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**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
P. O. Box 3677  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677  
Phone (225) 342-4253, FAX (225)  
342-9318  
[www.regents.la.gov](http://www.regents.la.gov)

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**Jacqueline V. Wyatt**  
**Adarian D. Williams, Student**

## **AGENDA**

### **STATEWIDE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 9:55 a.m.**

**Claiborne Building, Louisiana Purchase Room**  
**1201 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
  - A. Publication of Final Rule – Technical Corrections to the Scholarship and Grant Program Administrative Rules
  - B. Approval of Exceptions
- IV. Other Business
- V. Adjournment

Committee Members: T. Jay Seale III, Chair, Jacqueline Wyatt, Vice Chair, Claudia Adley, Marty Chabert, Thomas Henning, Richard Lipsey, Charles McDonald, Wilbert Pryor and Collis Temple III

## **Consent Agenda Agenda Item III.A.**

The Board of Regents authorize publication of final rule to make technical corrections to the Scholarship and Grant Program Administrative Rules.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Effective August 1, 2016, in accordance with Act 314 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission was abolished and the Board of Regents became the administering agency for the programs previously administered by the Commission. This rulemaking eliminates references to the Commission in the Scholarship and Grant Program rules.

The rulemaking also incorporates the following amendments:

- AP Psychology as an equivalent to the third or fourth unit of Social Studies
- Mandarin Chinese I-IV, Hindi I-IV, Portuguese I-IV, and Vietnamese I-IV as acceptable foreign language courses
- Probability and Statistics as an equivalent to the second, third, or fourth Math for the TOPS Tech core curriculum.
- Clarifications of the implementation of Act 18 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature and Act 44 of the 2017 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature

At its meeting of September 27, 2017, the Board of Regents approved these amendments and authorized the Executive Director of LOSFA to publish A Notice of Intent to promulgate administrative rules implementing these additions. The Notice of Intent was published in the Louisiana Register on November 20, 2017.

## **Consent Agenda Agenda Item III.B.**

Requests for exception to the TOPS regulatory provisions that require students to remain continuously enrolled and to earn the annual credit hours required during the academic year.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Sections 705.A.6 and 7 of the TOPS administrative rules require TOPS recipients to continue to enroll in the fall and spring semesters of each academic year, to remain enrolled throughout the semester, and to earn the annual credit hours required by the end of the academic year. Section 2103.E authorizes the governing body to grant an exception to these 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.”

Five requests for exception were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of January 11, 2018. The students have presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.