

JEWEL M. SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL
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JEWEL M. SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL
“Home of the Cowboys”



2026

INTRODUCTION

The pathway description guide covers information you will need throughout your high school years, as well as assist you in making better decisions concerning your class selections for the coming year.

Each class that a student chooses should be part of an overall plan. You should select classes which best suit your abilities and interests. You may already have a certain career in mind or desire to explore different fields to help in selecting a career.

The School counselor is available to assist you in scheduling your classes, advising on college and scholarship opportunities, testing, written recommendations, and any social and emotional needs.

It is important to understand the School counselor's role is to advise you. You and your parents assume full responsibility for the classes scheduled. Though the school personnel will attempt to locate and correct any errors, it is the students' and their parents' responsibility to select the classes and plan their school schedule to meet all requirements for graduation. Also, you and your parents have the responsibility to check requirements for the college of their choice and schedule their classes accordingly.

Read this guide carefully and discuss your ideas and plans with your parents. At the end of the 10th grade year, you will choose either the TOPS University pathway or the Jump Start TOPS Tech pathway. Once a pathway is chosen, it is strongly advised not to swap pathways as this could delay your graduation year.

POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of this high school not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, or national origin. All courses offered at this school are open to both male and female students.

GRADE CLASSIFICATION

Students are classified by the number of Carnegie units earned and not promoted mid-year. The Carnegie units required for each grade are:

CLASSES	MINIMUM REQUIRED UNITS
Freshmen (9th grade)	0-5.5 Units
Sophomores (10th grade)	6 Units
Juniors (11th grade)	11 Units
Seniors (12th grade)	17 Units
TOTAL UNITS FOR GRADUATION: Diploma	24 Units - TOPS University Diploma 23 Units - TOPS TECH Diploma

INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION PLAN REQUIREMENTS

Graduation requirements relevant to the student's chosen area of concentration and postsecondary entrance requirements are given the highest consideration. The purpose of the IGP document is to make appropriate secondary/postsecondary decisions as part of an overall career plan based on the student's talents and interests.

The student, parent/guardian, and counselor will review the IGP and sign under the grade level classes taken and credits earned. IGPs will be required every year and will be kept on file at the school.

WEIGHTED COURSE

All honors, gifted, Dual Enrollment, and Advanced Placement courses in English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies are considered weighted classes. Students can take a maximum of 16 dual enrollment classes. Students enrolled in weighted courses who earn an A, B, or C semester average will receive an extra quality point which will be calculated into their cumulative grade point average.

Due to Dual Enrollment and Advanced Placement courses following a different curriculum, students must take a full year of the same curricula to fulfill the high school graduation requirements.

ACT

The ACT test assesses students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. Students in the 11th grade are given one opportunity to take the ACT test at their high school for no additional cost. There are fees associated with any additional ACT tests unless a fee waiver is granted. All 10th grade students will have the opportunity to take the Pre ACT test to prepare for their ACT test in the 11th grade. Additional information can be found at [ACT.org](https://www.act.org).

LEAP 2025 ASSESSMENT

The Louisiana Department of Education has initiated LEAP 2025 assessment program to support consistent and rigorous standards in key high school courses. Beginning in 2017-2018, Louisiana transitioned to LEAP 2025 to replace the former EOC. Students who entered 9th grade in 2017-2018 or beyond **must pass three LEAP 2025 tests** in the following categories to earn a standard diploma:

- (A) English I or English II
- (B) Algebra/Geometry
- (C) Biology
- (D) U.S. History or Civics

WORKKEYS ASSESSMENT

The WorkKeys Assessment measures certain skills employers feel are necessary for new employees to encompass in their workplace.

There are three sections in the WorkKeys Assessment:

1. Applied Math
2. Graphic Literacy
3. Workplace Documents

Each section measures the students' achievement level for certain workplace skills. Skills such as critical thinking, mathematical reasoning, problem

solving, and locating and analyzing workplace graphics are skills tested. Students will also be tested on being able to understand workplace documents such as memos, directions, policies, and regulations.

Successful completion and scoring **Gold or higher** will lead to earning the ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC).

DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

Dual Enrollment courses are classes a student can take at the 11th and 12th grade levels that give the student an opportunity to earn college credit while concurrently earning high school credit towards their high school graduation. The grades earned in a dual enrollment course will go on their high school and college transcripts.

To be eligible for a dual enrollment class, a student must be 16 years old, classified as a junior or senior, have a cumulative 2.5 grade point average, and have taken the ACT with a Composite score accepted at the post-secondary institutions offering the course credit. In addition, honors is available in most courses. The School Counselor will look at all these factors including LEAP scores before scheduling a student in a dual enrollment class.

LOUISIANA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA TRACKS

LOUISIANA TOPS UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM

The successful completion of the Louisiana TOPS University Diploma Curriculum requires a minimum of 24 Carnegie units in specific courses as detailed in the Pathway Description. Students who successfully complete this curriculum will have completed the minimum required curriculum as a component of TOPS eligibility as well as Louisiana public university freshmen entrance requirements. Eligibility for TOPS scholarship as well as entrance to Louisiana public universities also relies on earning a minimum required GPA as well as minimum required ACT composite scores and sub-scores.

LOUISIANA TOPS TECH CAREER (JUMPSTART) CURRICULUM

The TOPS TECH Jumpstart curriculum provides students the opportunity to attain a high school diploma and earn industry-based credentials (IBC) certifying their readiness to participate in key job sectors.

While in high school, participating students will be provided more time during the school day to achieve their industry certificates or college credentials in addition to their high school diplomas. The Carnegie units needed for this pathway are different compared to the TOPS University Curriculum.

A parent or guardian must sign the LA TOPS Tech Jumpstart Career Diploma Pathway Participation form at the school giving their consent to the student's graduation without completing the TOPS UNIVERSITY Diploma Curriculum. Students following TOPS TECH Diploma Curriculum will be eligible for entry into a two year technical or community college.

LOUISIANA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA TRACKS

LA TOPS UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM	LA TOPS TECH CURRICULUM
English - 4 Units Math - 4 Units Science - 4 Units Social Studies - 4 Units Foreign Language - 2 Units Art - 1 Unit PE - 1.5 Units Health - .5 Units Electives - 3	English - 4 Units Math - 4 Units Science - 2 Units Social Studies - 2 Units PE - 1.5 Units Health - .5 Units Jump Start Courses - 9 Units
Total: 24 Pathway Credits	Total: 23 Pathway Credits

THE LOUISIANA TOPS UNIVERSITY DIPLOMA CURRICULUM REPRESENTS MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS. IT MAY NOT BE THE SAME AS THE CORE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS FOR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS.

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Completing this free form is the first step toward getting federal financial aid to help pay for college.

The application for the TOPS award begins with filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA form must be filed within the deadlines set by the TOPS office for priority consideration and to avoid penalties. A FAFSA form may be completed over the internet at studentaid.gov. TOPS requirements are subject to change, so it is the responsibility of the student and parent to be aware of the most recent TOPS requirements and changes.

“ALL THINGS TOPS”

WHAT IS TOPS?

The Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) is a program of state merit based scholarships for Louisiana residents who attend one of the Louisiana public colleges and universities, schools that are a part of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Louisiana approved propriety and cosmetology Schools or institutions that are a part of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU). TOPS has five award levels: Opportunity, Performance, Honors, Excellence (OPHE) and TOPS Tech.

INITIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for TOPS, a student must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- Meet TOPS Louisiana residency requirements.
- Complete all required units of the TOPS OPHE OR TOPS Tech core curricula.
- Meet minimum TOPS Core GPA requirements (listed with each award level) upon graduation from a BESE-approved high school.
- Meet minimum ACT composite score requirements (listed with each award level)

AWARD LEVELS

TOPS OPPORTUNITY - 4 YEAR AWARD

- Completion of TOPS OPHE Core Curriculum
- TOPS Core Minimum GPA: 2.50
- **One** of the following minimum test scores:
 - ACT Composite: 20
 - SAT: 1030
 - CLT: 66

Award Amount: TOPS Award Amount

The TOPS Opportunity Award pays the TOPS Award Amount, which is based on the core of tuition set by the administering agency for a student at that particular institution for the 2016-2017 academic year unless increased by an Act of the Legislature.

LAICU Award Amount: Weighed Average of the TOPS Award Amount

If a student attends a college within the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU), the award amount will be the weighted average award amount, which is calculated by dividing the amount paid to all students who were enrolled at a public four-year institution during the 2016-2017 academic year by the number of students paid.

LA National Guard Award Amount: Tuition Exemption + \$600 Annual Book/Materials Stipend

Students who are serving in the Louisiana National Guard and eligible for the Opportunity Award will receive a sum of \$300 per semester (\$600 per academic year) to be applied toward the cost of books and other instructional material.

TOPS PERFORMANCE - 4 YEAR AWARD

- Completion of TOPS OPHE Core Curriculum
- TOPS Core Minimum GPA: 3.25
- **One** of the following minimum test scores:
 - Composite ACT: 23
 - SAT: 1130
 - CLT: 80

Award Amount: TOPS Award Amount + \$400 Stipend

The TOPS Performance Award pays the TOPS Award Amount, which is based on the core of tuition set by the administering agency for a student at that particular institution for the 2016-2017 academic year unless increased by an Act of the Legislature plus an annual stipend of \$400.

LAICU Award Amount: Weighted Average of the TOPS Award Amount + \$400 Stipend

If a student attends a college within the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU), the award amount will be the weighted average award amount, which is calculated by dividing the amount paid to all students who were enrolled at a public four-year institution during the 2016-2017 academic year by the number of students paid, plus an annual stipend of \$400.

LA National Guard Award Amount: Tuition Exemption + \$600 Annual Book/Materials Stipend + \$800 Annual Educational Stipend

Students who are serving in the Louisiana National Guard and eligible for the Performance Award will receive a sum of \$300 per semester (\$600 per academic year) to be applied toward the cost of books and other instructional material. In addition, Louisiana National Guard Performance Award recipients receive \$400 per semester (\$800 per academic year) for other educational expenses.

TOPS HONORS - 4 YEAR AWARD

- Completion of TOPS OPHE Core Curriculum
- TOPS Core Minimum GPA: 3.50
- **One** of the following minimum test scores:
 - Composite ACT: 27
 - SAT: 1260
 - CLT: 91

Award Amount: TOPS Award Amount + \$800 Stipend

The TOPS Honors Award pays the TOPS Award Amount, which is based on the core of tuition set by the administering agency for a student at that particular institution for the 2016-2017 academic year unless increased by an Act of the Legislature plus an annual stipend of \$800

LAICU Award Amount: Weighed Average of the TOPS Award Amount

If a student attends a college within the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU), the award amount will be the weighted

average award amount, which is calculated by dividing the amount paid to all students who were enrolled at a public four-year institution during the 2016-2017 academic year by the number of students paid, plus an annual stipend of \$800.

LA National Guard Award Amount: Tuition Exemption + \$600 Annual Book/Materials Stipend \$1600 Annual Educational Stipend

Students who are serving in the Louisiana National Guard and eligible for the Honors Award will receive a sum of \$300 per semester (\$600 per academic year) to be applied toward the cost of books and other instructional material. In addition, Louisiana National Guard Honors Award recipients receive \$800 per semester (\$1,600 per academic year) for other educational expenses.

TOPS EXCELLENCE - 4 YEAR AWARD

- Completion of TOPS OPHE Core Curriculum
- TOPS Core Minimum GPA: 3.50
- **One** of the following minimum test scores:
 - Composite ACT: 31
 - SAT: 1390
 - CLT: 101

Award Amount: Tuition and Fees or \$12,000 (whichever is less)

If a student attends a public institution in Louisiana, the award pays an annual amount equal to tuition and fees as reported to the Board of Regents in the annual mandatory survey on tuition and fees, or \$12,000, whichever is less.

LAICU Award Amount: Tuition and Fees or \$8,500 (whichever is less)

If a student attends a college within the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU), the award pays an annual amount equal to tuition and fees as reported to the Board of Regents in the annual mandatory survey on tuition and fees or \$8,500, whichever is less.

LA National Guard Award Amount: Tuition Exemption + \$600 Annual Book/Materials Stipend + \$2000 Annual Educational Stipend

Students who are serving in the Louisiana National Guard will receive tuition exemption as mandated by Louisiana state law. Students who are serving in the Louisiana National Guard and eligible for the Excellence Award, will receive a sum of \$300 per semester (\$600 per academic year) to be applied toward the cost of books and other instructional materials. In addition, Louisiana National Guard Excellence Award recipients receive \$1,000 per semester (\$2,000 per academic year) for other educational expenses.

TOPS TECH AWARD - 2 YEAR AWARD

- Completion of TOPS Tech JumpStart Core Curriculum or OPHE Core Curriculum
- TOPS Core Minimum GPA: 2.50
- **One** of the following minimum test scores:
 - Composite ACT: 17
 - WorkKeys: Silver Level
 - SAT: 920
 - CLT: 54

AWARD AMOUNT: TOPS Award Amount

The TOPS Tech Award pays the TOPS Award Amount, which is based on the cost of tuition set by the administering agency for a student at that particular institution for the 2016-2017 academic year unless increased by an Act of the Legislature.

LA NATIONAL GUARD AWARD AMOUNT: Tuition Exemption + \$600 Annual Book/Materials Stipend

Students who are serving in the Louisiana National Guard will receive the tuition exemption as mandated by Louisiana state law. Students who are eligible for the TOPS Tech Award will receive a sum of \$300 per semester (\$600 per academic year) to be applied toward the cost of books and other instructional material.

PROPRIETARY AND COSMETOLOGY SCHOOL AWARD AMOUNT: Weighted Average of the TOPS Award Amount

If a student attends an approved proprietary and cosmetology school, the award amount will be the weighted average award amount, which is calculated by dividing the amount paid to all students who were enrolled in a technical program of study during the 2016-2017 academic year by the number of students paid.

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (LAICU):

There are currently no TOPS Tech eligible programs at any LAICU institutions.

AWARD REDUCTION

Your award may be reduced by one or two semesters because: 1. Your application was submitted after the deadline; 2. You qualify for TOPS based on an ACT score achieved in May, June, and/or July of the year you graduated from high school; or 3. You enrolled in an out-of-state college.

LOUISIANA UNIVERSITIES

University	Location
Centenary College of Louisiana	Shreveport
Dillard University	New Orleans
Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University	Baton Rouge
Grambling State University	Grambling
Louisiana Christian University	Pineville
Louisiana State University	Baton Rouge
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center	New Orleans & Shreveport
Louisiana State University of Alexandria	Shreveport
Louisiana Tech University	Ruston
Loyola University of New Orleans	New Orleans
McNeese State University	Lake Charles
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary	New Orleans
Nicholls State University	Thibodaux
Northwestern State University of Louisiana	Natchitoches
Saint Joseph Seminary college	St. Benedict
Southeastern Louisiana University	Hammond
Southern University and A&M College	Baton Rouge
Southern University at New Orleans	New Orleans
Southern University Law Center	Baton Rouge
Tulane University	New Orleans
University of Holy Cross	New Orleans
University of Louisiana at Lafayette	Lafayette
University of Louisiana at Monroe	Monroe
University of New Orleans	New Orleans
Xavier University of Louisiana	New Orleans

LOUISIANA TECHNICAL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Technical and Community College	Location
Acadiana Technical College	Lafayette
Aveda Arts & Sciences Institute	Hammond
Baton Rouge Community College	Baton Rouge
Bossier Parish Community College	Bossier
Capital Area Technical College	Baton Rouge
Career Compass College	Hammond
Central Louisiana Technical Community College	Alexandria
L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College	Houma
Northeast Louisiana Technical College	West Monroe
Northshore Technical Community College	Bogalusa, Greensburg, Hammond
Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College	Minden
Nunez Community College	Chalmette
River Parishes Community College	Sorrento
Southern University at Shreveport Community College	Shreveport
South Louisiana Community College	Lafayette, Morgan City
SOWELA Technical Community College	Lake Charles

JEWEL M. SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL'S OFFERED COURSES

CORE SUBJECTS

English I - **Honors**
 English II - **Honors or DE**
 English III - **DE**
 English IV - **DE**
 Business English
 Technical Writing

Algebra I - **Honors**
 Algebra II - **Honors**
 Algebra III - **DE**
 Financial Literacy
 Math Essentials
 Geometry - **Honors**

American History- **Honors**
 Civics - **Honors**
 World Geography - **Honors**
 Western Civilization - **Honors or DE**

Biology - **Honors**
 Chemistry - **Honors or DE**
 Environmental Science
 Physical Science - **Honors**
 Physics

PE I, PE II
 JROTC I, JROTC II

Spanish I
 Spanish II

ELECTIVE COURSES

Accounting (11th & 12th)
 ACT Prep (11th/Fall)
 Advanced Nutrition & Food
 Agriculture I (Core, NCCER, Pre-Req)
 Agriculture II, III, IV
 Band
 Choir
 Computer Science
 Digital Media I, II
 Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
 Entrepreneurship I
 Family Consumer Science (FCS)
 Financial Literature (12th)
 Introduction to Logistics
 Introduction to Social Media (11th /12th)
 JROTC III, IV
 Law Studies
 PE III, IV
 Piano
 Quest for Success
 Speech I

- **All classes are subject to availability and pre-requisites may apply to specific areas of study.**

College Planning

Provided by CollegeBoard

9th Grade

- ☐ Create a four-year high school plan
- ☐ Start thinking about your life after school
- ☐ Participate in extracurricular activities including volunteer work
- ☐ Save for college
- ☐ Explore summer opportunities (paid or volunteer position)

10th Grade

- ☐ Take the Pre ACT test
- ☐ Along with your family, do some research about how to obtain financial aid for college
- ☐ Attend college and career fairs
- ☐ Participate in school activities or volunteer
- ☐ Tour college campuses

11th Grade

- ☐ Learn about colleges
- ☐ Make a file to manage your college search, testing and application data
- ☐ Estimate your financial aid need
- ☐ Begin a search for financial aid sources
- ☐ Explore Dual Enrollment
- ☐ Opt in to the College Board Opportunity Scholarships at cb.org/opportunity
- ☐ Develop a list of colleges that are of interest to you
- ☐ Take the ACT Test
- ☐ Start to gather documents for financial aid (FAFSA)
- ☐ Register with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center ncaaclearinghouse.net
- ☐ Visit colleges

12th Grade

- ☐ Create a calendar of important dates
- ☐ Improve Your ACT score
- ☐ Complete the FAFSA
- ☐ Apply to College
- ☐ Have your high school send an official transcript to the college you are applying to
- ☐ Keep active in school
- ☐ Visit your final college before accepting
- ☐ Inform the college you choose of acceptance before May 1
- ☐ Take final Exams
- ☐ Work with a counselor to resolve any admission issues
- ☐ Send Final Transcript to college
- ☐ Review your financial awards

These are some steps you can take to make sure you're on the right track for college. This list will help you navigate the college planning process. Additional information is located in your school counseling office.

JEWEL M. SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Baseball
Basketball (Boys)
Basketball (Girls)
Cheer
Dance
Football
Powerlifting (Boys)
Powerlifting (Girls)
Softball
Stomp
Track

JEWEL M. SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR HONOR AWARDS

HONOR CORDS

Summa Cum Laude 4.0+
Magna Cum Laude 3.99 - 3.5
Cum Laude 3.49 - 3.0

4-H
Band
Beta
Blood Donation
Civil Air Patrol
Community Service
Future Farmers of America (FFA)
Gifted
Student Council
Talented Drama
Talented Music

HONOR MEDALS

Dual Enrollment
IBC Advanced
Student of the Year
TOP 10

HONOR PINS

ACT 20-22
ACT 23-26
ACT 27-36
CLEP
WorkKeys Platinum

COLLARS AND STOLES

Beta