

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

***Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS)
Bulletin***

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TOPICS:	TOPS Legislative Changes from the 2012 General Session

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Act 108 – TOPS: ACT or SAT qualifying score Effective date: 2011 graduates and beyond

Allow students to request and receive an exception to the ACT/SAT deadline to earn a qualifying score. Act 108 authorizes the Commission to accept a first time qualifying score on the ACT/SAT earned no later than September 30 immediately following high school graduation if the Commission grants an exception to the July 1 deadline because it determines that the applicant was prevented from taking the test prior to July 1 of the year of graduation due to circumstances beyond the immediate control of the student AND attributable to the administration of the test. Illnesses, lack of transportation, death in the family, and similar circumstances are not attributable to the administration of the test and will not support an exception. A student's TOPS eligibility is reduced by one semester if his/her first qualifying score on the ACT/SAT is earned after the April national ACT test date.

Act 215 – TOPS: Military Extension Effective date: From Beginning of Program

Extend the deadline for first-time, full-time enrollment and for earning the minimum cumulative grade point average after TOPS award suspension for certain students who join the United States Armed Forces. Act 215 extends the deadline for enrolling as a first-time, full-time student for students who reenlist during their first enlistment and during any subsequent enlistments to the semester or quarter immediately following the one year anniversary of separation from active duty.