

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

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

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 DISTRIBUTION: High School Counselors, College and University Financial Aid Offices and Registrars, LAICU Financial Aid Offices and Registrars, Louisiana Community and Technical College System Deans and Louisiana Community and Technical College System Personnel
 TOPICS: TOPS Tech Early Start Approved Training Providers

Act 737 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature amended the TOPS Tech Early Start Program to allow students to use the Award at training providers recognized by the Louisiana Workforce Commission and approved by BESE to fund courses leading to an Industry-Based Certification, a Certificate of Applied Science, or a Certificate of Technical Sciences approved by the Workforce Investment Council in a top demand occupation.

Two training providers recognized by the Louisiana Workforce Commission have been approved by BESE to provide TOPS Tech Early Start courses for a term of three years, beginning with the spring semester of the 2014-2015 school year. The approved training providers are:

Training Provider Organization	Course Type	Region
Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. – Bayou and Pelican chapters (construction craft training)	face-to-face	Greater New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lake Charles
St. James Parish School District	face-to-face and online	Statewide

Contacts for the approved training providers are:

Training Provider Contact Person	Region
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<p>Tracy Elliott Zeringue Director – Career & Technology Center 225-258-4591 Office tzeringue@stjames.k12.la.us</p>	<p>St. James Parish School District</p>

Questions regarding the TOPS Tech Early Start program should be directed to Bonnie Lavergne, 225-219-7714 or Bonnie.Lavergne@la.gov or Caleshia Clark, 225-219-7708 or Caleshia.Clark@la.gov.