

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

Student Financial Aid Bulletin

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TOPICS:	Changes to Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship

The Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program has undergone some recent changes.

As an institution, the change most noted will be the fact that the billing process is being automated. The verification of student enrollment and major course of study by LOSFA will not change. You will continue to get those requests manually from our Scholarship and Grant Division. However, beginning with academic year 2008-2009, once a student has been determined eligible for participation, the student will appear on the TOPS Master Roster as "OR" in the Award Selected field. For your convenience, under the "Master Roster Individual" link, a "Rockefeller Roster Individual" link will be provided which will enable you to search for individual Rockefeller recipients.

You may request payment for students enrolled full-time at your school after the conclusion of the 14th class day (9th day at term school). These requests should include the following information:

- RK should be indicated in the Academic Standing field on the payment request;
- The payment amount should reflect the semester amount of \$500, or appropriate term amount of \$333 or \$334, and
- If requesting payment of both TOPS and Rockefeller for the same student, a separate payment request for each Program using the appropriate coding should be submitted.

When requesting a Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship payment, you are certifying that the student:

- Was enrolled full-time at the end of the 14th class day (9th day at term school);
- Remains enrolled in the major course of study reported to LOSFA, and
- For continuing students, has maintained steady academic progress.

The addition of Rockefeller recipients to the TOPS Master Roster necessitates a change to the Start Owner Field. On-screen, this field will be labeled as "Funding Sources". The coding to this field will be as follows:

TOPS Only – 0	Rock, TOPS - 2
Rock Only - 0	Start, Rock, TOPS - 3
Start, TOPS - 1	Rock, Start - 4

Other program changes effective for academic year 2008-2009:

The application has changed and is now a combination Application and Master Promissory Note. The application can be found at <http://www.osfa.state.la.us/ROCKEFELLER.pdf>.

New student applicants must continue to file the FAFSA by July 1 and must also submit the Rockefeller Application and Master Promissory Note by July 1 preceding the academic year for which the scholarship is sought in order to be considered for the fall and spring semester. To be eligible for the scholarship, if funds are available for the spring semester, the Rockefeller Application and Master Promissory Note must be received no later than December 1 immediately preceding the spring semester for which the scholarship is sought.

Postsecondary institutions using terms will now be paid at the rate of \$333 for the fall and winter term and of \$334 for the spring term.

In addition, this is in response to questions on treatment of the Rockefeller Award in an Over Award situation. As with any non-need based state aid or other resource a student receives, it must be included in the student's aid and resources in determination of a student's financial need. The Rockefeller award would not be reduced, but it could result in a reduction of other need based or loan aid the student may be receiving.

Complete program rule, Title 28, Part. IV, Chapter 11, can be found at http://www.osfa.state.la.us/ProgramRules_PartIV.pdf.

Should you have questions regarding these changes, you may contact Bonnie Lavergne, Special Programs Administrator, at 225-922-0412 or blavergne@osfa.state.la.us.

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