

Blake R. David
Chair

T. Jay Seale III
Vice Chair

Sonia A. Pérez
Secretary

Kim Hunter Reed, Ph.D.
Commissioner of
Higher Education



Randy L. Ewing
Stephanie A. Finley
Robert W. Levy
Phillip R. May, Jr.
Charles R. McDonald
Darren G. Mire
Wilbert D. Pryor
Gary N. Solomon, Jr.
Terrie P. Sterling
Collis B. Temple III
Felix R. Weill
Judy A. Williams-Brown
Cameron T. Jackson, Student

BOARD OF REGENTS

P. O. Box 3677

Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677

Phone (225) 342-4253, FAX (225) 342-9318

www.regents.la.gov

AGENDA

PLANNING, RESEARCH and PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

12:30 p.m.

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor
Thomas Jefferson A&B, Room 1-136
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - A. R.S. 17:1808 (Licensure)
 1. Initial Application
 - a. Louisiana International College (LIC)
 2. Renewal Applications
 - a. DeVry University (DU)
 - b. Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM)
 - c. Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU)
 - B. Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission
 1. Initial Applications
 - a. OceanPointe Dental Academy of Hammond
 - b. Safe Road Truck Driving School
 - c. Skillz Academy
 2. Renewal Applications
 - a. Academy of Acadiana, Inc. (03/22/2006)
 - b. At-Home Professions (04/22/1999)
 - c. Baton Rouge Dental Assistant Academy (03/26/2014)
 - d. Blue Cliff College - Houma (03/24/2005)
 - e. Blue Cliff College - Metairie (03/23/2000)
 - f. Blue Cliff College - Metairie, Satellite Location (03/23/2011)
 - g. CDL Mentors, LLC - Lake Charles (03/27/2019)
 - h. Charity Health Training Institute, LLC (04/22/2020)
 - i. Coastal College - Lafayette (04/23/1998)
 - j. Coastal College - Monroe (03/28/1996)
 - k. Delta College of Arts & Technology - Lafayette Branch (03/24/2005)

- l. Elise Phlebotomy Training Center (04/22/2020)
- m. Goodwill Technical College (03/25/2015)
- n. Lenora School of Phlebotomy (04/28/1994)
- o. Louisiana Culinary Institute, LLC (03/27/2003)
- p. Professional Laser Training (1/14/2019)
- q. Saint Christopher College (03/14/2017)
- r. Southwest Dental Academy, LLC (04/22/2020)
- s. Tulsa Welding School & Technology Center (03/15/2015)
- t. Unitech Training Academy - Houma (03/22/2006)
- u. Unitech Training Academy - Lafayette (04/24/1997)
- v. Universal Technical Institute of Texas, Inc. (04/20/1984)
- w. Universal Technical Institute-Florida Branch (04/23/1998)

IV. Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund Report

V. Other Business

VI. Adjournment

Committee Members: Sonia Pérez, Chair; Phillip May, Jr., Vice Chair; Stephanie Finley; Robert Levy; Charles McDonald; Wilbert Pryor; Terrie Sterling; Felix Weill
Staff: Dr. Randall Brumfield, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.a.

LOUISIANA INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Shreveport, Louisiana

Background

Revised Statute 17:1808 requires the Board of Regents to register and license academic degree-granting, post-secondary institutions in Louisiana. Regents' rules and regulations overseeing the review process echo the revised statutes, emphasizing the attainment of appropriate accreditation.

Louisiana International College (LIC) has identified the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) as its desired accreditation agency. DEAC accreditation aims to instill public confidence in DEAC institutions' missions, goals, performance, and resources through a rigorous application and peer-developed accreditation standards.

Overview of Louisiana International College

The mission of the College is to provide students with a quality education in the fields of technology and management. Through acquisition of the body of knowledge presented in each educational program, students learn how to evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

The Louisiana International College is committed to enhancing student employability by offering programs that are learner-centered and designed to meet the unique needs of each student. To this end, the Louisiana International College will create online distance education curricula and offer student services that are designed to provide lifelong learning opportunities for adult students who are underserved by traditional educational institutions. The Louisiana International College seeks to enable students to pursue progressive distance educational programs which offer them an interdisciplinary approach to the study of business, administrative disciplines, management, and leadership.

The College plans to offer the following programs:

- **Bachelor of Science in Computer Science**
 - *Program Objective: the objective of this program is to prepare students for a career in computer software development. Students will acquire skills in software development, Internet communications, and database administration, as well as foundational knowledge in the field of computer science.*

- **Bachelor of Science in Business Administration**
 - *Program Objective: the objective of this program is to prepare students for entry level management positions in business, industry, and non-profit organizations.*

Academic Leadership and Faculty Qualifications

The Louisiana International College identified academic leadership and faculty to develop and deliver quality distance education programs.

Bilal Rashid serves as the President. He has over ten years of teaching experience of graduate and postgraduate courses and over ten years of senior management experience in commercial and non-profit organizations. He earned a Master of Science in Project Management from Cranfield University and a Master of Business Administration from Karachi University. He is a certified professional accountant (CPA) and a certified management accountant (CMA).

The College submitted resumes for twenty-two faculty who will provide instruction for the two bachelor's programs planned for delivery.

Chronology of Activities Related to Board of Regents' Consideration of the Application for Licensure for Louisiana International College (LIC)

May 2019 – The Board of Regents received an application for licensure from Louisiana International College.

July 2019 – Regents' staff conducted an initial assessment of license application submitted by LIC.

February 2020 – Staff concluded that further internal assessment would benefit from an in-depth accreditation process.

November 20, 2020 – LIC revised its application to include a current catalog, resumes, CEO information, and addresses.

February 2021 – Staff engaged the services of Ms. Susan Chiaramonte, President, EduCred Services, to assess LIC's application for licensure and associated materials considering the proposed institution's probability of successful DEAC accreditation.

April 19, 2021 – LIC formal assessment report was mailed to the College's CEOs.

May 6, 2021 – Staff received the final addenda to LIC's revised application.

Staff Conclusion

Given the circumstances described in the assessment report, Louisiana International College (LIC) merits a limited state licensure period to allow it enough time to seek DEAC candidacy and accreditation. This conditional licensure period should be subject to the fulfillment of several stipulations which require step-by-step continuous evidence of progress toward accreditation. To avoid any doubts regarding the seriousness of the Regents' intent in the matter, LIC should structure these stipulations in such a way that failure to complete fully may result in the immediate revocation of the conditional licensure. The motion and stipulations below are designed to ensure that LIC operates within Louisiana only if there is unquestioned evidence that reasonable accreditation progress is being made.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends conditional licensure for Louisiana International College, for three years, provided:

1. **By June 16, 2022, and on that date every year thereafter, during the term of conditional licensure, LIC shall report to the Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation the status of its progress toward preparation for submittal of an application for accreditation candidacy through DEAC. This report shall, at a minimum, provide evidence of attendance and participation of appropriate Institute officials at periodic DEAC workshops for pre-applicant institutions and general membership meetings.**
2. **At the end of this period of initial licensure, LIC shall provide evidence of the submittal of an application for DEAC candidacy. If accomplished, the Regents will consider another eighteen months of licensure. If not achieved, the Regents will consider the denial of further licensure.**
3. **Within one year of applying for DEAC candidacy, LIC shall provide evidence of successful DEAC candidacy status. If granted, the Regents will consider extending licensure to allow for final accreditation review. If not accomplished, the Regents will consider the denial of further licensure.**
4. **Upon termination of the allotted time for final accreditation review, LIC shall report its DEAC membership status. If DEAC accreditation has been granted, the Regents shall consider issuing a regular 2-year operating license. If not granted, the Regents will consider the denial of further licensure.**

AGENDA ITEM III.A.2.a

**DeVry University
Naperville, Illinois**

BACKGROUND

DeVry University (DU) is a private institution with its main campus located in Naperville, Illinois. DU's focus is providing education for students to engage in the modern workforce with a variety of academic programs offered to students across the nation. This university is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

DU offers academic programs that lead to doctorate, master's, bachelor's, and associate degrees, along with graduate and undergraduate certificates. They offer a range of online programs in six core areas of study: technology, business, accounting, healthcare, liberal arts and media arts. The university currently has 327 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	21
Bachelor's	99
Associate	83
UG Certificate	119
Grad Certificate	5
Total	327

FACULTY

DeVry University (DU) has 35 full-time and 858 part-time faculty at various degree levels.

FACILITIES

DU offers 100% online instruction to Louisiana residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the programs' scope and the credentials of its faculty, the institution's campus, program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, Senior Staff recommends approval of the application for license *renewal* from DeVry University (DU).

AGENDA ITEM III.A.2.b.
Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine
Monroe, Louisiana

BACKGROUND

Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) is a higher education institution with its main campus in Blacksburg, Virginia and a location in Monroe, Louisiana. This college of medicine is accredited by the American Osteopathic Association – Commission on College Accreditation (COCA).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine – Monroe campus offers a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree. The university currently has 152 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	152
Master's	0
Bachelor's	0
Associate	0
Other	0
Total	152

FACULTY

Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) has 26 full-time and 3 part-time faculty at various degree levels.

FACILITIES

Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) offers classroom lecture, laboratory, independent study, and clinical instruction to Louisiana residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the scope of the programs and the credentials of its faculty, the institution's campus, program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, Senior Staff recommends approval of the application for license *renewal* from Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine.

AGENDA ITEM III.A.2.c.
Southern New Hampshire University
Manchester, New Hampshire

BACKGROUND

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private institution with its main campus located in Manchester, New Hampshire. SNHU's focus is providing accessible higher education by offering 300+ online programs to students in Louisiana. This university is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

SNHU offers academic programs that lead to doctorate, master's, bachelor's, and associate degrees along with certificate programs. They provide a range of online programs in 25 core areas of study. The university currently has 1,750 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	196
Bachelor's	1,261
Associate	220
Certificate	69
Other	4
Total	1,750

FACULTY

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) has one full-time faculty member and 63 part-time faculty at various degree levels.

FACILITIES

SNHU offers 100% online instruction to Louisiana residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the programs' scope and the credentials of its faculty, the institution's campus, program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, Senior Staff recommends approval of the application for license *renewal* from Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU).

Blake R. David
Chair

T. Jay Seale III
Vice Chair

Sonia A. Pérez
Secretary

Kim Hunter Reed, Ph.D.
Commissioner of
Higher Education



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

Randy L. Ewing
Stephanie A. Finley
Robert W. Levy
Phillip R. May, Jr.
Charles R. McDonald
Darren G. Mire
Wilbert D. Pryor
Gary N. Solomon, Jr.
Terrie P. Sterling
Collis B. Temple III
Felix R. Weill
Judy A. Williams-Brown
Chandler C. Vidrine, Student

Minutes
Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission
May 11, 2021

The Louisiana Board of Regents' Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission met virtually on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 10:00am. Chair Fontenot called the meeting to order at 10:05am. The roll was then called, and it was determined that we had a quorum.

Commission Member Present

Melanie Amrhein
Sherrie Despino
James Dorris
James Fontenot, Chair
Jada Lewis
Randy Plaisance

Commission Members Absent

Chris Broadwater
Carmen Million
Mary Lou Potter

Staff Members Present

Nancy Beall
Courtney Britton
Chandra Cheatham
Mighan Johnson
Jennifer Stevens

Guests Present

(See Appendix A)

The next item of business was the approval of the minutes from the March 9, 2021 Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission meeting.

On motion of Ms. Despino, seconded by Ms. Amrhein, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously adopted the minutes of the March 9, 2021 Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission meeting.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was the initial license applications from OceanPointe Dental Academy of Hammond, Louisiana. The school was represented by the owner, Dr. Neil Oza. Ms. Johnson reviewed the materials for the Commission members, informing them that the institution was proposing to offer one (1) program: Dental Assisting, 172 clock hours and 14 weeks. The program met all legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion included Ms. Amrhein complemented Dr. Oza on a complete and thorough application. There were further discussions on background and the need for opening of schools, structure of training and preparation, partnerships, and outreach and marketing to potential students.

On motion of Ms. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Amrhein, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously voted that the Board of Regents approve the operating license for OceanPoint Dental Academy, Hammond, Louisiana.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was the initial license application from Safe Road Truck Driving School, LLC, located in New Orleans, Louisiana. The school was represented by the owners, Neidra Hinton and Jadian McPherson. Ms. Johnson reviewed the materials for the Commission members, informing them that the institution was proposing to offer two (2) programs: (1) CDL Class A, 160 clock hours and 4 weeks and (2) CDL Class B, 80 clock hours and 1 week. Both programs met all legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion included background of owners' motivation and inspiration to open the school, need for truck drivers, and connecting with companies that have a shortage of drivers.

On motion of Ms. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Amrhein, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously voted that the Board of Regents approve the operating license for Safe Road Truck Driving School, LLC, New Orleans, Louisiana.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was the initial license application from Skillz Academy, LLC, located in New Orleans, Louisiana. The school was represented by the owner, Mark Rigdon, and CEO, Courtney Williams. Ms. Britton reviewed the materials for the Commission

members, informing them that the institution was proposing to offer one (1) program: Software Sales Training Program, 293 clock hours and 8 weeks. The program met all legal and administrative requirements to be approved for initial license.

Following further discussion included demand for particular field, background of owner and CEO, potential students, and length of course.

On motion of Ms. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Amrhein, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission unanimously voted that the Board of Regents approve the operating license for Skillz Academy, LLC, New Orleans, Louisiana.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was the initial license application from Baton Rouge School of Phlebotomy, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The school was represented by the owner, Jessica Shropshire. Ms. Johnson reviewed the materials for the Commission members, informing them that the institution was proposing to offer one (1) program: Phlebotomy Tech, 144 clock hours and 12 weeks. The program met all legal and administrative requirements to be approved for an initial license.

Following further discussion included background of owners' motivation to open the school and plans for the school including class size, instructors, purchasing equipment, student outreach and sustainability, student grants, competition in the area, and the business plan. Mr. Fontenot shared concern there was not enough defined research for the business plan.

On motion of Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Ms. Despino, the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission voted to defer the application for an operating license for Baton Rouge School of Phlebotomy, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, until the July 13, 2021, Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission Meeting, pending an updated business plan.

A roll of the vote was as follows: Amrhein – yes, Despino – yes, Dorris – no, Fontenot – yes, Lewis – yes, Plaisance – yes.

The next agenda item considered by the Commission was operating license renewals. There were twenty-three (23) schools who submitted renewal applications. Ms. Britton noted one school (Pilot Healthcare Training Institute, LLC, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, #2288), did not submit a renewal application.

On motion of Ms. Amrhein, seconded by Ms. Despino, the Proprietary

Schools Advisory Commission unanimously voted that the Board of Regents renew the licenses of the following proprietary schools.

Academy of Acadiana, Inc., New Iberia (3/22/2006)
At-Home Professions (4/22/1999)
Baton Rouge Dental Assistant Academy (3/26/2014)
Blue Cliff College – Houma (3/24/2005)
Blue Cliff College – Metairie (3/23/2000)
Blue Cliff College – Metairie, Satellite Location (3/23/2011)
CDL Mentors, LLC – Lake Charles (3/27/2019)
Charity Health Training Institute, LLC (4/22/2020)
Coastal College - Lafayette (4/23/1998)
Coastal College - Monroe (3/28/1996)
Delta College of Arts & Technology – Lafayette Branch (3/24/2005)
Elise Phlebotomy Training Center (4/22/2020)
Goodwill Technical College (3/25/2015)
Lenora School of Phlebotomy (4/28/1994)
Louisiana Culinary Institute, LLC (3/27/2003)
Professional Laser Training (1/14/2019)
Saint Christopher College (3/14/2017)
Southwest Dental Academy (4/22/2020)
Tulsa Welding School and Technology Center (3/15/2015)
Unitech Training Academy - Lafayette (4/24/1997)
Unitech Training Academy – Houma (3/22/2006)
Universal Technical Institute of Texas, Inc. (4/20/1984)
Universal Technical Institute – Florida Branch (4/23/1998)

The next agenda item was an update on program approvals. Chair Fontenot reminded the Commission that staff approved these updates administratively and program approvals were being shared for informational purposes only. No questions were brought forward regarding program approvals.

Other Business

Mr. Fontenot asked for an update regarding rule changes that were reviewed and voted on at the March meeting. Ms. Britton stated that the rule changes were presented to the Board, voted on, and approved. In addition, she stated that the rule changes were submitted to the Louisiana Office of State Register for printing in the upcoming edition and the public comments period will begin upon publication. Ms. Britton then stated that she is hopeful that at the July commission meeting, she will have an update that the Rules have met final approval of the Board, and that they will go on as official rule changes in the Administrative Code. Next, Ms. Britton discussed that she is working with Academic Affairs on a selection of software as a service to provide an online portal for digital process

improvements.

The next meeting of the Proprietary Schools Advisory Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, July 13, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., with location to be determined at a closer time. With there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

APPENDIX A
GUESTS

Neidra Hinton	Safe Road Truck Driving School, LLC
Amanda LaGroue	LA Department of Justice
Jadian McPherson	Safe Road Truck Driving School, LLC
Neil Oza	OceanPointe Dental Academy of Hammond
Mark Rigdon	Skillz Academy, LLC
Jessica Shropshire	Baton Rouge School of Phlebotomy
Bruce Vermeulen	OceanPointe Dental Academy of Hammond
Courtney Williams	Skillz Academy, LLC

Agenda Item IV.
Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund Report

Executive Summary

Background

Pursuant to the Board of Regents Master Plan 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 to not only address the state's growing economic and workforce demands, but it is critical toward achieving meaningful prosperity and improving the quality of life for Louisianans. To reach this goal the Master Plan identifies key strategies and objectives essential toward doubling the number of degrees and high value credentials awarded by the next decade (85,000). Integral to the effort to expand prosperity is the development and delivery of credentials that meet high-demand industry needs and provide a pathway to a viable career and a living wage.

ACT 57 of the 2020 Regular Session (RS 17:3138.9) commissioned the Cybersecurity Education Management Council (CEMC) and created the Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund. As cyber threats persist across every industry sector and domain, and cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure are a state and national security concern, confronting these threats demand a knowledgeable workforce. However, the state and nation face a critical shortage of security professionals for current and near-term challenges. In response to this the CEMC, under the auspices of the Louisiana Board of Regents, is tasked with "advising and making recommendations to the board with respect to distributions from the fund," and annually "review the list of degree and certificate programs upon which the distribution is based and the final distribution amounts."

Purpose of Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund

The purpose of the Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund is to provide a mechanism for donations and/or appropriations of funding for the development of degree and certificate programs in cybersecurity fields offered by public postsecondary education institutions. By providing programmatic support to institutions, the goal of the fund is to develop, train, produce, and retain Louisiana's workforce-ready cybersecurity professionals and improve cybersecurity literacy across industry sectors.

The priorities for fund utilization were developed through CEMC meetings, stakeholder insight, and existing collaborations within the field. Additional guidance was provided by cybersecurity data from multiple resources and reports such as the National Institute of Science and Technology Cybersecurity Framework, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's Cybersecurity Workforce Framework, and the International Information System Security Certification Consortium Cybersecurity Workforce study for 2019 and 2020. Following the first CEMC meeting in September 2020, the CEMC commenced with drafting a Request for Applications (RFA) to solicit innovative solutions from Louisiana's public postsecondary institutions. Key topics identified within the RFA include project requirements, metrics and reporting, project tracks, eligibility, and the application review process.

Fund Distribution Summary

The Board was apprised of the application process at its April meeting. Staff recommended that a follow-up report be provided to the Board in June regarding applications selected by the CEMC for funding.

The CEMC selected applicants from all public postsecondary systems, with geographical representation from across the state. Applications selected encumbered a diverse range of programs, were accompanied

with strategic budget planning, and offered promising Cybersecurity workforce education and training outcomes for the state. Among other items, applications ranged from focusing on enhanced course curricula and certificate development, to strengthening computer systems hardware and technology to offer more advanced training opportunities. A common theme included providing current and prospective students with increased access to postsecondary education in Cybersecurity fields through modification of existing academic and technical programs, variability of credentials, online instructional modality, and other methods. Furthermore, many programs seek to collaborate with industry partners to provide cutting-edge training and professional experiences necessary for success in the workplace. In sum, the applications selected not only seek to provide well-rounded training and education opportunities for students from all corners of the state, but they also align with the Board's Master Plan to produce stackable credentials, innovate for a prosperity pipeline, and deliver new education delivery models.

Fund Distribution by Institution

Institutions and programs selected for funding, and requested amount for each, are as follows:

Bossier Parish Community College: \$67,000

Bossier Parish Community College will develop entry, middle, and advanced certification and test prep offerings that align to industry-based certifications. Resources will be used to support student success in in stacked credential pathways, expand and incorporate online technology to supplement training. The primary goal for this project is to graduate 10 students in the Network Security Certificate of Competency, including three embedded industry-based certifications (A+, Net+, and Security+) from CompTIA. Through the implementation of wrap-around services and financial support to students, the project team will mentor and work with these students to complete their program in a timely manner.

Louisiana State University and A&M College: \$185,544

LSU and A&M College will develop Forensic and Incident Response Environment (FIRE). FIRE will be an immersive and innovative cyber teaching experience that uses Louisiana data, experts, and real-time attacks to train a new generation of cyber talent, to be known as "FIREStarters." FIREStarter combines courses taught by LSU Computer Science cyber experts, the Louisiana State Police's Cyber Crime Unit, threat data, the state's Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI) network, a virtual cyber teaching range, and internships and pathways to prepare students for immediate employment and impact. The course sequence will begin in Spring 2022, with a goal to enroll 100 students in the term.

Louisiana State University at Alexandria: \$58,364

Louisiana State University at Alexandria (LSUA) seeks to increase the number of university graduates with a Cybersecurity concentration or certificate in Central Louisiana. In addition, it seeks to train non-degree seeking students in Cybersecurity and to form partnerships with local companies to give students workplace experience. Resources will be used to purchase computers and equipment, networking supplies, certification exam materials, and faculty and staff training. Expenses will also be remitted for faculty and student weekly travel to the Cyber Innovation Center in Bossier City to complete training with Ingalls Information Security in Security+ certification. This will serve as an interim measure until instructors are certified and/or are hired full-time, an item committed to by LSUA administration.

Louisiana State University at Shreveport: \$17,420

Louisiana State University at Shreveport will create a Certification Training Unit (CTU) for students to acquire cybersecurity knowledge and hands-on skills that are directly related to certification exams. The institution will also provide free cybersecurity certification exam vouchers. This program will produce at least 30 certified professionals every year to meet the state's critical shortage of security professionals. Specifically, to meet the demands from the General Dynamic Information Technology (GDIT) Security Operation Center located in the National Cyber Research Park in Bossier City.

Louisiana Tech University: \$317,489

Louisiana Tech University will provide instructional support and scholarships for an Undergraduate Certificate in Cybersecurity that provides a mechanism for students to obtain industry certifications in CompTIA Network+ and Security+ as well as provide completers the fundamental skills and background in computing and networking that are in high demand by industry within the state. While the certificate will be of service to Louisiana Tech's 600+ computer science and cyber engineering students to enhance their value to industry, it will also be accessible to a much broader group of majors to produce additional graduates that have credentials enabling them to directly enter the cyber-security workforce.

Northwestern State University: \$30,000

Northwestern State University (NSU) will establish a work-based scholarship program for Cybersecurity students. This program will partner with Real Vision Software to provide professional experience. In this program, three or more students seeking a degree in the Cyber Security area will receive a work-based scholarship that will cover all, or most, of their tuition and fees for the 21-22 academic year. These students will then spend part of their time working on a cyber security diagnostics project for Real Vision Software. The project will enhance the BS in Computer Information Systems (CIS) program by delivering a work-based concentration in Cybersecurity.

Southern University and A&M College: \$205,519

Southern University and A&M College will partner with Southern University at New Orleans and Southern University Law Center to develop the Southern University System Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Program (SUS-CyberTIP). The project aims to develop Cybersecurity-related degree pathways and to support participation and success of underrepresented groups for Cybersecurity-related graduate programs and careers. To do so, it will enhance, expand, and infuse nine emerging cybersecurity courses aligned to the National Institute of Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Framework into the existing curricula of the three SUS campuses. This will be achieved through developing an Undergraduate Certificate in Cybersecurity (SUS-UCC), establishing the Supervised Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE) subprogram, enhancing channels of industry engagement, and establishing an annual CyberTIP symposium at Southern University.

University of Louisiana – Lafayette: \$115,735

University of Louisiana – Lafayette (ULL) will create an online Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) certificate preparation course and one online Global Industrial Control System Professional (GICSP) certificate preparation course. Within this course, ULL will build an interactive virtual lab environment in the context of Industrial Control System (ICS) security for all Louisiana college-level students. ULL will also conduct a 3-hour online ICS training workshop by TechNeaux Tech Services, leveraging real-world use cases and experience. Lastly, the University will host 3-4 career fair events in the State of Louisiana with local companies, state government agencies, and security agencies in cybersecurity fields.

This item is for informational purposes only. The Board will be advised annually of distribution and performance of the Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund and will be provided with updates from the Cybersecurity Education Management Council as appropriate.