

NOTICE OF INTENT
Student Financial Assistance Commission
Office of Student Financial Assistance
Scholarship/Grant Programs
(LAC 28:IV.1009, 1011, 1013, 1015 and 1017)

The Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission (LASFAC) announces its intention to amend its Scholarship/Grant rules (LSA-R.S. 17:3021-3025, LSA-R.S. 3041.10-3041.15, LSA-R.S. 17:3042.1, LSA-R.S. 17:3048.1, LSA-R.S. 17:3048.5 and LSA-R.S. 17:3048.6).

This rulemaking aligns the certification requirements of the TOPS Tech Early Start Award with those for the Early Start Award such that high schools are responsible for certifying that students are eligible for the program and that participating colleges and universities are responsible for ensuring that students enroll in eligible courses.

The proposed rule has no known impact on family formation, stability, or autonomy, as described in LSA-R.S. 49:972. The proposed rule will have no adverse impact on small businesses as described in LSA-R.S. 49:965.2 *et seq.* (SG10114NI)

Title 28
Education Scholarship and Grant Programs
Part IV. Student Financial Assistance-
Higher Education

Chapter 10. TOPS-Tech Early
Start Award

§1009. ~~Eligibility~~
~~Determination~~Responsibilities of
LOSFA

~~A. LOSFA shall determine the initial eligibility of students for the TOPS Tech Early Start Award and provide a list of eligible students to public postsecondary institutions.~~

~~B. A.~~ Upon receipt of bills from institutions submitted in accordance with §1903.B, LOSFA will reimburse the institution for each eligible student in accordance with §1903.

~~C. LOSFA shall determine the continuing eligibility of students for the TOPS Tech Early Start Award and provide a list of eligible students to public postsecondary institutions.~~

~~D.~~ LOSFA shall conduct audits of the participating Louisiana public postsecondary institutions to ensure compliance with program requirements.

~~E.~~ LOSFA shall provide the information necessary to fully inform Louisiana public high school students and their parents on the requirements of and procedures for applying for and maintaining the award.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:3021-3036, R.S. 17:3042.1, R.S. 17:3048.1 and R.S. 17:3048.5.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Student Financial Assistance Commission, Office of Student Financial Assistance, LR 31:3110 (December 2005).

§1011. Responsibilities of High Schools ~~and~~
~~School Boards~~

A. The high school ~~and school board~~ shall comply with the reporting requirements of §1703 for all students enrolled in high school.

B. The high school shall determine whether the student is eligible to participate in the TOPS-Tech Early Start program and in good standing in that high school. ~~approve or disapprove the student's participation in the TOPS Tech Early Start program.~~

~~C. If the high school approves~~ The high school's approval of the student's participation in the program by signing the student's application, it must certify that the student meets the eligibility criteria provided in §1005.A.1-5, and, if applicable, §1007.A.2 and 3 by signing the student's application.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:3021-3036, R.S. 17:3042.1, R.S. 17:3048.1 and R.S. 17:3048.5.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Student Financial Assistance Commission, Office of Student Financial Assistance, LR 31:3110 (December 2005).

§1013. Responsibilities of Louisiana Public Postsecondary Institutions

A. Each Louisiana public postsecondary institution that offers an industry based occupational or vocational education credential in a top demand occupation shall:

1. determine whether an eligible student has applied for enrollment in a course at that institution to pursue an industry based occupational or vocational education credential in a top demand occupation in accordance with §1903.D;

2. determine whether the student is in good standing at that institution has met the requirements to maintain an award as required by §1007.A.4-6 and may continue to enroll in courses at that institution to pursue an industry based occupational or vocational education credential in a top demand occupation in accordance with §1903.D;

3. submit bills to LOSFA in accordance with §1903.B for each eligible student so enrolled;

4. comply with the reporting and records retention requirements of §1903.A and F.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:3021-3036, R.S. 17:3042.1, R.S. 17:3048.1 and R.S. 17:3048.5.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Student Financial Assistance Commission, Office of Student Financial Assistance, LR 31:3110 (December 2005).

§1015. Responsibilities of the Board of Regents

~~A. The Board of Regents shall provide data in its possession to LOSFA as needed to determine initial eligibility for the TOPS Tech Early Start Award.~~

~~B.A.~~ The Board of Regents shall define, and maintain, and make available to LOSFA and public postsecondary institutions a list of industry based occupational or vocational education credentials.

~~C.B.~~ In the event that the funds appropriated for the TOPS-Tech Early Start Award are insufficient to pay all awards for all eligible students, the Board of Regents shall develop, approve and deliver a plan to LOSFA to limit the awards to the amount appropriated.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:3021-3036, R.S. 17:3042.1, R.S. 17:3048.1 and R.S. 17:3048.5.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Student Financial Assistance Commission, Office of Student Financial Assistance, LR 31:3110 (December 2005).

§1017. ~~Repealed Responsibilities of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE),~~

~~A. BESE shall provide data in its possession to LOSFA as needed to determine initial eligibility for the TOPS Tech Early Start Award.~~

~~B. LDE shall provide data in its possession to LOSFA as needed to determine initial eligibility for the TOPS Tech Early Start Award.~~

~~AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:3021-3036, R.S. 17:3042.1, R.S. 17:3048.1 and R.S. 17:3048.5.~~

~~HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Student Financial Assistance Commission, Office of Student Financial Assistance, LR 31:3110 (December 2005).~~

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed changes (SG10114NI) until 4:30 p.m., May 10, 2010, to Melanie Amrhein, Executive Director, Office of Student Financial Assistance, P.O. Box 91202, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202.

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