

**Statewide Programs Executive Summary**  
**March 20, 2017**

**Consent Agenda Item D.1.a.**

Requests for exception to the TOPS regulatory provisions that require students to enroll full-time, to remain continuously enrolled, and to earn at least 24 credit hours during the academic year.

**BACKGROUND:**

Sections 705.A.6 and 7 of the TOPS administrative rules require TOPS recipients to continue to enroll full-time for the fall and spring semesters of each academic year, to remain enrolled throughout the semester, and to earn a minimum of 24 credit hours by the end of the academic year. Section 2103.E authorizes the governing body to grant an exception to the full-time, continuous enrollment and 24-hour requirements when the “student/recipient has exceptional circumstances that are beyond his immediate control and that necessitate full or partial withdrawal from or non-enrollment in an eligible postsecondary institution.”

Thirteen requests for exception to the full-time, continuous enrollment, and 24 hour requirements were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of March 3, 2017. The students have presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.