship.
Valuable Student" (Local- \$500, State -		leadership and financial need. Access application at the following website:
\$1,100-\$2000, National - \$4,000 to		https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/mvs.cfm
\$50,000)		
Prudential Spirit of Community	November	https://spirit.prudential.com/awards/how-to-apply
		Are you making a difference through volunteering? Check this out!
AXA Achiever Scholarship	December	Students with ambition, drive, determination, respect for school, family, and
		community; strength of character. Through https://scholarships.com
Louisiana AFL-CIO	December	High school seniors whose parent/step-parent is a member of a local union
		and in good standing with the LA AFL-CIO.
GE – Reagan Foundation	January	Applicant should have a 3.0 GPA, excel in leadership, drive, integrity and
		citizenship. Wide range of scholarships offered. For more information
		and application visit https://reaganfoundation.org
George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts	January	15 scholarships totaling \$45, 000. Go to this site for more information:
Art Contest and Scholarship		http://rodriguefoundation.websitegadget.com/site344.php
Louisiana Solid Waste (\$1,000)	January	Scholarship is based on scholastic records and awards, community service,
		completion and content of essay and your field of study. To learn more visit
		www.lswa.us.

Konald McDonald		
	January	Students who face limited access to educational and career opportunities. Go to the following website for more information <a href="https://rmhc.org">https://rmhc.org</a>
Buick Achievers	February	Applicant must be involved in a course of study with the focus on engineering, technology or design with an interest in the automobile industry.
Congressional Black Caucus Scholarships	February	https://www.cbcfinc.org Applications available online in December.
National FFA College and Vocational/Technical	February	For students who have been actively involved in FFA and agricultural education. Go to the following https://www.ffa.org/brograms/grantsandscholarships/Pages/default asnx
Hamilton Relay Scholarship (\$500)	February	Applicant must be a high school senior who is deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind or has difficulty speaking.
Harvey L. Foster Foundation – Scholarship for Science	February	\$8000 award. Graduating senior in St. Tammany planning to pursue a degree in the field of science at any American university. 3.0 GPA or higher. See scholarship file for an application.
KFC Colonel's Scholars	February	High school senior enrolling in a LA public college. US Citizen, 2.75 GPA and demonstrate financial need. Go to www.kfcscholars.org
Southeastern Louisiana University – EXCEL Scholarship	February	Leadership scholarship; 2.5 GPA; proven leadership in high school career.
The Vegetarian Resource Group Scholarship	February	High school students who have promoted vegetarianism in their schools and/or communities. Go to www.vrg.org for more information.
American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest	March	Citizens of or lawful permanent residents of the United States. See website for more information. www.legion.org
American Library Association Scholarship Program	March	Must apply online at http://www.ala.org/scholarships.
Aveda Institute	March	Win a full cosmetology scholarship. Visit www.AvedalnstitutesSouth.edu/scholarship
Bobby Fletcher, Sr. Memorial Scholarship (Sponsored by St. Tammany Master Gardeners Association)	March	Open to seniors with 2.5 GPA interested in Agricultural, Horticultural, Veterinarian or related field. Must attend a Louisiana University, Community or Technical College.
Capital One Bank Investing for Good Scholarship (\$5,000)	March	Graduating senior must attend a state-funded Louisiana college, qualify for the federal free or reduced lunch program, and have an ACT composite of 22 or higher and a TOPS core GPA of 3.0.

Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship	March	Applications are available in the Guidance Office.
Dudley DeBosier (\$1,000)	March	Applicant must submit an application, transcript, as well as an essay or television commercial. Visit www.dudleydebosier.com for application and specific details.
Frances S. Newman Scholarship (Sponsored by the Bayou Women's Republican Club of Lacombe) \$500	March	Must be a 70445 resident, female planning to attend a LA university, 2.5 GPA or above.
Horatio Alger National Career and Technical Scholarship Program (\$2,500)	March	Applicant must have completed high school or earned GED, be enrolled in a career or technical degree/certificate granting program that leads to employment, demonstrate financial need, and a U.S. citizen. To apply online, visit www.application.horatioalger.org.
Kelly C. O'Mahoney Memorial Soccer Scholarship (\$1,000)	March	Awarded to a female in St. Tammany Parish who is moving on to play college level NCAA/NAIA soccer.
Leonard Monteleone Jr.	March	Must attend a Louisiana state funded college, have an ACT composite of 22 and a TOPS core GPA of 3.0.
Louisiana Life Safety & Security Association, Inc. Youth Scholarship (\$2,500 & \$1,000 to the top two in the state)	March	Scholarships are available to sons and daughters of active-duty Law Enforcement and Fire Service Personnel. Application and guidelines are on the web at http://www.llssa.org.
Lions Club (St. Tammany West)	March	Available to students interested in trade school, technical college, or 2/4 year college and all fields of study. GPA of 2.5 or better and not based on financial need.
LHSAA Allstate Sugar Bowl Scholarship	March	Student-athlete must have a 3.5 GPA after seven semesters and a 24 ACT score. They should possess desirable leadership, display good citizenship in their school and community, participated in non-athletic related school activities/organizations and achieved non-athletic related school honors. The application is available at www.lhsaa.org/schools/students-and-parents/scholarships-and-awards
LHSAA Fuzzy Brown Award	March	Student-athlete must attend a university in the state of Louisiana. The application is available at www.lhsaa.org/schools/students-and-parents/scholarships-and-awards

LHSCA Scholarship	March	Student-athlete must be the son, daughter or legally adopted child of a
		member of the LHSCA. A current or past member of the LHSCA must
		nominate student and be a member of the LHSCA 5 years prior to
		nominating. Application is available at www.lhsaa.org/schools/students-
		and-parents/scholarships-and-awards
Louisiana Rural Water Association	March	Applicant must reside on a water system that is a member of the LRWA and
	1	are interested in pursuing a career in the water or wastewater field. Go to
3		the following website for more information
		http://www.lrwa.org/LRWAScholarship.html
Louisiana Society of Professional	March	Must plan to enter the surveying profession or related technical fields.
Surveyors		
Next Generation Scholarship	March	\$5000 award. Seniors planning to pursue an engineering career in a field
		related to electric power generation. Go to
		http://www.jets.org/programs/scholarship.
Northlake Mandeville Rotary	March	\$12,000 scholarship - Based on academic achievement, test scores, essay
Foundation		and application.
Professional Women of St. Tammany	March	Open to St. Tammany Parish female residents planning to attend a
(\$2,500 and \$1,000 awards)		college/university in the Fall of 2018. For an application and information
		visit www.pw-st.org.
Wilbert H. Reisig Scholarship	March	Applicant must have a minimum 3.0 GPA, community service and
		extracurricular activities, good character, noteworthy achievements, and
		write a narrative associated with raising awareness for Parkinson's disease.
		See application for specific details.
Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity (LSU)	March	Based on scholar, athlete, leader and gentleman.
Society of Petroleum Engineers	March	Plan to major in engineering. Visit http://www.spe.org/scholarships/ for
		more information.
Society of Women Engineers	March	Must be a female and an engineer major; based on academic achievement;
		letters of recommendation; and financial need.
		https://swe.org/scholarships/swe-scholarships
William Pitcher Scholarship	March	Must plan to attend LSU, have an ACT composite of 22 and a TOPS core GPA
		of 3.0.
Barbara Trask (Zeta Amicae of Slidell)	April	Applicants must have a 3.0 GPA, recommendation letters, extracurricular activities in school and community and be a U.S. citizen.

Business Leadership Scholarship	April	Applicant must have a 2.5 GPA or better, must have been an active member
(Sponsored by West St. Tammany		in good standing of a business and/or leadership club OR have taken an
Business Alliance)		active role in extracurricular activity and be a graduating senior. \$500 for
		two semesters if you maintain requirements. See application for details.
Louisiana Restaurant Association	April	Applicants must pursue a career in the culinary and/or hospitality industry.
Education Scholarship (LRAEF)		See application for details. Applications are available at the following website: http://www.lraef.org/scholarshins
Buster Bynum Education	April	\$2500 one time award to a senior that has a parent or guardian employed in
		the public school pupil transportation field for at least the past three years;
		have a minimum 3.0 GPA, demonstrate outstanding leadership, citizenship
		and service and a Gross Taxable Family Income equal or less than \$75,000
		for each of the "Past Three Tax Years."
Delta Sigma Theta	April	Applicant must be African American with a minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale,
		demonstrate leadership abilities and plan to attend college in 2018.
Hilda Rosenthal Memorial	April	3.0 GPA in TOPS core and plan to attend a Louisiana University.
Matthew Hilker	April	Applicant must be a soccer athlete who has participated in the sport during
		high school. See application for additional details.
Horatio Alger Louisiana Scholarship	April	Applicant must demonstrate financial need (\$55,000 or lower adjusted
Programs		gross family income), involvement in co-curricular and community activities;
		display integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity, have a
		minimum GPA of 2.0 and be a US Citizen. Go to
		www.scholars.horatioalger.org
Ozone Amateur Radio Club (\$500-	April	Applicant must plan to pursue academic studies in the fields of Electrical
1,000)		Engineering, Radio Communications, Electronics, Computer Science, the
	3	Physical Sciences or related technical fields such as Robotics. Preference
		given to those possessing an amateur radio license issued by the Federal
		Communication Commission. See application for details.
Republican Professional Women of St.	April	Applicant must be a female. Looking for students with political awareness
Tammany (\$2,000)		and commitment of service to our community.
Rotary Club of Stennis Space Center	April	\$1000 award. Community service, scholarship and an interest in pursuing a
(Ken and Susan Cooper Memorial)		career in Marine science or hydrography. Go to www.stennisrotary.org.

St. Tammany Cancer Fund College Scholarship (8 semesters at \$2,000 per semester)	April	Applicant must have had a diagnosis of cancer before the age of 21. The scholarship committee looks at financial need, academic achievement, community service and leadership. Must plan to attend a 2 or 4 year accredited undergraduate college program. Application available at
St. Tammany Cancer Fund College	April	www.northshorefoundation.org. Applicant must have lost his/her parent(s) to cancer and plan to attend a 2
Viemorial scholarship (& semesters at \$1,000 per semester)		or 4 year accredited undergraduate college program. Application available at www.northshorefoundation.org.
St. Tammany Administration Association Scholarship	April	Applicant must plan to major in education, have a 3.0 GPA, exemplary
		service to your high school, and financial assistance needed.
Student View	April	Log on to www.student-view.com and complete a 15-20 minute application survey about colleges in your area.
Washington St Tammany Electric	April	Open to WST members, their children or legal wards who have been a
		member for at least 12 consecutive months as of May 6, 2017 and in good
		standing. The applicant must have a 2.0 GPA.
Zeta Zenith Scholarship Award (\$500)	April	Applicant must be a graduating senior with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and be a legal U.S. citizen.
Alexis Keoka Marie Wilkins	May	Based on academic performance, community service, quality of essay, and
		ווומוורים וופכתי
Lisabeth Millard Scholarship (Friends of the Library)	Мау	Must be serviced by the Library Districts of Abita Springs, Bush, Covington, Folsom, Lee Road, Lacombe, Mandeville and Madisonville
Abbot & Fenner	June	\$1,000 award. See website for more information.  Www.abbottandfenner.com/scholarships.htm
Big Sun (Athletic Scholarship) \$500	June	Applicant must be a high school senior currently involved in sports. http://www.bigsunathletics.com
Abita Springs Women's Society	yluk	Applicant must reside in Abita Spring, have a minimum 2.5 GPA, and 15 hours of documented and signed community service hours.
Lela's Cash for College (several)		Check out the website for numerous scholarship opportunities.