

Louisiana's Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS)

Affidavit of Residency

(For Students Graduating from High School in Academic Year 2003 and Prior)

PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 2 OF THIS AFFIDAVIT

A. Check the one box that applies to you.

I declare that I am the [ ] Parent of the Applicant, [ ] Court Ordered Custodian of the Applicant (Attach the court order which established custodianship of your ward), or the [ ] Applicant (Only independent students may check this box) who is seeking a TOPS award.

B. Enter your name and social security number.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SSN \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.

C. If you are not the applicant, enter the name and social security number of the TOPS applicant.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SSN \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.

D. Check all that apply to you. If you check "YES" to questions 2, 4, 6, or 8, you must attach a copy of all of the highlighted documents that you mark YES. At least one of the documents must show an issue date at least 24 months before the month of the date you enter in Section F, below. If none of these documents meets that requirement, other documents may be acceptable. Call 1-800-259-5626 for guidance.

- 1. [ ] YES [ ] NO I am a registered voter.
2. [ ] YES [ ] NO I am currently registered to vote in Louisiana. (Copy of voter registration card)
3. [ ] YES [ ] NO I am licensed to drive a motor vehicle.
4. [ ] YES [ ] NO I currently hold a valid Louisiana driver's license. (Copy of LA driver's license)
5. [ ] YES [ ] NO I own a motor vehicle.
6. [ ] YES [ ] NO My vehicle is currently registered in Louisiana. (Copy of automobile registration)
7. [ ] YES [ ] NO I have earned taxable income.
8. [ ] YES [ ] NO I have filed Louisiana income tax returns for the two most recent taxable years. (Copies of Louisiana income tax returns for the two most recent tax years.)

E. Complete only if you are a member of the Armed Forces on active duty. If you check "YES" to one of these questions, you must attach copies of the documents that are highlighted.

- 1. [ ] YES [ ] NO I am stationed in Louisiana under permanent change of station (PCS) orders and my DD Form 2058 in my official military records was amended within 60 days of reporting to Louisiana to show that I claim Louisiana as my state of legal residence. (Copies of your military ID Card, PCS Orders, and DD Form 2058.)
2. [ ] YES [ ] NO I am stationed outside the state of Louisiana; however, I claim Louisiana as my legal residence on my DD Form 2058 and have filed Louisiana tax returns for the most recent two years in compliance with Louisiana state income tax laws and regulations applicable to my earned income. (Copies of your military ID Card, DD Form 2058, and Louisiana income tax returns for the two most recent years.)

F. Enter the date of the Applicant's high school graduation: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
(month) (day) (year)

G. In the presence of a Notary Public, complete and sign this affidavit attesting to the foregoing and enter the date.

Sworn Statement: "I make this sworn statement, under penalty of law, for the express purpose of qualifying myself, my child or my ward for a TOPS award. I declare and certify that Louisiana was my legal domicile continuously from \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. (month) (day) (year) (month) (day) (year) and that I was domiciled continuously for the twenty-four (24) months before the month the applicant graduated from high school. By signing this form, I do hereby declare that I have personally completed this form and that all information entered on and included with this affidavit of residency is true and correct and that I understand that, if I purposely give false or misleading information, I may be fined, sent to prison or both."

Affiant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_
(Legal Signature) (month) (day) (year)

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED, before me, the undersigned, Notary, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_.

NOTARY PUBLIC

# LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

## INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete the affidavit and sign it in blue or black ink before a Notary Public.

A parent or the court appointed custodian of a dependent applicant must complete this form. A person claiming to be the court ordered custodian of a student must submit a copy of the court document that establishes custody.

An applicant who is an “independent student” may complete this affidavit in his own behalf. By rule, an independent student for the purposes of this affidavit is a student who meets at least one of the following criteria: (1) has been determined independent by a financial aid officer exercising professional judgment in accordance with applicable provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended; or (2) is an orphan or a ward of the court or was a ward of the court until age 18; or (3) has legal dependents other than a spouse; (4) is married, or (5) is a veteran of active service in the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard).

To qualify for an award under Louisiana’s Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS), at least one of an applicant’s parents or the applicant’s court ordered custodian or, if the applicant is an independent student, the applicant must be a resident of Louisiana for at least 24 consecutive months before the month **of the applicant’s graduation from high school**. This requirement does not apply to a nonresident parent or court ordered custodian on active duty in the United States Armed Forces under the circumstances of the following paragraph.

If the student is the dependent child of a nonresident parent or court ordered custodian on active duty in the United States Armed Forces who is stationed in Louisiana under permanent change of station orders and who not later than sixty days after reporting to such station changes his DD Form 2058 in his military personnel records to establish Louisiana as his official legal residence and complies with Louisiana income tax laws and regulations for the time period while stationed in Louisiana, you must check “Yes” in Section E.1 and submit the documents listed.

If the student is the dependent child of a Louisiana resident parent or court ordered custodian on active duty in the United States Armed Forces who is stationed outside Louisiana but who claims Louisiana as his legal residence on his DD Form 2058 and who has filed a Louisiana state income tax return for the most recent two years, you must check “Yes” in Section E.2 and submit the documents listed.

Send the Affidavit of Residency with all supporting documents to:

Office of Student Financial Assistance  
Scholarships and Grants Division  
Post Office Box 91202  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-9202

**PRIVACY INFORMATION:** If the applicant is either 18 years old or is actually attending college, the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) does not allow disclosure of the student’s personal information to anyone, including the student’s parents or custodian, with very few exceptions unless (1) the student has submitted a written consent authorizing the person named by the student to have access to his/her records or (2) the parent or custodian has listed the student as a dependant on the preceding year’s income tax return. If you feel it may be necessary to discuss the applicant’s personal information, your submission should include a FERPA Consent Form completed and signed by the applicant (available at [www.osfa.la.gov/sgforms](http://www.osfa.la.gov/sgforms)) or a copy of your last income tax return showing the student as your dependent.