



From the Desk of the Executive Director



“Any society, any nation, is judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members -- the last, the least, the littlest.”
- Cardinal Roger Mahony, *In a 1998 letter, Creating a Culture of Life*

Dr. Sujuan Boutté

This quote was part of a powerful presentation, given by Kavitha Cardoza, at the 2017 Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) Capacity Building Workshop (CBW). Kavitha is a Correspondent for Education Week/PBS Newshour. She has covered education for more than 15 years, most recently as a special correspondent for NPR where she covered education, poverty and children. Kavitha’s presentation focused on the ‘Power of Story’ as part of the Mobilize framework. The presentation featured insightful clips that demonstrated the struggle limited income students face with college access and success.

The annual CBW is conducted by the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCPEP), the professional development and advocacy entity for the GEAR UP Program. Our team had the privilege of hearing powerful speakers like Kavitha, and attending professional development workshops while networking with GEAR UP Program leaders from across the nation.

The Framework of the 2017 CBW was Excel, Prove and Mobilize:

Excel— ensuring a mindset of continual improvement

and equipping GEAR UP professionals with the skills necessary to consistently improve their programs.

Prove — ensuring that GEAR UP programs and staff have the appropriate infrastructure and capability to make informed decisions based on reliable data and, ultimately, to be able to demonstrate impact.

Mobilize — ensuring that our work locally and nationally finds a collective voice to secure the long term sustainability and growth of GEAR UP and to continually recruit more individuals and partners to the movement.”

The NCCPEP CBW Framework affirmed the direction and framework our program currently utilizes:

Motivate, Instruct and Follow Through with students/parents/families by meeting them where they are and assisting them with getting to where they need to be;

Collect Quantitative and Qualitative Data and use them as the basis for decisions and changes, to keep improving programs and services, and

Tell Your Story so that stakeholders realize the importance of the work you do and the difference it makes in the lives of the people we serve: Among them are the weakest, the last, the least and the littlest.

Best,
S.

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the Real FLY Tour OF LOSFA





the Real FLY Tour OF LOSFA



the Real FLY Tour OF LOSFA





the Real FLY TOUR OF LOSFA





the Real FLY Tour OF LOSFA



PLAYBILL

LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR YOU TOUR 2017



the Real
FLY Tour
OF LOSFA





the Real FLY Tour OF LOSFA

ORDER OF PRODUCTION

"On this season of The REAL FLY Tour of LOSFA..."

EPISODE 1 - "CLUELESS"

Actors/Actresses - Khris, Cordero, Tiera, Timenee, Breanna

Story Line - Do you or a fellow classmate just feel like you're not getting a grasp on this whole college thing? You might find that Tiera doesn't in this episode. If you're a little "clueless" or just need to get on the right track, know that there are a ton of people and resources out there to help you.

EPISODE 2 - "MATCHING AIN'T EASY"

Actresses - Juterh, Brandi, Kyleigh

Story Line - Just when you thought finding things that you like couldn't possibly be that difficult, your friends bring you back down to Earth. Like finding the perfect dress for prom or those fresh pair of "J's," matching up to the postsecondary pathway for YOU is just as important.

EPISODE 3: "HOW'D YOU PREPARE FOR COLLEGE, ANYWAY?"

Story Line - In this two-part episode, friends discuss those next steps that students often fail to think about such as submitting their test scores and transcript to the institution, completing a housing application, or attending orientation over the summer. Remember, getting into college is a "process".

Part I: "Don't Forget to Submit"

Actor/Actress - Juterh, Cordero

Part II: "U Name It"

Actor/Actress - Khris, Charlie

Commercial

EPISODE 4 - "WHAT'S A FAFSA?"

Actors/Actresses - Ebony, Brandi, Scott

Story Line - It's only been mentioned like 1,000 times about being FREE! It's the only application that you need for state and federal financial aid. You may want to pay close attention so you don't miss the deadline.

Commercial

EPISODE 5 - "THE DATE"

Actors/Actress - Khris, Breanna, Scott

Story Line - Loans are not always a bad thing, but responsible borrowing is key. We don't want "Shady Loans, Inc." coming after you once you've graduated. Get the scoop on some tips to maximize your financial aid opportunities.

EPISODE 6 - "THE CONCERT"

Actresses - Timenee, Juterh, Tiera

Story Line - I know everyone would be excited to see Queen Bey! We would too! But she was unavailable, so we got her 'cousin', Queen T!

THE CAST

Scott Burke
Cordero Campbell
Christopher Hobbs
Ebony Holmes
Charlie Lewis

Tiera LeBlanc
Oscar McClain
Jenny Moran
Brandi Morrison
Juterh Nmah

Breanna Paul
Kyleigh Quiroga
Darius Spurlock
Trey Square
Timenee Thomas

MEET THE LOSFA 5-POINT MATCH!

UNLOCK YOUR CAREER PATH AND GET PAID FOR WHAT YOU LOVE TO DO!

If you've found your career code, you're already off and running with the LOSFA 5-Point Match tool! It's all about discovering what you do better than anyone else, and turning what you love into an actual living. Make sure to check out the My Keys section at unlockmyfuture.org for a bunch of resources that will guide you through the other match points and help you to create your career prep plan. These will all play big parts in helping you create the roadmap for your future.

The LOSFA 5-Point Match tool helps make sure Louisiana kids like you have everything you need to prepare for awesomeness in school and beyond. You're in the driver's seat now—where you're headed is all up to you!

KICK OFF YOUR 5-POINT MATCH!



YOUR KEYS

The LOSFA 5-Point Match tool is all about helping Louisiana students get started on the path to success. The best career choices for you, how to pay for the education you need, where you meet admission standards and more—the 5-Point Match has got you covered!

YOUR FUTURE IS READY TO BE UNLOCKED!

[Aptitude, Skills & Interests](#)
[Academic](#)
[Cost of Choice](#)
[Social and Emotional](#)
[Retention](#)



LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ LSU has the No. 1 Landscape Architecture Program / LSU Law Ranked #8 Best Value Law School in Nation / LSU E. J. Ourso College of Business and LSU College of Engineering undergraduate programs are ranked in the top 50 among public universities
- ▶ At the Olinde Career Center, there are opportunities to apply for internships and student employment

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ The GPA requirement is a 3.0 academic GPA based on Required High School Courses
- ▶ Test Score Requirement (ACT, New SAT, or Old SAT):
 - ACT: 22 composite score, with at least: 19 math subscore, 18 English subscore
 - New SAT*: 1100 total score, with at least: 500 math score, 25 writing and language score
 - Old SAT: 1030 critical reading & math score, with at least: 460 math score, 450 critical reading score
- ▶ Average ACT is 25.7 and average GPA is a 3.45

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ Average cost of attendance for first year student = \$32174
- ▶ We offer a tuition exemption to our LA residents who fall within the 150% of poverty level and are eligible for a federal Pell grant
- ▶ Estimated yearly cost for a Louisiana Resident: Tuition & fees (12 hours per semester) \$10,758 + Housing (2 student room in Herget Hall) \$6,900 + Meal Plan (15 meals per week) = \$21,668
- ▶ Federal College Work Study Program (students can work up to 20 hours per week and earn up to \$2,400 per year. Students earn an hourly wage and are paid bi-weekly)
- ▶ President's Future Leaders in Research Program / President's Student Aide Program (students can work up to 20 hours per week to earn up to \$1,550 per year for eight semesters. Students are paid an hourly wage, and paychecks are sent bi-weekly)

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ LSU has more than 300 registered student organizations (including service, religious, and academic focused groups, and a large Greek Life population)
- ▶ LSU also offers key services to help students succeed such as the Olinde Career Center, Center for Academic Success, Residential Life, Student Health Center and University Recreation
- ▶ Additionally, our Office of Disability Services is available to assist students with various needs
- ▶ LSU's total undergraduate enrollment is 26123. Located in the state capital, LSU is considered an urban campus

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ 68% of our new first-time full-time freshmen graduated within 6 years or less
- ▶ As of May 2015, 21% of graduating students immediately pursued a post-graduate degree



UNLOCK YOUR FUTURE AT LSU BY VISITING UNLOCKMYFUTURE.ORG

DILLARD UNIVERSITY



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ STEM programs (Biology, Chemistry, Physics) are sought out by many students
- ▶ Internships are offered to all students regardless of their academic major or career field

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ GPA requirement is a 2.5 unweighted GPA and 18 ACT or 870 SAT
- ▶ Average GPA and ACT score for incoming freshmen is 3.1 GPA and 20 ACT

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ Our cost of attendance changes almost annually. Currently, COA for an incoming 1st year student for one semester is \$14,000
- ▶ On campus federal work study and other off campus job opportunities

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ Approximately 50 various clubs and organization for our students including Greek organizations, religious affiliated, program based, etc
- ▶ Our average yearly total enrollment is approximately 1200 students. Dillard is considered an urban campus

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ We only offer undergraduate degrees

NUNEZ COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ LA Transfer Degree, nursing and Industrial (Process) Technology
- ▶ Nursing and PTEC programs are recognized in our region for preparing students for and placing them in high-demand, high-wage jobs
- ▶ Internships and practicums are available to students in many of our programs including Paralegal; Care and Development of Young Children; Culinary Arts; Emergency Medical Technician (Paramedic); Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning; and Process Technology

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ We are an open admissions institution; students just need to have obtained a High School Diploma
- ▶ The average GPA and ACT score for incoming freshmen is 2.524 GPA / 20.3 ACT

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ Average cost for a freshman student is \$4,295 per year, to include personal expenses and financial aid
- ▶ Many of our students receive refunds to pay for things like books and gas. Our tuition is the lowest in the state and did not increase for the 2016-2017 year
- ▶ We offer student worker positions to help students cover the cost of tuition

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ Student Success Center to support students in their studies, as well as a Student Government Organization, honor society, community service group, health center, Pelican Bay Café and a full gym
- ▶ Nunez is considered a suburban campus

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ 15% of our new first-time full-time freshmen graduated within 6 years or less



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UNLOCK YOUR FUTURE AT NUNEZ BY VISITING UNLOCKMYFUTURE.ORG

SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ Communications, Psychology, Criminal Justice, Accounting, Business Administration and Management, Kinesiology, Education, Nursing, Biology, Computer Science, Engineering Technology, Industrial Technology are sought out programs
- ▶ Programs in Sports Management, Nursing, Biology, Occupational Health, Safety & Environment, New Media and Education are all recognized regionally or nationally
- ▶ In SELU's real world ready program – students in many academic disciplines can obtain internships, relevant jobs and other hands-on learning experiences

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ Completion of Board of Regents HS core curriculum; No more than one developmental course needed; Cumulative GPA of 2.35 on a 4.0 scale; ACT composite of at least 21 or core GPA of 2.0 higher on a 4.0 scale
- ▶ Students who do not meet these standards may be eligible for admission through Southeastern's alternative admission process
- ▶ Average GPA and ACT score for incoming freshmen is 3.18 GPA / 22 ACT

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ The tuition and fee cost to attend Southeastern for the 2016 - 2017 academic year is approximately \$6,170
- ▶ The room and board cost varies depending on which residence hall and meal plan you select; however, the typical cost is \$7,590 annually to live on campus
- ▶ We offer on and off campus work study, graduate assistant positions and internships. Also, the Office of Career Services helps place students in off campus jobs

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ Center for Student Excellence: serves freshmen for academic counseling and tutoring for all students. Health Center for physical needs, Counseling Center for emotional needs. Office of Disability Services to aid students with disabilities. Also operates a Student Food Pantry for those facing food insecurity

- ▶ Greek organizations associated with College Panhellenic Council, Interfraternity Council and the National Panhellenic Council are offered on campus as well as religious organizations from most denominations
- ▶ Average yearly total enrollment is 14,500 and our campus environment is small town situated between two large metropolitan areas: Baton Rouge and New Orleans

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ 40% of our new first-time full-time freshmen graduated within 6 years or less

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SOWELA



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ Process technology is a highly sought out course of study
- ▶ We offer internships or other job opportunities for students in all fields of study

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ We are an open admissions institution; students just need to have obtained a High School Diploma
- ▶ The average GPA and ACT score for incoming freshmen is 2.9 GPA / 20 ACT

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ The cost of attendance per student in their first year of enrollment is about \$6,500 including books and tuition
- ▶ We offer internships or other job opportunities for your students to help cover costs

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ Criminal Justice Club, Future Business Leaders of America, Phi Beta Lambda, Graphic Arts Club, National Technical Honor Society, SkillsUSA, Southwest Student Chapter of Louisiana Restaurant Association, SOWELA Gamerz, Student Government Association
- ▶ The average yearly total enrollment is 3,500 students
- ▶ Our campus identifies as rural

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ The majority of students graduate within 3 1/2 years
- ▶ We do not offer any post graduate degrees

CENTRAL LOUISIANA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ The Practical Nursing program is our most sought-after course of study
- ▶ The Practical Nursing Program is also accredited by the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nursing Examiners. The Air Conditioner & Refrigeration Program is nationally accredited by HVAC Excellence
- ▶ We offer internships and other job opportunities for students in career fields that are certified by NCCER

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ We are an open admissions institution; students just need to have obtained a High School Diploma

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ The cost of attendance for a full-time student is \$18,301. The tuition and basic fees for a student enrolled in twelve credit hours is \$2,044.52 per semester. Eligible students may receive book vouchers, in lieu of out-of-pocket textbook expenses
- ▶ Various employers send individuals to complete credential based training. Employers include AFCCO Industries, Eclectic Products, and Roy O Martin

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ Student Government Association. CLTCC also has a SkillsUSA Chapter. SkillsUSA allows students to participate in technical skills competitions at the local, state, and national level. Eligible students are invited for membership into Phi Theta Kappa, a nationally recognized honor society
- ▶ CLTCC's average enrollment is 3,223 students per year. CLTCC Alexandria is an urban campus. It will relocate to downtown Alexandria, LA upon completion of the approximately 60,000 square foot building

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ 39% of our new first-time full-time freshmen graduated within 6 years or less
- ▶ We do not offer any post graduate degrees



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UNLOCK YOUR FUTURE AT CLTCC BY VISITING UNLOCKMYFUTURE.ORG

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ General Studies and Nursing are our most sought-after courses of study. Both are recognized regionally or nationally
- ▶ The Career Service department is responsible for employer relations/ job development initiatives as well as the Service-Learning program. The Center seeks to build partnerships with SUSLA and the community through volunteerism, internships, and job placement. This activity affords students and alumni the opportunity to integrate theory and methodology beyond the academic setting through placement in community agencies, businesses, and industry. Through the career services center the university will empower students with the tools and resources to obtain a quality career or transition into a four-year program

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ 18.4 % of our new first-time full-time freshmen (Fall 2012) graduated within 6 years or less

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ We are an open admissions institution; students just need to have obtained a High School Diploma
- ▶ Our average GPA and ACT score for incoming freshmen is 2.36 GPA / 16.5 ACT composite

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ Eligible students may receive book vouchers during registration to prevent out-of-pocket textbook expenses. We offer deferred payment plans for those who are unable to pay the full tuition amount by the census date
- ▶ We offer on-campus federal work study

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ We do not have any Greek organizations
- ▶ We do have the following clubs and organizations: Afro-American Society, Athletics, Alpha Sigma Epsilon, Baptist Collegiate Ministry, Biology Club, Business Club, C.E.L.T, Cheerleaders, Early Childhood Education Club, Electronics Technology Club, Elite Club, Female Support Group, Health Information Technology Associate, Hospitality Club, International Club, Jazzy Jags Dancers, Library Club, M.L.T & Phlebotomy Club, Miss SUSLA Royal Court, NAACP, Phi Theta Kappa, Radiologic Technology Club, SGA, University Ambassadors
- ▶ The average yearly total enrollment is 4,245, as of 2016. Our campus identifies as rural



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NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ Nursing (National), Education (National), Business (National), Creative and Performing Arts are our most sought-after courses of study. These programs are regionally or nationally recognized
- ▶ There are on-campus jobs available in multiple departments, and internships are also available through the university as well as in the Natchitoches community

- ▶ The average yearly total enrollment is 9,500
- ▶ The campus identifies as rural

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ First time enrolling students must have a 2.35 GPA, ACT/SAT subscore of 18/450 in English or 19/460 in Math
- ▶ Students who do not meet the above requirements may be admitted on exception by applying early and meeting additional requirements (a limited number of exceptions are available)
- ▶ The average GPA and ACT score for incoming freshmen is 3.2 GPA / 21 ACT score

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ 40% of our new first-time full-time freshmen graduated within 6 years or less
- ▶ 18% of students return to obtain post-graduate degrees

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ The cost of attendance is \$3,400/semester for in-state students, \$8,800/semester for out-of-state students
- ▶ Out-of-State fees can be waived for all students having a 21 ACT or SAT of 990 or higher and a 2.75 GPA or higher. Out-of-State fees can also be waived for any students with 18 ACT or higher or 870 SAT that is receiving a performance scholarship
- ▶ There are on-campus jobs available in multiple departments on campus, jobs and internships are also available through the university as well as in the Natchitoches community

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ University Police, Health Services, Tutoring, Counseling, Academic Advising, Career Counseling, Disability Support Services, Food Pantry, Wellness Center are among the student life services available to your students
- ▶ College Panhellenic Council, Interfraternity Council, and National Pan-Hellenic Council, Catholic Student Organization, Methodist Student Organization, Baptist Collegiate Ministry, Student Activities Board, Student Government Association, University Spirit Groups, Honor Societies, etc.



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UNLOCKMYFUTURE.ORG

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ (No particular order) Agriculture, Business, Criminal Justice, Engineering (Civil, Mechanical, Electrical), Nursing are the most sought-after courses of study
- ▶ Nursing is listed as the 2016 HBCU Nursing School of the Year by HBCU Digest
- ▶ Internships, study abroad and job opportunities are advertised by each school on the campus as well as the Office of Career Services

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ Completion of Louisiana Board of Regents' high school core curriculum, Minimum ACT English score of 18 OR Math score of 19 (SAT verbal score of 430 OR SAT math score of 460); *New SAT Writing/Language score of 25 or SAT Math Score of 500
- ▶ Students who have successfully completed the (GED) program must have an ACT composite score of 23 or higher (SAT of 1060 or higher). *New SAT total score of 1130. *If they do not have test scores they could take the Accuplacer (65 in Elementary Algebra | 70 in College Algebra | 86 in English)
- ▶ The average GPA and ACT score for incoming freshmen is 2.4 GPA / 21 ACT composite

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ In-state (tuition, housing, meal plan, cable & internet, mailbox) per semester: \$7,424 / Out-of-state (tuition, housing, meal plan, cable & internet, mailbox) per semester) \$11,099
- ▶ Work-Study is offered to students who enroll and qualify to help cover cost of education

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ Student Life Services are available, over 100 student organizations
- ▶ All Divine Nine Greek Organizations
- ▶ Departmental organizations
- ▶ The average yearly total enrollment is approximately 6,500 students.

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ 37% of our new first-time full-time freshmen graduated within 6 years or less
- ▶ 4%-8% of students return to obtain post-graduate degrees

GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY



Aptitude, Skills & Interests

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS HERE:

- ▶ Criminal Justice, Mass Communication, Education, Kinesiology, Business Marketing and Management are our most sought-after courses of study. They are also recognized regionally or nationally
- ▶ Office of Career Services assists students with securing internships or other job opportunities for students in career fields

Academic

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN GET IN HERE:

- ▶ Enrolling students must complete the Core-4 high school curriculum with minimum 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale
- ▶ ACT requirements: 19 Math or 18 English, SAT requirement: (old before 2016) Reading: 450 and Math: 460; (new) Writing/Language 25 or Math 500
- ▶ Our average GPA and ACT score for incoming freshmen is 2.89 GPA and 19 ACT / 900 Total SAT

Cost of Choice

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN AFFORD IT HERE:

- ▶ The average cost of attendance per student in their first year of enrollment is (tuition and fees) \$5,140 and room & board is \$8,560
- ▶ We offer on and off campus work study

Social and Emotional

THIS IS HOW YOU CONNECT HERE:

- ▶ Academic organizations, honor societies, social fraternities and sororities, sports clubs, united campus ministry, GSU Tiger Marching Band, GSU choir, religious organizations, residence hall clubs, city & state associations, international organizations, military organizations, student government, Orchesis dance company, GSU cheerleaders
- ▶ The average yearly total enrollment is 4,553
- ▶ The campus identifies as rural

Retention

THIS IS HOW YOUR POTENTIAL IS MET:

- ▶ 39.23% of our new first-time full-time freshmen graduated within 6 years or less



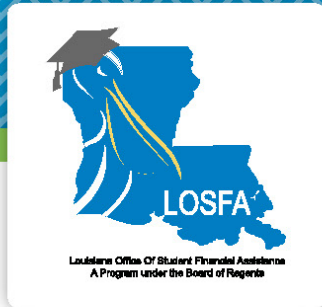
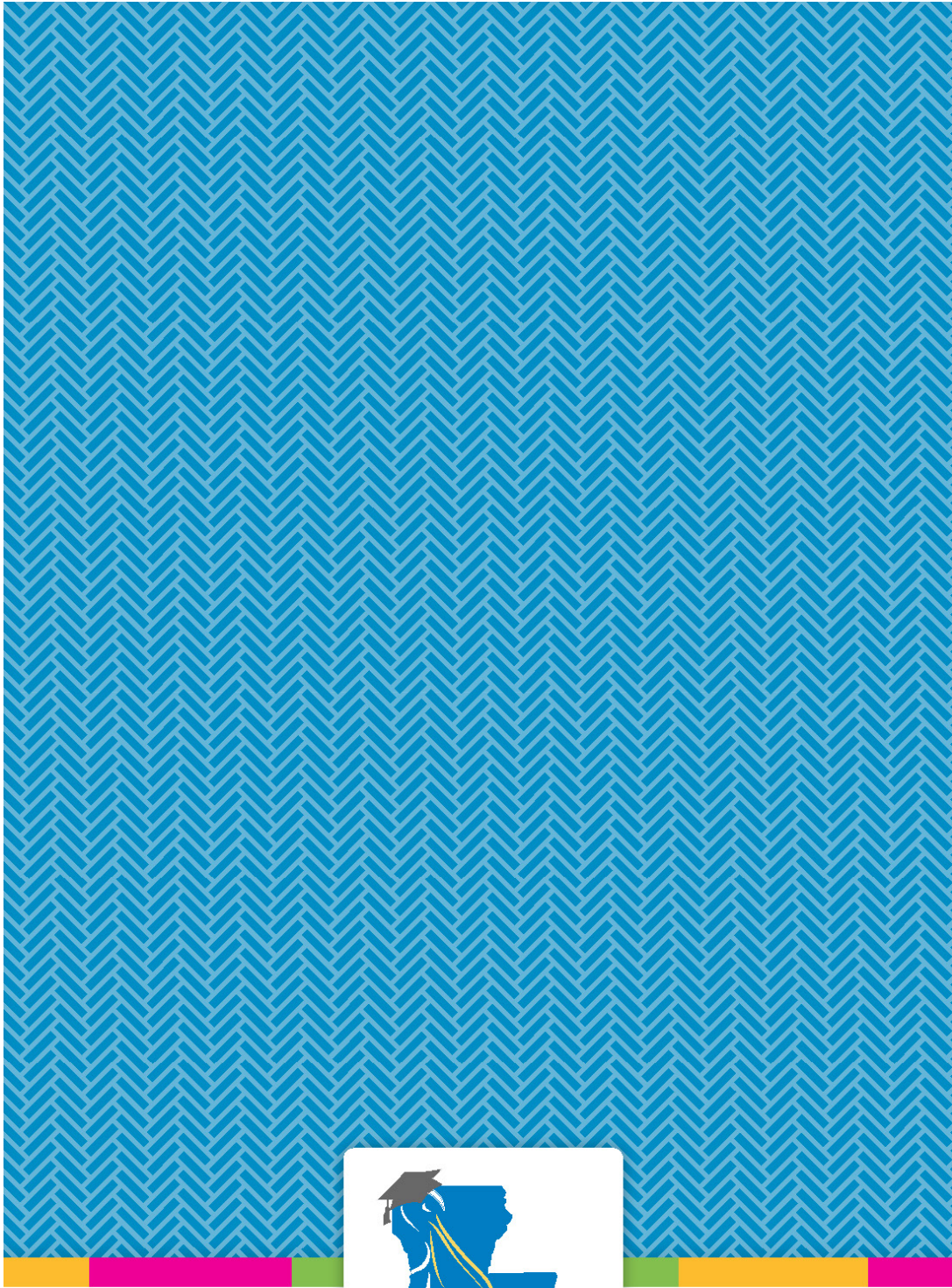
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Louisiana College Goal Sunday Assists 237 Students with FAFSA Completion

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) and the Louisiana Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (LASFAA) hosted Louisiana's tenth annual College Goal Sunday statewide events on Sunday, February 12, 2016, at fifteen locations around the state. A total of 237 students/families received free assistance from financial aid professionals with completing the primary student financial aid form, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Total College Goal Sunday attendance was 478 students and parents.

LASFAA representatives provided a general financial aid overview and a preview of the FAFSA content. LOSFA representatives explained the TOPS processing cycle and how to create an account in the Student Hub of the Louisiana Award System section of the LOSFA website to track both initial and continuing TOPS eligibility.

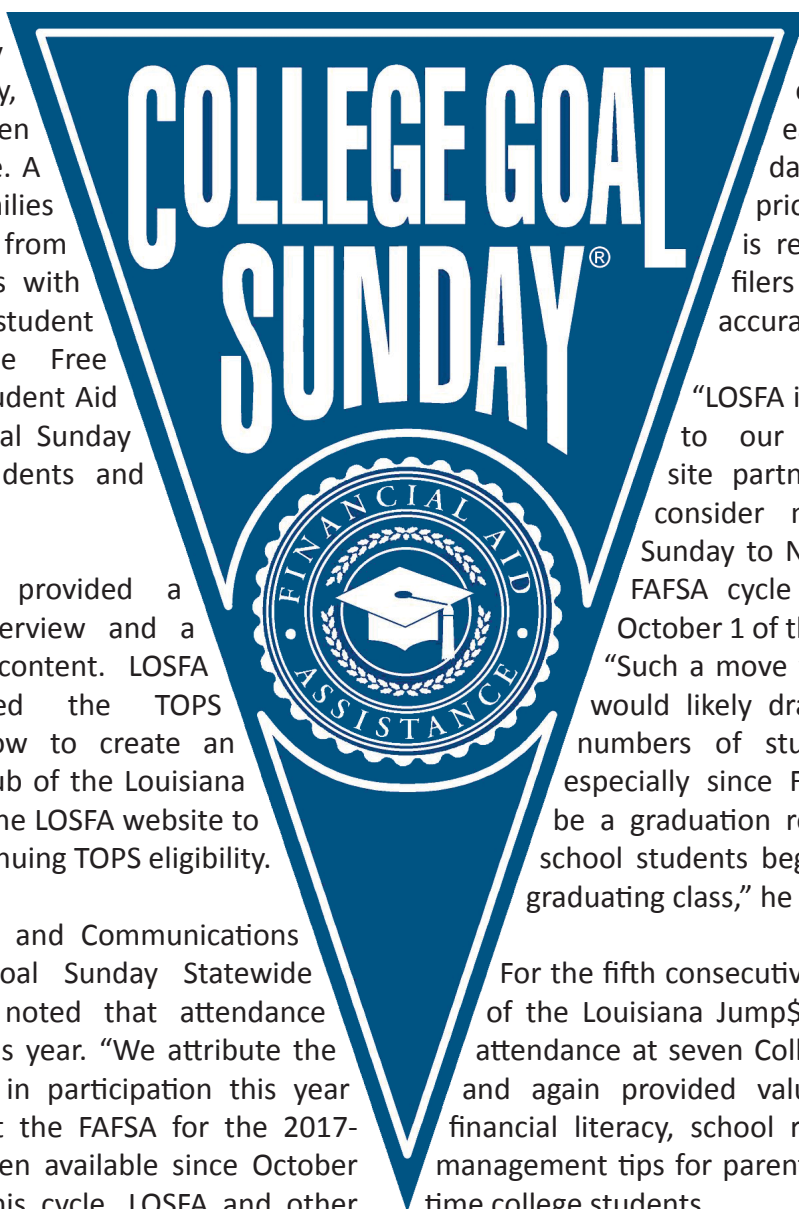
LOSFA Public Information and Communications Director and College Goal Sunday Statewide Coordinator Gus Wales noted that attendance was down significantly this year. "We attribute the approximately 50% drop in participation this year primarily to the fact that the FAFSA for the 2017-18 academic year has been available since October 1, 2016," Wales said. "This cycle, LOSFA and other College Access organizations have been aggressively conducting FAFSA completion events and workshops for more than four months prior to the February CGS date," he continued.

In prior years, the FAFSA for the academic year beginning the following fall semester has not been available until January and required completion of federal income taxes for the just completed calendar year. With the earlier FAFSA release date of October, prior-year tax information is required allowing more filers to have complete and accurate information earlier.

"LOSFA is going to recommend to our postsecondary host site partners that we strongly consider moving College Goal Sunday to November for the next FAFSA cycle which will begin on October 1 of this year," Wales added. "Such a move would be timelier and would likely draw significantly larger numbers of students and parents... especially since FAFSA completion will be a graduation requirement for public school students beginning with the 2018 graduating class," he concluded.

For the fifth consecutive year representatives of the Louisiana Jump\$tart Coalition were in attendance at seven College Goal Sunday sites and again provided valuable information on financial literacy, school resources, and money management tips for parents and soon-to-be first time college students.

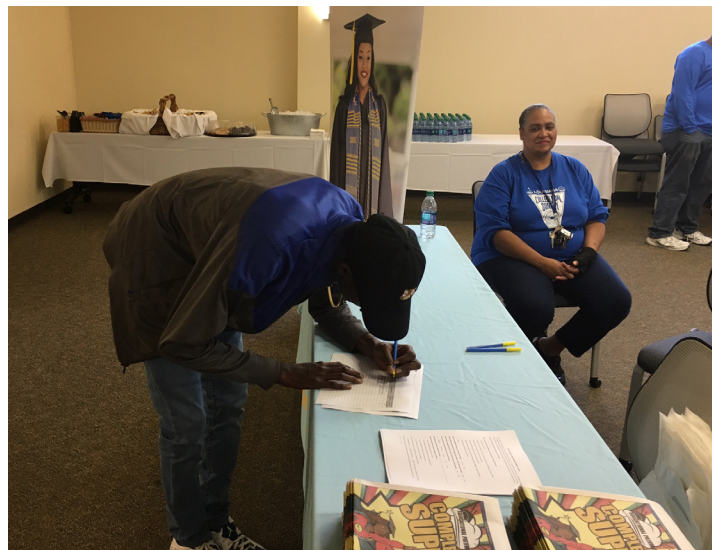
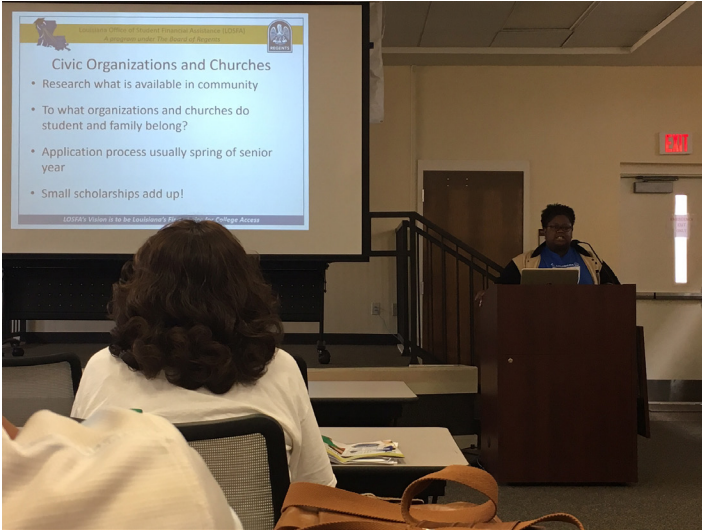
College Goal Sunday is a registered trademark of the National College Access Network (NCAN).



Louisiana College Goal Sunday 2017



Louisiana College Goal Sunday 2017



John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program Application Period is Now Open

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) will be accepting applications for the John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program through April 30, 2017, for eligible prosecutors and public defenders across the state.

The John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program in Louisiana provides for the repayment of eligible educational loans (both Federal Family Education Loan Program [FFELP] and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loans) for state and federal public defenders and state prosecutors employed in Louisiana who agree to remain employed as public defenders and prosecutors for at least three years.

In order to apply, applicants must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens who have been employed full time

(working at least 30 hours per week) as public defenders or assistant district attorneys for at least one year as of December 31, 2016. Applicants must also have at least \$20,000 in remaining eligible student loan debt and cannot be in default on any federal student loans.

Under the program, 10 eligible prosecutors will be awarded \$1,850.00 each, and five eligible public defenders will be awarded \$3,700.00 each. Two prosecutors and one public defender will be selected from each of the Louisiana Circuit Courts of Appeal.

Eligible applicants who are interested in applying for the award or who would like more information are encouraged to visit the LOSFA website, <http://www.osfa.la.gov>. The application can be accessed under the Louisiana Award System tab

Compete to Complete Campaign Winners for January and February



Congratulations to Mentorship Academy for winning the Compete to Complete Challenge for January 2017!

Congratulations to Belairie High School for winning the Compete to Complete Challenge for February 2017!

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

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

Web Address: www.osfa.la.gov



For submissions, opinions, or comments for the LOSFA LOOP, please
contact Gus Wales at Gus.Wales@la.gov.