

Louisiana Believes

**Career and College Readiness Office Hours
October 1, 2020**

ATTENTION: Instructions for Participants

During this meeting, participants may submit questions **via the online chat feature** throughout the presentation. Submitting questions via the chat allows LDOE the opportunity to not only answer your question while on the call but to also add your question and the answer to our publicly disseminated FAQ document(s).

Agenda

PATHWAY INITIATIVES AND READINESS SUPPORT

- School Reopening Updates
- Advanced Placement Updates

POST-SECONDARY READINESS

- Hurricane Laura TOPS Proclamation
- Midterm Diploma Orders
- FAFSA Opening
- Student of the Year
- U.S. Senate Youth

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

- Virtual Counselor Institute

QUALITY DIPLOMAS

- Perkins FY20 Funds
- Multiphase Challenge Building Skills for 21st Century Careers
- NCCER Update



PATHWAY INITIATIVES AND READINESS SUPPORT

School Reopening Updates

BESE Minimum Health Standards Update:

The emergency rules that BESE adopted, “were developed by the LDE in coordination with the LDH, using guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regarding school settings, defined as a setting in which educational services are provided to children.”

To further clarify this, BESE leadership affirms that the aforementioned rules were developed for activities that occur during the instructional day. Therefore, decisions concerning activities that occur outside of the instructional day and/or any other local business affair should be determined by LEAs.

Advanced Placement Updates

- [AP Exams](#) will be administered **May 3-7** and **May 10-14**
- If students register for AP Exams this fall, AP will waive the \$40 cancellation or unused exam fee so all students can register with confidence.
- Upcoming Deadlines
 - Preferred ordering deadline for AP Exams is **October 2** with a final ordering deadline of **November 13**
 - **October 15** is the deadline for AP Course Audit administrators. This is the preferred date by which AP Course Audit administrators should renew previously authorized courses for the 2020-21 school year.

Advanced Placement Counselor Workshop

Louisiana Counselor Workshop Webinar – Friday, October 2 9:00 -10:30 am Central Time

The annual in-person Counselor Workshops series is moving online for 2020. This year's workshops will continue to provide helpful updates on College Board programs and higher education trends for the 2020-2021 school year. Each event is 1.5 hours, provides a live question and answer session and is eligible for Continuing Education Units (CEU) credit.

[Register here](#)

POSTSECONDARY READINESS

Hurricane Laura/COVID-19 TOPS Modifications

- [Proclamation #124](#) signed September 18, 2020 which suspends specific provisions for TOPS awards for students affected by Hurricane Laura in the following affected parishes: **Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Caddo, Calcasieu, Cameron, Grant, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, LaSalle, Lincoln, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Sabine, St. Landry, Union, Vermilion, Vernon, and Winn.**
- Students that graduated in 2020 and didn't have a qualifying score on the ACT or SAT for TOPS now have until December 31, 2020 to register to take an ACT and receive a qualifying score. LOSFA will re-evaluate their eligibility if a new ACT score is received. This applies to students that lived in a Hurricane Laura affected parish or their test site was closed due to actions taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Hurricane Laura/COVID-19 TOPS Modifications

- Current high school students who lived in a parish severely impacted by Hurricane Laura and have enrolled at a school in another state the proclamation suspends the requirement that a student must live in Louisiana and complete their last four semesters of high school in the state. For students who are now being homeschooled, the proclamation suspends the requirement that a student must begin a home study program no later than the end of their 10th grade year.
- The proclamation suspends the requirement that a student must complete the TOPS core curriculum and have a higher ACT score, should they have to stay in another state to complete their high school education.
- Current college students who live in or attend school in a parish for which FEMA declared a disaster, will receive an automatic exception to the TOPS 24-hour requirement so their award will not be canceled. The requirements to meet steady academic progress and minimum GPA are also suspended for these students.

LOSFA Professional Counselor Webinars

LOSFA Webinar #1 – LOSFA Program Updates, Campaigns/Initiatives, and Resources

This webinar covers legislative changes (including bills introduced during special sessions and modifications related to COVID-19 and Hurricane Laura) to LOSFA programs, updates to current procedures , TOPS processing tips and common errors, campaigns and initiatives, home study certification for TOPS, and availability of resources through LOSFA Programs.

- Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

LOSFA Webinar #2 – Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS)

This webinar will include covering information related to TOPS, TOPS Tech and TOPS Tech Early Start. This webinar is for new school counselors who may need in-depth information related to TOPS, or counselors who need a TOPS refresher.

- Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at 10 a.m.
- Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 1 p.m.

LOSFA Professional Counselor Webinars

LOSFA Webinar #3 – FAFSA and other LOSFA Programs (excluding TOPS)

This webinar covers the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), changes to the 2021-2022 form, along with the following LOSFA Programs: (1) Louisiana College Savings Programs, (2) GO Grant, (3) Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship, (4) Chafee Educational Training Voucher (ETV) Program, (5) John R Justice Program, (6) YCP: GO Youth Challenge Program, (7) Regional Contract Program (RCP), and (8) the BESE Tuition Program for Teachers.

- Tuesday, October 13, 2020, at 1 p.m.
- Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 10 a.m.

Midterm Diploma Orders

Complete the [Midterm Diploma Order form](#) to request diplomas and endorsement seals for 2020 midterm graduates. Diplomas ordered will include the signature of the new Louisiana State Superintendent of Education. Diplomas utilized from this point forward should include the new signature. The form should be completed **Friday, October 9**. Only one form should be completed for each school system. The Department will cover the costs for the initial order and distribution.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid, commonly referred to as the FAFSA, is the gateway to apply and receive federal and/or state financial aid. Application completion provides students and families access to more than \$120 billion dollars in grants, work-study and student loans each year.

The [2021-2022 FAFSA](#) for the 2020-2021 school year opens on October 1. The [Louisiana Department of Education \(LDOE\)](#), the [Louisiana Education Loan Authority \(LELA\)](#) and the [Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance \(LOSFA\)](#) are available to lend support.

Please email any or both of these offices to discuss your needs.

- LDOE: ldefinancialaid@la.gov
- LELA: carmichael@lpfa.com
- LOSFA: breanna.paul@la.gov

2021 Student of the Year

Each year, the Department recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of students through the Louisiana Student of the Year Awards Program. The application for the 2021 Student of the Year program is now available, and all school systems are encouraged to participate.

To participate, please review the recently revised [Student of the Year Selection Guidelines](#) for the program and current [Student Application Packet](#) for 2021 and complete the following steps:

1. Complete the [School System Information Form](#) and email it to Marian Johnson by October 16. This information will enable the Department to determine zone and regional sites and to communicate directly with coordinators on upcoming events and activities related to this program.
2. Make the [Student Application Packet](#) available to the parents of students eligible to participate in the program.

U.S. Senate Youth

The Louisiana Department of Education and the [William Randolph Hearst Foundation](#) announced the launch of the 2021 Virtual United States Senate Youth Program. Two outstanding students from Louisiana will be selected to virtually participate in a series of online meetings during the week of March 15 in 2021. Each delegate will receive a \$10,000 college scholarship from the Hearst Foundation.

Please encourage juniors or seniors who hold elected or appointed offices in school or community groups listed in the [national program brochure](#) to submit a Louisiana [application packet](#). If students are unable to hold leadership positions this year due to the pandemic, they can submit the position they held during the 2019-2020 academic year.

The names of the students selected by each high school and their application portfolios must be received at the email address below no later than **November 16**. Finalists will be notified by December 4 for the December 15 final phase of selection.

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

Fall 2020 Virtual Counselor Institutes

Previously held as regional in-person events every fall and spring, the LDOE Counselor Institutes are an opportunity for the Department to share information and ideas with school counselors across the state. The 2020 Fall Counselor Institute will be offered in a webinar format at three different times so that school counselors may choose the option that works best for them. Topics include the following:

- State Assessment Updates
- ACT Superscore
- Dual Enrollment, AP, IB, CLEP
- 2020-2021 Financial Aid and TOPS Regulatory Flexibilities
- TOPS Weighted GPA and Credit Recovery
- Jump Start 2.0/STEM Pathways
- Jump Start Convention/Educator Leader Summit

Fall 2020 Virtual Counselor Institutes

Date Time	October 28 9:00 a.m.	October 29 8:00 a.m.	October 29 12:00 p.m.
Link	<u>Hyperlink</u>	<u>Hyperlink</u>	<u>Hyperlink</u>
Phone Number	312-626-6799	312-626-6799	312-626-6799
Meeting ID#	994 8951 0512	982 3354 8776	971 7941 2692
Passcode	0y76V7	26PB#f	!zzUj3

Participants need not register in advance.

QUALITY DIPLOMAS

Carl D. Perkins FY20 Funds

Unexpended 2019-2020 Funds:

- Will not be considered as carry over of unspent dollars; thus allowable expenses follow the rules for the basic grant
- Funds must be expended by **October 31**

eGMS:

- 2019-2020 funds will show up in eGMS as prior year funds and are available in your Super App application
- Funds must be allocated, budgeted and approved; and if these prior year funds are not allocated, budgeted and approved, current year funds (FY21) will be expended first
- To expend these FY20 funds, submit an amendment by **September 30** and submit requests for reimbursement by **October 31, 2020**

Multiphase Challenge Building Skills for 21st Century Careers

The **US Department of Education** has launched [CTE Mission: CubeSat](#) to inspire high school students to build technical skills for careers in space and beyond.

Students are invited to design and build prototypes of CubeSats (cube satellites) that aid in space research; thereby bringing space missions out of the clouds and into the classroom.

No in-person collaboration or prior experience with CubeSats is required. Teams can use a curated collection of **virtual resources** in the [CTE Mission: CubeSat resource hub](#) to develop their proposals.

The deadline to submit **mission proposals** is **October 16 at 5:59 p.m.**

NCCER Updates

Updates to NCCER resources include:

[*Accredited Training Sponsor \(ATS\) Guidelines*](#)

[*NCCER Electrical Levels 1 - 4 \(10th edition, July 2020\)*](#)

[*Registration and Release Form*](#)

[*NCCER Exam Resources*](#)

[*NCCER School System Updates*](#)

[*NCCER Craft Instructor Updates*](#)

[*NCCER Test Read A-Loud Options*](#)

Reminders:

Upload [*2020-2021 School System Assurance Letter*](#) and current [*List of NCCER Craft Instructors*](#) through [*NCCER Assurance Letter and List of Craft Instructors Form*](#)

NCCER Trainings listed on the [*Jump Start Training Calendar*](#)

Next Steps

If you would like to receive a copy of this deck
or if you have additional questions please contact:

highschoolacademics@la.gov

If you have questions specific to **school
reopening or COVID** please contact:

LDOECOVID19Support@la.gov