



# LOSFA LOOP

August/September 2017

Volume 10-6

## LOSFA Mentee of the Year: A Personal Experience

The LOSFA agency has helped my high school in many ways. One of those ways they helped was by giving us motivation. Every student at my school feared college because of not having money to pay.

Once LOSFA came in and showed how much money goes unused because students don't fill out FAFSA my school got on it right away and gained confidence to apply for college. LOSFA brought confidence to those students who never thought about going to college, students who are being told they will never be anything from their parents at home, students who have suicide thoughts because of the situation they have to go home to, and students who may not have a home. That's the situation the LOSFA agency came into and helped turn around and helped show us life in a different way.

Though many obstacles were faced, the LOSFA agency continued to come to my school and unconditionally

**Khristopher Hobbs pictured with Nicholas Cobb, LOSFA's Mentee of the Year.**



help students who didn't want to fill out the FAFSA or students who didn't have the proper tools to fill it out.

As for me, I was the ambassador/Trailblazer for my school, so I was the first to hear about FAFSA at my school. I didn't know what FAFSA was or how to fill it out. After one meeting with the LOSFA agency I left with knowledge to help fellow students with their FAFSA!

I was also a mentee of the Aspire to Inspire mentoring program. A program that helped me flourish to my full potential. I've always had the tools to be an amazing student, athlete, and leader, but I never took it seriously. Prior to starting the program in October, I was accepted to zero schools, tardy for class every day, didn't help others though I was equipped to, and didn't lead my school the way I was supposed to while knowing they depended on me. In the program, Mr. Hobbs and Mr. Campbell would come to our school on selected Wednesdays of the month from October-May to mentor students. We would just sit down and talk about all the good and bad things going on in each of our lives, and the great part was that Mr. Hobbs and Mr. Campbell always had answers.

That's what made that program so great, they weren't silver spoon-fed men feeding us a bunch of lies, they lived what we were going through and that really helped me build a personal relationship with each of them. After having so many encounters with this

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## LOSFA Mentee of the Year: A Personal Experience

group, I started to view life different and started taking small steps to my full potential. In October I wasn't even accepted into college, and now I was accepted into 27+ colleges, a few being Howard, Morehouse, and La Tech. I also have over \$300,000 in scholarships, I am the mentee of the year, an honor graduate, I finished as SGA president, and Health Club president.

Since I graduated in May, I spent my summer getting ahead by taking college courses and I now inspire kids and show them that no matter the situation or the predicament you were placed in, it's always a way out, no matter how dark it may seem. Along with LOSFA and my mom's support, it's crazy what a little bit of motivation can do for a student. Being named 2016-2017 mentee of the year was an amazing feeling because we had some great guys in the group, but being named mentee of the year helped me continue to push.

Sincerely,  
Nicholas Cobb  
Glen Oaks High School Graduate  
FAFSA Ambassador/Trailblazer



**K h r i s t o p h e r Hobbs pictured with Nicholas Cobb, after a meeting for the Aspire to Inspire Program. Mr. Cobb states "That's what made that program so great, they weren't silver spoon fed men feeding us a bunch of lies, they lived what we were going through and that really helped me build a personal relationship with each of them."**

### #WhyApply Day on Friday, September 22, 2017

LOSFA will be participating in the American College Application Campaign (ACAC) Social Media Campaign on Friday, September 22 to help promote students submitting college applications and celebrating their plans for the future.

How can you show your support?

Join the social media campaign! It's easy! Consider the question, "why should students apply to college?" Then share your response on your favorite social

media platform using #WhyApply and encourage your friends, family, and colleagues to do the same. You might:

- Type a short response in your status
- Make a video of yourself, your kids, or your friends answering the question
- Draw a picture depicting your reasons
- Write your answer on a piece of paper and post a photo of you holding it
- Share an image or photo with your reason

## October is Louisiana College Application and Access Month!

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), along with key education stakeholders in the State of Louisiana, have collaborated to develop and implement Louisiana College Application and Access Month during the month of October. ID registrations, FAFSA Completions, career searches, employment applications, military searches and military applications.



Powered by LOSFA

LCAAM was developed to assist 12th grade students with navigating the complex college admissions process and to ensure that they apply to at least one postsecondary institution of interest. High Schools have the opportunity to invite families to attend and to take advantage of completing and submitting college applications with their students. LCAAM events may include college applications, FSA

High schools can hold the event anytime during the month of October. The event can be as little as 20 seniors participating to over 400 seniors participating and can be a day or night event. The event is usually held in an area that has computer and internet access.

If you would like your high school to participate in this year's LCAAM, please contact Brandi Morrison at [brandi.morrison@la.gov](mailto:brandi.morrison@la.gov) or [brittani.williams@la.gov](mailto:brittani.williams@la.gov).

## Compete to Complete Winners

During the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Meeting On August 17, 2017, LOSFA and its partners presented Nanette McCann (Principal, Baton Rouge Magnet High School), Brandon Levatino (Principal, Northeast High School), and Anitra Walker (Assistant Principal, Woodlawn High School) with plaques to celebrate their schools' victories in the FAFSA Compete to Complete Campaign for the City of Baton Rouge. The three



categories were Highest FAFSA Completion Rate (BRMHS), Most Improved (Woodlawn High School), and Most Innovative Campaign (Northeast High School).

# LOSFA's Social Media Sites



<http://www.facebook.com/LOSFA>



<http://www.twitter.com/LOSFA>



<http://www.youtube.com/LOSFA1000>



<http://instagram.com/LOSFA001>



For more information, contact the  
Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance  
A program under The Board of Regents

By Phone: 800-259-5626

By E-mail: [custserv@la.gov](mailto:custserv@la.gov)

By Mail: P.O. Box 91202,  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202

Web Address: [www.osfa.la.gov](http://www.osfa.la.gov)



For submissions, opinions, or comments for the LOSFA LOOP, please  
contact Gus Wales at [Gus.Wales@la.gov](mailto:Gus.Wales@la.gov).