NOTICE OF INTENT

Student Financial Assistance Commission Office of Student Financial Assistance Scholarship/Grant Programs TOPS Tech Early Start Award (LAC 28:IV.1003)

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 adds definitions to the TOPS Tech Early Start Program rules including a definition of Technical or Applied Course. (SG15160NI)

Title 28 EDUCATION

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

Chapter 10. TOPS-Tech Early Start Award

§1003. Top Demand Occupation Definitions

Approved Training Program-a program provided by an approved training provider of technical and/or applied courses toward a credential in a top demand occupation.

Approved Training Provider-a Louisiana provider recognized by the Louisiana Workforce Commission and approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to provide technical and/or applied courses toward a credential in a top demand occupation.

<u>Credential-Industry-Based Certification, a Certificate of Applied Science or a Certificate of Technical Sciences approved by the Workforce Investment Council.</u>

<u>Technical or Applied Course—a course required for a credential in a top demand occupation.</u>

A. For the purposes of this Chapter, a credential in a "Top Demand Occupation":-an occupation

1. is a credential defined by the Board of Regents; and

2. is identified by the Occupation Forecasting Conference as being a credential for an occupation in top demand in Louisiana; and

3. is recognized by the State Industry-Based Certification Leadership Council.; and

4. is approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

5. is approved by the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges.

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).

<u>Family Impact Statement:</u> The proposed rule has no known impact on family formation, stability, or autonomy, as described in LSA-R.S. 49:972.

<u>Poverty Impact Statement:</u> The proposed rulemaking will have no impact on poverty as described in LSA-R.S. 49:973.

<u>Business Impact Statement:</u> The proposed rule will have no adverse impact on small businesses as described in LSA-R.S. 49:965.2 *et seq.*

Provider Impact Statement: The proposed rule will have no adverse impact on providers of services for individuals with developmental disabilities as described in HCR 170 of 2014.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed changes (SG15160NI) until 4:30 p.m., January 9, 2015, by email to LOSFA.Comments@la.gov or to Sujuan Williams Boutté, Ed. D., Executive Director, Office of Student Financial Assistance, P.O. Box 91202, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202.

George Badge Eldredge General Counsel