## LOUISIANA STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Student Financial Aid Bulletin

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TOPICS:	Changes to the Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program Effective with the 2010-2011 Academic Year

On May 4, 2010, the Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission approved administrative rules which change the Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program from a loan forgiveness program to a scholarship program, increases award amounts, and changes the eligibility requirements for initial awardees.

Beginning with awards made during the 2010-11 academic year, the award will become a pure scholarship for students majoring in forestry, wildlife, or marine science as it pertains to wildlife. Other changes include the following:

- Limit awards to undergraduates who have earned at least 60 hours of college credit;
- Allow students who received Rockefeller awards during the 2009-2010 academic year with less than 60 credit hours, and who meet the requirements to maintain the award to receive the Rockefeller award as a scholarship for the 2010-2011 academic year;
- Increase the award amount for undergraduates to \$1,000 per semester (\$2,000 per year);
- Increase the award amount for graduate students to \$1,500 per semester (\$3,000 per year);
- Increase the cumulative maximum award to \$12,000 for three years of undergraduate study and two years of graduate study;
- Allow disbursement of unexpended academic year funds to recipients who enroll full-time during the summer semester, and
- Maintain repayment requirement for funds received by students prior to the 2010-2011 academic year in cases where those students do not graduate in one of the specified majors

Questions regarding the Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship should be directed to Bonnie Lavergne, 225-922-0412, <u>blavergne@osfa.la.gov</u> or Erica Hughes, 225-922-0164, <u>ehughes@osfa.la.gov</u>.