

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

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

TOPS BULLETIN NUMBER:	T2016-3
DATE ISSUED:	May 5, 2016
EFFECTIVE DATE:	As Indicated
DISTRIBUTION:	High School Counselors, High School Principals, Parish Superintendents, College and University Financial Aid Offices and Registrars, LAICU Financial Aid Offices and Registrars, Louisiana Community and Technical College System Personnel
TOPICS:	TOPS Tech Award Eligible Programs for 2017 Graduates

Act 230 of the 2015 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature provides that 2017 high school graduates will be able to use the TOPS Tech Award to pursue an associate's degree or other shorter-term training and education programs, including skill, occupational, vocational, technical, certificate, and academic, that the Workforce Investment Council (WIC) and the Board of Regents (BOR) determine are aligned to state workforce priorities. The list of eligible programs can be found on page 2 of this bulletin.

If one of the eligible programs on the list attached becomes ineligible in future years, students who are currently in the program will be allowed to complete that program and receive their TOPS Tech Award. No new students would be eligible for TOPS Tech funding after a determination that the program has become ineligible.

All current TOPS Tech eligible programs remain eligible for 2017 high school graduates. NOTE that the TOPS Award Amount for current TOPS Tech eligible programs may have changed. Beginning with payments in academic year 2017-2018, the TOPS Award Amount for TOPS Tech eligible students who enroll in a proprietary or cosmetology school or in an associate's degree program at a school that offers a baccalaureate degree in that same program is an average of the amounts paid to TOPS Tech eligible students in all other TOPS Tech eligible programs. For example, the TOPS Award for a TOPS Tech eligible student enrolled in a four year college in an AAS program in Petroleum Technology is the average of the amounts paid to TOPS Tech eligible students in all other TOPS Tech eligible programs IF the school offers a baccalaureate in Petroleum Technology. If the school does not offer a baccalaureate in Petroleum Technology, the student will receive the TOPS Award Amount for all other students attending that school.

To determine how much should be billed for TOPS for students enrolled in these academic programs, see http://www.osfa.la.gov/MainSitePDFs/TOPS_Payment_Amounts.pdf.

Questions regarding TOPS Tech can be e-mailed to custserv@la.gov or by calling 1-800-259-5626.

**TOPS TECH PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY COUNCIL
APPROVED PROGRAMS**

DEGREE	INSTITUTION	DISCIPLINE
AS	BRCC	COMPUTER SCIENCE
	SUSLA	
AS	Delgado	ELECTRICAL-ELECT. ENGINEER TECH.
AS	SLCC	INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY
AS	Nicholls	PETROLEUM SERVICES
		SAFETY TECHNOLOGY
AA	McNeese	PARALEGAL STUDIES
	Nunez	
AA	Delgado	CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AS	BRCC	
	FTCC	
ASCJ	LSUE	
AS	HSC-NO	DENTAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY
AS	FTCC	CARDIOPULMONARY CARE SCIENCE
AS	LSUE	RESPIRATORY CARE
AS	BACC	SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY
AS	LSUA	RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY
	LSUE	
ASN	BPCC	NURSING
	BRCC	
	Delgado	
	FTCC	
	La Tech	
	LDCC	
	LSUA	
	LSUE	
	NSU	
	SLCC	
	SOWELA	
SUSLA		
AS	BRCC	BUSINESS
	Delgado	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
	SLCC	BUSINESS
	SUSLA	BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
AS	SUSLA	ACCOUNTING
	Delgado	