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**AGENDA**  
**STATEWIDE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, December 12, 2018 • 11:30 a.m.**  
**Claiborne Building**  
**Thomas Jefferson Room 1-136**  
**1201 North Third Street, First Floor**  
**Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
  - A. Approval of TOPS Exceptions
  - B. Approval of TOPS Exception to the Deadline for Achieving a Qualifying ACT Score by the April National Test Date of the Year of High School Graduation
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

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

**Consent Agenda  
Agenda Item III.C.**

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.”

Twelve requests for exception were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of November 8, 2018. The students have presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

**Consent Agenda  
Agenda Item III.D.**

Request for exception to the TOPS provision that requires a student to earn a qualifying score on the ACT no later than the National ACT test date in April of the year of high school graduation.

**BACKGROUND:**

The TOPS statute requires that a student achieve a qualifying score on the ACT no later than the national ACT test date in April of his year of high school graduation. The law provides for an exception to this requirement if the administering agency determines that the student was prevented from taking the test prior to high school graduation due to circumstances beyond the student's control and which were attributable to the administration of the test. The law allows an extension under these circumstances to September 30 of the year of the student's high school graduation, and it requires a one semester reduction in the time period of the student's eligibility for TOPS.

One request for exception to the ACT deadline was reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of November 8, 2018. The student has presented facts and circumstances that the student believes justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.