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Regents Approve Statewide Secondary-to-Postsecondary Articulation Agreements Through “Success Through Articulation” Initiative

The Board of Regents today approved an agreement that will significantly increase the number of high school courses across the state that will count for credit at Louisiana Technical College (LTC).

The initiative, guided by the Louisiana Department of Education, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS), and the Board of Regents, is called Success Through Articulation (STArt). “Articulation” refers to the ability of a course taken at one institution to transfer for full credit to a different institution, in this case from a high school to a postsecondary institution, primarily an LTC campus. STArt adds sixteen new high school technical curriculum areas (to five previously approved) that will articulate for credit at any of the forty campuses of LTC and, to specified, participating community colleges and four-year universities.

“Secondary-to-postsecondary course articulation and transfer is an issue that Louisiana’s entire education community has been working to address for several years now,” said Commissioner of Higher Education Joseph Savoie. “The STArt agreement ratified today is a giant step forward in helping Louisiana’s students, especially those who want to acquire specialized workforce skills but who may not want to pursue a 4-year degree, move more smoothly from high school to a career-technical program in college. I applaud the efforts of the Secondary-to-Postsecondary State Steering Committee in working with secondary and postsecondary content experts to make this agreement possible.”

Today’s agreement is the latest result of Act 151, passed in 1998 by the Louisiana Legislature, which mandates that the Board of Regents and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), in cooperation with the LCTCS and local school boards, enter into articulation agreements to provide opportunities for secondary school students to take vocational-technical courses and community college courses provided by institutions managed by the LCTCS. The overall goal of Louisiana’s statewide articulation initiative is to assist in creating a more coordinated and coherent secondary-to-postsecondary transition process, reducing duplication of instructional efforts and costs associated with student mobility.

Today's action adds to the five statewide articulation areas already approved – Automotive, Emergency Medical Technician, First Responder, ProStart (Culinary), and “Students Teaching and Reaching” (STAR/Teacher Cadet) – the following 16 curriculum, which all lead to Industry-based Certification:

- *Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- *Practical Nurse (PN)
- *Patient Care Technician
- *Sports Medicine
- *A+
- *Certified Internet Web Design (CIW)
- *Microsoft Office User (MOS)
- *IC3
- *Customer Service
- *Horticulture
- *Outdoor Power Equipment
- *NCCER-Carpentry
- *NCCER-Welding
- *NCCER-Electrical
- *Process Technology (P-TECH)

Members of the Louisiana Secondary-to-Postsecondary Steering Committee are as follows:

- Board of Regents: Lisa S. Vosper, Heather D. Poole
- Department of Education: Patricia Merrick, Melba Kennedy
- Louisiana Community & Technical College System: Jim Henderson, Jerry Pinsel, Jimmy Sawtell