

**LOUISIANA STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Student Financial Aid Bulletin

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TOPICS:	Early Start and Go Grant Spring 2009 Procedure

EARLY START

Participation in the Early Start dual enrollment program increased significantly during Fall 2008 and the \$4 million dollar budget for this program has been depleted. University System Heads have agreed to continue serving students through the Early Start dual enrollment program for Spring 2009.

The Board of Regents continues to seek full funding of this program for the future. For this reason, it is important that LOSFA continues to track enrollment and the demand for funds. The Early Start billing program has been modified to do so. The reservation/web request or batch file payment request options are still available and the institution's procedure will not change. As your school enrolls Early Start participants, please continue to submit the enrollment information to LOSFA following the same procedure that you normally used to request payment. However, these requests will be used to track the information necessary to estimate future funding needs, only. Your request will not result in a payment from LOSFA. The Early Start Payment Roster will contain the following message in the Comment Section: FUNDING DEFICIT-NO PMT TO SCHL.

For questions regarding this revised Spring 2009 process, contact Bonnie Lavergne at 225-922-0412 or blavergne@osfa.la.gov.

GO GRANT

LOSFA and the Board of Regents continue to monitor GO Grant expenditures to remain alert to potential funding shortfalls in this area as well. Timeliness of billing is a critical aspect of the monitoring and funding projection process. For this reason, the following guidelines and deadlines have been established for Go Grant:

The deadline for submitting Fall 2008 billing requests is February 4, 2009. LOSFA will continue to accept and process Fall 2008 payment requests until this deadline. Fall 2008 billing requests submitted after February 4 must be justified to and approved by the Board of Regents. Late payment requests approved by the Board of Regents will be held and processed pending funding availability after all Spring 2009 on time payments have been made.

At the Board of Regents' direction, Spring 2009 billing will be on a reimburseable basis. The deadline for submitting Spring 2009 billing requests is March 20, 2009. ALL Spring 2009 billing requests should be submitted following the usual procedure, via the web or batch file. **LOSFA will hold ALL Spring 2009 requests until after the specified March 20 deadline.** Spring 2009 payment requests submitted AFTER the March 20 deadline must be justified to and reviewed by the Board of Regents. Late payment requests approved by the Board of Regents will be held and processed pending funding availability after all Spring 2009 on time payments and late Fall 2008 payments have been made. In the event of a deficit in Go Grant funding LOSFA will program a pro-rata distribution of the remaining appropriated funds, per guidance from the Board of Regents. Should this occur, the University System Heads have agreed that the campuses will make the awards whole for the students to avoid a shortage in aid at year end.

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