Structure and Reporting

The Commissioner of Higher Education is hired by and works directly for the Louisiana Board of Regents (Board). The appointment is subject to Senate confirmation.

The Commissioner is chief executive officer of the Board and reports directly to the Board of Regents. The Commissioner works collaboratively with the presidents of Louisiana’s four systems of public postsecondary education (Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Louisiana State University System, Southern University System, and the University of Louisiana System) and the president of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU).

Duties and Responsibilities of the Commissioner

- Interacts effectively with state and postsecondary officials and the public
- Conducts the affairs of the Board and coordinates the statewide activities for the state’s postsecondary education enterprise
- Executes and enforces all the decisions, orders, rules, and regulations of the Board
- Acts on behalf of the Board of Regents in fulfilling its responsibilities as spokesperson for postsecondary education in addressing and making recommendations to the Governor, Legislature, and the public on matters of policy

- Oversees Staff in:
  - Revision or elimination of degree programs, departments of instruction, divisions or similar subdivisions
  - Approval, disapproval, or modification of proposed degree programs, departments of instruction, divisions, or similar subdivisions
  - Studies of recommendations regarding the creation, merging, or elimination of institutions or branches
  - Formulation and revision of a master plan for postsecondary education including a formula for equitable distribution of funds to the institutions of postsecondary education
  - Budget recommendations for all systems of postsecondary education and recommendation of priorities for capital construction and improvements
- Meets regularly with system presidents to discuss mutual matters of concern or interest
- Addresses items of statewide concern and coordinates all presentations at meetings of the Board
- Coordinates senior staff personnel in preparing recommendations to the Board
- Sets the agenda for Board meetings in consultation with the Board Chair
- Employs and directs staff who serve at the will of the Board. Deputy-level appointments are subject to ratification by the Board
- Works collaboratively with the Board to establish yearly short- and long-term goals, objectives and priorities
- As required, serves and participates on numerous committees, commissions, boards and groups
- Performs other duties prescribed by the Board for the efficient operation of the office

The Commissioner serves at the will of the Board at a salary and benefits fixed by the Board. The Commissioner is also subject to Senate confirmation (R.S. 17:3123.1).

The Commissioner shall be annually evaluated on performance and competence by the Board in accordance with the Commissioner of Higher Education Evaluation Policy.

Revised: September 25, 2014
Revised: February 24, 2021