

**NOTICE OF INTENT**  
**Student Financial Assistance Commission**  
**Office of Student Financial Assistance**  
Scholarship/Grant Programs  
(LAC 28:IV.505)

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 revises the TOPS application deadline to allow payment of a TOPS Award beginning with the first semester, quarter or term of first-time, full-time enrollment for those students whose application for TOPS is received on or before July 1 (or no more than 120 days later with a reduction in award) immediately following the first anniversary of the student's high school graduation.

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.* (SG11123NI)

**Title 28**  
**EDUCATION**

**Part IV. Student Financial Assistance—Higher Education Scholarship and Grant Programs**

**Chapter 5. Applications, Federal Grant Aid and ACT Test**

**§505. Application Deadlines for High School Graduates and Home Study Completers of 2004 and Later and Eligible Non-Graduates**

A.1. –B.1. ...

2. Beginning with the 2007-2008 academic year (college), students will be eligible to receive the full benefits of a TOPS award as provided in §701.E beginning with the academic year (college) immediately after the student's one year anniversary of high school graduation if their initial FAFSA or on-line application is received after the July 1 immediately following the academic year (high school) of high school graduation and no later than the final deadline set forth in Subsection C, below, and if the student was enrolled during the preceding academic year (college), the student has met the requirements for continuing eligibility.

3. i. Beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year (college), students whose initial FAFSA or on-line application is received on or before July 1 immediately following the one year anniversary of

high school graduation will receive payment of their TOPS award as provided in §701.E beginning with the first semester, quarter or term the student enrolls for the first time as a full time student in an eligible college or university; provided that no payment of a TOPS award shall be made until the initial FAFSA or on-line application has been received and the applicant has been determined eligible for a TOPS award.

ii. If the initial FAFSA or on-line application is received after July 1 immediately following high school graduation, the payment of the TOPS award could be delayed depending on the date the application is received and the date the student enrolls for the first time as a full time student in an eligible college or university.

iii. A student who enrolls for the first time as a full time student before his FAFSA or on-line application is received must meet the requirements for maintaining eligibility in §705 to receive payments of his TOPS award after the first semester, quarter or term of full time enrollment at an eligible college or university.

**43. Examples**

a. A ~~2006-2007~~ 2009-2010 academic year (high school) high school graduate, who enrolls in the fall semester of ~~2007-2010~~, will be eligible to receive the full benefits of a TOPS award beginning the fall semester of 2007-2010 if ~~the his~~ initial FAFSA or on-line application is received on or before July 1, ~~2007-2010~~.

b. A ~~2006-2007~~2009-2010 academic year (high school) high school graduate, who enrolls

during the ~~2007-2008~~2010-2011 academic year, will be eligible to receive the full benefits of a TOPS award beginning the fall semester of ~~2008-2010~~ if ~~his~~ the initial FAFSA or ~~On-Line Application-on-line application~~ is received ~~after July 1, 2007 and~~ no later than July 1, ~~2008~~2011, and if he has met the requirements for continuing eligibility.

C. – G. ...

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

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Student Financial Assistance Commission, Office of Student Financial Assistance, LR 22:338 (May 1996), repromulgated LR 24:635 (April 1998), amended LR

24:1901 (October 1998), repromulgated LR 27:1847 (November 2001), amended LR 30:2017 (September 2004), LR 31:37 (January 2005), LR 32:2238 (December 2006), LR 33:83 (January 2007), LR 33:2357 (November 2007), LR 34:235 (February 2008).

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed changes (SG11123NI) until 4:30 p.m., November 9, 2010, to Melanie Amrhein, Executive Director, Office of Student Financial Assistance, P.O. Box 91202, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202.

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General Counsel