Louisiana Believes

2016 Individual Student Planning
January 2016

DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

AGENDA/TOPICS

- **Preparing for Individual Student Planning**

- **Creating and Storing Individual Graduation Plans**

- **Timelines for Individual Graduation Plan (IGP)**

- **Designating Diploma Pathways Selection in the Student Transcript System (STS) for Cohort 2018 (10th Grade Students)**

Preparing for Individual Student Planning

Begins with the student:

- Exploring career possibilities by using an online guidance system, e.g. [My Life, My Way](#)

- Aligning career interests and education goals to support appropriate secondary and postsecondary education decisions

- Understanding the similarities and differences between the two diploma pathways

- Documenting, using the Individual Graduation Plan, academic coursework for the next school year, including identifying required foundational courses as well as graduation requirements for chosen diploma pathway,

- Editing the IGP to reflect changes in coursework and education goals

Exploring and Aligning Career Interests

Will require students to:

- Complete career interest inventories (O-Net My Next Move), employability skills assessments (employability skills), and vocational assessments (ASVAB)

- Investigate educational and experiential requirements of possible career choices, i.e. Louisiana Star Jobs Align career aspirations with available educational resources, i.e. Jump Start Pathways, Jump Start Industry-Based Credential Fact Sheets

Two Diploma Pathways

Jump Start TOPS TECH Diploma

TOPS University Diploma

Similarities Between Diplomas
- Foundational courses
- Assessments (End-of-Course)
- FAFSA

Differences Between Diplomas
- Number of credits required for graduation
- Number of credits required for each subject area, e.g. science and social studies
- Types of courses accepted for credit, i.e. World Geography is not accepted for social studies graduation credit for TOPS Tech diploma pathway because the Career Diploma only requires a unit of Civics and a unit of US History.

Aligning Career Aspirations with Educational Resources

Individual Graduation Plan supports alignment and includes the following:

1. **Lists student demographics**

2. **Identifies and connects student's academic goals (a recommended sequence of courses for chosen diploma pathway), career exploration and personal interests with postsecondary plans**

3. **Tracks high school graduation requirements**

4. **Indicates completion of [Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)](#)**

5. **Includes annual signatures from parent/legal guardian and student**

Storing Individual Graduation Plans

- After April 1, Louisiana Connect will no longer host IGPs.
- LOSFA and Graduation Alliance are working together to support students retrieving IGPs from Louisiana Connect to [Louisiana Award System](#)
- Fillable IGP forms stored in Louisiana Connect can be downloaded and saved/stored to your district's designated platform for hosting IGPs which included
  - District/charter-identified guidance system (e.g., [Kuder](#))
  - District/charter cumulative folder
  - LOSFA's [Louisiana Award System](#) (Advantage to using this option is it includes TOPS Tracker that allows that student to monitor progress towards his/her TOPS eligibility)

Timeline of IGP (Act 643 from 2014 Session)

End of 8th grade

- Develop plan to guide 9th grade academic coursework and assist with exploring educational and career possibilities
- List the required core courses to be taken through 10th grade
- Identify elective courses to be taken in 9th grade, including remedial courses

9th and 10th grade

- Each year list required core courses
- Update courses being taken in 9th grade, including remedial courses
- Identify elective courses to be taken in 10th grade
- Continue exploring educational and career possibilities

At end of 10th grade and thereafter

- At end of 10th grade, select diploma pathway
- Each year list required core courses until all required core courses are completed and graduation requirements are met
- Update plan to include sequence of courses required for successful completion of diploma pathway
- Indicate completion of FAFSA
- Review and update plan annually, include signatures

Student Transcript System (STS) Diploma Pathways Selection

- STS provides two options for entering diploma pathways selection of 10th grade students

- Counselors should work with the STS/Data Coordinator to annually submit diploma pathways selection

Option 1

1. Provide batch upload file as requested by district/charter STS data coordinator
2. Include designation as Career Diploma _CA or TOPS University _TU

Option 2

1. Login to STS
2. Select **Update** on the main menu, then choose **Student** or **Transcript**
3. Select the appropriate school year from the drop-down menu
4. Select the link for the attending school
5. To edit an existing student 's record, type his/her state ID or name into the Search box and press Enter. Select appropriate student from list.
6. Find Diploma Path on the student section of the screen and select the appropriate pathway (Career Diploma _CA; TOPS University_ TU).
7. Click **Submit**

Question & Answer

LDE Contact for IGPs:
Martha Moore (martha.moore@la.gov)
225.342.1720