

**LOUISIANA STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Student Financial Aid Bulletin

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TOPICS:	Plan for Addressing Early Start Funding Shortfall for 2011 Spring Term

As indicated in the email notice dated 12/3/2010 (see below), it appears the remaining Early Start funds will be inadequate to fund all students for the spring 2011 term.* As promised, LOSFA worked with the Board of Regents to develop a plan to address the funding shortfall. This notice details that plan:

Early Start payments for spring 2011 will be on a pro-rata basis. Immediately following the April 1, 2011 billing deadline, LOSFA will determine the total billed. The total funds available will be divided by the total billed and the result will be the pro-rata amount. For example, it is projected that billing for the spring will be \$2,605,017. The amount of funds available is projected to be \$1,627,650. If these figures hold true, then the pro-rata amount will be 62.5% of the billed amount.

Institutions are expected to absorb the difference in the pro-rata payment and full payment, and in no circumstances shall the difference be passed on to the student. That amount will not be determined until the final billing is received.

It is imperative that institutions adhere to the billing and correction deadline since:

- **ONLY PAYMENT REQUESTS RECEIVED BY THE APRIL 1ST DEADLINE WILL BE PROCESSED**
- **SCHOOLS WILL HAVE FROM APRIL 2-APRIL 30 TO SUBMIT CORRECTIONS: THIS ONLY APPLIES TO BILLS RECEIVED BY APRIL 1ST**
- **ALL PAYMENT AMOUNTS WILL BE FINALIZED AND PROCESSED AFTER MAY 1ST**
- **REQUESTS FOR LATE BILLINGS/CORRECTIONS WILL NOT BE APPROVED**

The Board of Regents and LOSFA will review the framework/budget for 2011-12 in the near future. Both agencies will work with institutions to continue to support and grow a strong dual enrollment program.

**Due to the timing of this bulletin, billing will be allowed for students currently enrolled in the Winter Term. Institutions billing for the Winter Term are expected to strictly adhere to the billing deadline of December 30th. As with Spring Term, there will be NO late billings or corrections approved for the Winter Term.*

>>> Caleshia Clark 12/3/2010 9:38 AM >>>

ALL,

This communication is to inform you of important changes regarding the Early Start Program for the **Spring 2011** semester/term.

Midyear budget cuts have reduced the 2010-11 Early Start budget from \$5.5 million to **\$4,959,650**. As we complete processing for the fall semester/term, we will have approximately **\$1.8 million** to disburse for the Spring semester/term 2011 payment requests.

In response to the midyear cuts, LASFAC and the Board of Regents have approved reducing payments for any Early Start course taken at a Louisiana Technical College to **\$50** per credit hour, up to **\$150** per course, to cover the costs of a student's enrollment. This will be effective Spring 2011.

Despite these cost saving measures, we anticipate that the remaining budget will not be sufficient to cover all anticipated spring billings. We are working with the Louisiana Board of Regents to develop a plan to address the funding shortfall. We will be in contact with you soon once the plan has been finalized.

Thanks,

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