

**Student Success Council**

In the Board of Regents Master Plan, *Louisiana Prospers*, adopted in 2019, the Board has established a goal to achieve postsecondary attainment among 60% of the working-age population in Louisiana by 2030. This is necessary not only to address the state’s growing economic and workforce demands, but also to achieve meaningful prosperity and improve the quality of life for Louisianans. To reach this goal, the Master Plan identifies key strategies and objectives essential to double within the next decade the number of degrees and high-value credentials awarded annually (to reach 85,000).

As noted in *Louisiana Prospers*, the Board recognizes that “Our Talent Imperative includes a relentless commitment to today’s students – the traditional secondary-to-postsecondary, first-in-family, working parents in need of training/retraining, adults in rural communities, returning veterans, and the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated.” Toward that end, the Student Success Council (Council) is established to research, implement, and recommend strategies that will accelerate student success in order to reach the Master Plan goals. A wide range of expertise will be leveraged to implement at scale high-impact, student-centered practices focused on improving postsecondary access and completion.

The Council, to be convened by Board staff on a quarterly basis, is charged to help identify trends, obstacles, and solutions that will inform policies and practice to achieve attainment goals. It will evaluate progress toward Master Plan objectives and provide guidance to accelerate attainment/completion. The stated objectives of the Council include identifying barriers to postsecondary credential completion; determining best practices for scale implementation; developing strategies to close equity gaps; and researching and recommending policy solutions to improve service to students.

The Council will be composed of experts from Louisiana two- and four-year institutions, both public and private. These individuals are among those best positioned to view the work of the Council through an equity lens and are closest to understanding the needs of Louisiana students inside and outside the classroom. The body will be comprised of a diverse membership of eighteen voting members including students, faculty, and staff representing public and private postsecondary institutions across the state. In addition to students and faculty, the Council’s membership will also incorporate representatives in the areas of academic advising/student success; tutoring/supplemental instruction; diversity, equity, and inclusion; financial aid and affordability; and institutional research. The Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU) will nominate one student and two faculty/staff representatives, and the Louisiana Department of Education will also provide one representative.

Each public system’s chief academic officer, the LAICU president, and the president of the Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates will hold membership in an ex-officio (non-voting) capacity. The Louisiana Workforce Commission, Louisiana Economic Development, and other organizations engaged in Master Plan efforts will also be invited to inform and advise the Council. The membership of the Council is designated in consultation with each public postsecondary system, LAICU, and relevant agencies.

The Council will meet on a quarterly basis. It may also establish committees and workgroups to address specific issues correspondent to Master Plan goals. Standing reports will be prepared by staff on behalf of the Council and provided to the Board on a quarterly basis.

As part of regional engagement efforts to support reaching the Master Plan goals, Council information will be provided to regional economic development groups to ensure that education and industry partners across the state are aligned in supporting the education-to-employment pipeline for students and in advocating for completion of credentials of value. In sum, the work of the Council will provide the Board and its partners with the expertise critical to identify and scale what works in order to achieve Master Plan goals and further ensure that Louisiana prospers.