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## **AGENDA**

### **STATEWIDE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 9:25 a.m.**

**Claiborne Building**  
**Louisiana Purchase Room**  
**1201 North Third Street, First Floor**  
**Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
  - A. Publication of 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, Robert Levy, Charles McDonald, Wilbert Pryor and Collis Temple III.**

## **Consent Agenda**

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

The Board of Regents adopt rulemaking for 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 that the Advisory Board recommended that the Board of Regents adopt at its meeting of July 13, 2017.

- 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

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

Requests for exception to the TOPS regulatory provision 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.”

Eighteen requests for exception were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of September 7, 2017. The students have presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.