



LOSFA LOOP

July 2014 Edition

Volume 7-7

From the Desk of the Executive Director



“The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows.”

Sydney J. Harris

As we look towards celebrating Independence Day and the spirit of those before us who fought so that we could celebrate; the parallel to what we do in college access comes to mind. Each of us, kindred spirits, are dedicated towards ‘fighting the good fight’ to ensure that students and families have a reason to celebrate. As such we assist countless individuals with turning mirrors into windows of opportunity.

This month we are looking into our rearview mirror at the GEAR UP Grant, which now in its 6th year of operation, after serving over 7,000 students, officially comes to a close this July.

So we celebrate the accomplishments of the GEAR UP Program with a backwards glance through the looking glass...

LA GEAR UP (2008-2014), Louisiana’s second state grant, began with a cohort of 6th and 7th graders. The overall goal of the program is to strengthen the educational pipeline by reaching out to middle and high school students, their parents, teachers, and professional school counselors. The GEAR UP funding, through the United States Department of Education, is used to increase high school graduation rates and make college an attainable reality for cohort students in participating schools.

What did GEAR UP provide for students?

- Academic-year clubs
- Comprehensive mentoring
- Tutoring/Academic coaching in math, English, and writing
- Campus field trips
- College and career awareness activities
- Summer Academy/Bridge programs
- ACT Preparation
- Louisiana College Application Week

What did GEAR UP provide for families?

- Workshops about high school and college readiness

- Social support
- Campus field trips
- College and financial aid workshops

What did GEAR UP provide for teachers and professional school counselors?

- Professional development opportunities
- Academic and curricular support

Most of all...what did GEAR UP DO to turn mirrors into windows?

GEAR UP has supported: More than 20,000 Louisiana students; more than 17 Louisiana parishes, and more than 60 Louisiana schools to date.

Over \$2.2 million in Rewards For Success scholarship awards have been deposited in START Savings accounts for more than 4,900 LA GEAR UP students. Over 2,300 scholarships totaling \$981,250 were awarded in the past 5 years.

More than 12,000 students have attended LA GEAR UP summer camps.

LA GEAR UP schools have outperformed the State average growth on the ELA, science, social studies, and math components of the Graduate Exit Exam.

LA GEAR UP schools have outperformed State average growth on the science and social studies components of the 8th grade LEAP exam.

On average LA GEAR UP Supported District Performance Scores increased 20% from 2008-2012.

On average, 87% of LA GEAR UP Students who matriculate to a Louisiana University receive a LOSFA Award.

Impressed-so are we! Looking forward, we hope this ending is the prelude to a new beginning. We have recieved a no-cost extension to serve the remaining seniors from this grant AND we are submitting an application for Grant 3!! Stay tuned for bigger and even better services for students and families!

Best-
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In this edition. . .

GO Grant Allocation for 2014-2015

GO Grant Allocation for 2014-2015

The Board of Regents has approved \$24,639,725 for GO Grant Awards for the 2014-2015 award year. Institutions have been allocated an amount based on the same methodology used for 2013-2014.

See the GO Grant Allocation schedule for the 2014-2015 academic year on Page 3.

The Board of Regents' GO Grant Framework is detailed in Student Financial Aid Bulletin S2013-01 dated January 29, 2013 and can be found on LOSFA's website at www.osfa.la.gov/MainSitePDFs/S2013-01.pdf.

For the 2014-2015 academic year, the following apply:

1. The annual allocation will be used for fall, winter, and spring semesters/terms, with no plans to fund summer awards.
2. Due to legislative reporting requirements, it is necessary to continue the fall billing deadline of November 1, 2014 (fall billing corrections deadline, November 16) and a winter billing deadline of January

17, 2015 (winter billing corrections deadline, February 1). The fall and winter deadlines will also allow LOSFA and Board of Regents to better estimate funding availability for subsequent semesters/terms.

3. Late billings for fall, winter and spring semesters/terms will not be allowed. In the event of a reallocation of unused funds, the school(s) receiving the reallocated funding will be provided with a deadline to expend the reallocated dollars.

4. After the spring billing deadline, March 24, 2015, (spring billing corrections deadline, April 11), unused funds will be reallocated. Reallocations will be made to institutions to award to students enrolled in the fall and continued to spring or enrolled in the spring who were eligible for but did not receive a GO Grant because the institution used its full annual allocation.

If you have questions about GO Grant allocation for the 2014-2015 award year, please send an email to Bonnie Lavergne at Bonnie.Lavergne@la.gov.

Happy Retirement Wendy!

LOSFA employees celebrate the retirement of Wendy Dalawari. Wendy will retire in July with 24 years of state service.



2014-15 Go Grant Allocation

School	Allocation	School	Allocation
LSU-BR	1,903,330	Northeast Campus	-
LSU-A	275,240	Ruston Campus	-
LSUMC-NO	119,019	L E Fletcher CC	83,467
LSUMC-S	-	Northshore Tech CC	33,551
LSU-E	251,232	Florida Parishes Campus	-
LSU-S	843,864	Slidell Campus	-
LSU SYSTEM SUB-TOTAL	3,392,685	Sullivan Campus	-
Southern-BR	1,165,756	Hammond Campus	-
Southern-NO	241,958	Northwest Louisiana TC	-
Southern-S	198,837	Mansfield Campus	9,787
SU SYSTEM SUB-TOTAL	1,606,551	Natchitoches Campus	5,180
Nicholls	936,683	Northwest Campus	29,296
Grambling	919,314	Sabine Valley Campus	2,829
La. Tech	1,007,541	Shreveport-Bossier Campus	35,082
McNeese	1,341,447	Nunez CC	53,682
ULM	1,514,718	River Parishes CC	51,681
NW	1,428,828	Ascension Campus	-
SE	2,652,265	South Central Louisiana TC	-
ULL	2,193,290	Lafourche Campus	10,141
UNO	1,086,920	River Parishes Campus	20,558
UL SYSTEM SUB-TOTAL	13,081,006	Young Memorial Campus	16,036
Baton Rouge CC	579,887	South La. C C	365,919
Baton Rouge Campus	-	Acadian Campus	-
Folkes Campus	-	Charles B. Coreil Campus	-
Jumonville Campus	-	Evangeline Campus	-
West Side Campus	-	Gulf Area Campus	-
Bossier Parish CC	236,839	Lafayette Campus	-
Central Louisiana TCC	-	Teche Campus	-
Alexandria Campus	16,716	T H Harris Campus	-
Avoyelles Campus	9,481	Sowela Tech CC	206,371
Huey P Long Campus	9,535	Morgan Smith Campus	-
Lamar Salter Campus	10,359	LCTC SYSTEM SUB-TOTAL	4,356,214
Oakdale Campus	4,237	Centenary	122,304
Shelby Jackson Campus	8,711	Dillard	275,358
Delgado CC	2,326,953	La College	200,485
Jefferson Campus	-	Loyola	278,298
West Jefferson Campus	-	NO Bapt. Seminary	-
Sidney Collier Campus	-	Our Lady Holy Cross	52,629
Louisiana Delta CC	229,916	Our Lady Of Lake	284,776
Tallulah Campus	-	St. Joseph Seminary	-
Bastrop Campus	-	Tulane	331,991
Delta -Ouachita Campus	-	Xavier	657,428
North Central Campus	-	INDEPENDENTS' SUB-TOTAL	2,203,269
		Total	24,639,725

LOSFA's Social Media Sites



<http://www.facebook.com/LOSFA>



<http://www.twitter.com/LOSFA>



<http://www.youtube.com/LOSFA1000>



www.Flickr.com/LOSFA



For more information, contact the
Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance:

By Phone: 800-259-5626

By E-mail: custserv@la.gov

By Mail: P.O. Box 91202, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202

Web Address: www.osfa.la.gov

For submissions, opinions, or comments for the LOSFA LOOP,
please contact Gus Wales at Gus.Wales@la.gov.