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December 19, 2023

The Honorable John Bel Edwards
Governor, State of Louisiana
State Capitol, 4th Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Governor Edwards:

Pursuant to R.S. 17:3138.5 and R.S. 17:3165.2, regarding the Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campus (GMVFC, or Friendly Campus) designation, the Board of Regents has reviewed annual reports and determined that, for the fourth consecutive year, all 28 public institutions are eligible for continued designation as Friendly Campuses:

Continued Designation:

- *Baton Rouge CC*
- *Bossier Parish CC*
- *Central Louisiana TCC*
- *Delgado CC*
- *Fletcher TCC*
- *Louisiana Delta CC*
- *Northshore TCC*
- *Northwest Louisiana TCC*
- *Nunez CC*
- *River Parishes CC*
- *South Louisiana CC*
- *SOWELA TCC*
- *LSU A&M*
- *LSU Alexandria*
- *LSU Eunice*
- *LSU Shreveport*
- *Southern University A&M*
- *Southern University at New Orleans*
- *Southern University Shreveport*
- *Grambling State University*
- *Louisiana Tech University*
- *McNeese State University*
- *Nicholls State University*
- *Northwestern State University*
- *Southeastern Louisiana University*
- *University of Louisiana at Lafayette*
- *University of Louisiana at Monroe*
- *University of New Orleans*

In addition, this year, for the first time, we have participation from one of our private institutions:

Initial Designation:

- *Dillard University*

In accordance with the law, the Friendly Campus designation provides formal recognition of state public postsecondary institutions that create and maintain a supportive environment for military service people

by offering veterans and their families waivers of application fees, special orientation sessions, priority class scheduling, deployment readmission policies, and transfer and articulation support.

In 2021, the law was amended to extend participation in the Friendly Campus Program to *non-public* education institutions and to provide additional metrics on completion rates of veterans and their spouses/dependents.

Each campus understands that it must identify and report transfer, articulation and graduation data for both veterans and their spouses/dependents. Collectively, in 2022-2023, public postsecondary institutions identified 3,449 veteran transfer students bringing a total of 37,520.14 transfer credits and 2,926 spouses/dependents transferring 44,086 credits. A total of 1,083 veterans and 1,285 spouse/dependent graduates were reported statewide.

System	Veterans	Transfer Credits	Spouses/ Dependents	Transfer Credits	Vet. Graduates	Sp./Dep. Graduates
LCTCS	1,412	9,376.87	1,626	11,724	348	391
LSU	199	11,177.28	655	19,513.31	349	637
SUS	38	1,287.50	27	1,315	43	39
ULS	1,800	15,678.49	618	11,534	343	218
TOTALS	3,449	37,520.14	2,926	44,086	1,083	1,285

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these results and for your support of this program over the past eight years. Please address questions or requests for additional information to myself or Deputy Commissioner Dr. Tristan Denley (tristan.denley@laregents.edu).

Sincerely,



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

AGENDA ITEM V.A.

AY 2022-2023 Interim Report for *Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campus Designation*

Background Information

Act 232 of the 2015 Legislative Session enacted R.S. 17:3138.5 to address the need for comprehensive, statewide support to aid military veterans transitioning from military service to enrollment in postsecondary education. Targeting the need for faculty and staff awareness of "veterans' culture" and for orientation and mentoring programs designed specifically for veterans, the law required the Board of Regents (BOR) to establish a process for designating an institution as a *Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campus* (GMVFC, or Friendly Campus), beginning in Fall 2015.

With advice from the Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council and Faculty General Education Committee (SATC-GE), the BOR developed an application process for institutions interested in receiving the designation. In Fall 2015, 28 of the 29 public colleges and universities were submitted to the Governor for initial designation. The law specifies that the designation is to be renewed annually, with an institution's renewal application to include a report containing a series of prescribed data elements from the previous year indicating veterans' participation in campus offerings. Any institution that fails to maintain Friendly Campus status must complete the application for initial designation if or when the campus chooses to seek it again.

Act 429 of the 2021 Legislative Session (R.S. 17:3138.5) amended Act 232 of 2015 to extend participation in the Governor's Military Friendly Campus Program to *non-public* education institutions, including the colleges and universities of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU). This mandate also included campus reporting of completion rates of veterans, their spouses, and their children.

Act 53 of the 2023 Legislative Session (R.S. 17:3138.5) amended Act 429 of 2021 to authorize the Board of Regents to establish additional tiers of recognition for institutions, to increase the duration of the designation from one to two years, and to submit an interim report in the years campuses do not submit renewal applications. This 2023 Interim Report will begin the alternating schedule for future reporting.

To compile the required data, BOR staff created and sent a link to the application to all public and private campuses: <https://form.jotform.com/232538755166060>.

Staff Summary

BoR staff reviewed each application to determine whether the institution met the requirements for continued designation as a Friendly Campus, with a particular focus on the specific data required by law:

- the number of veterans granted application fee waivers;
- the number who attended the specialized orientation program;
- the number who participated in the priority class registration;
- the number of students (veterans and dependents) who benefitted from the articulation and transfer process, including the number of credits accepted and a list of the courses credited; and
- the number of veteran, spouse and dependent graduates.

Most institutions have adjusted their student record systems, established business processes to identify veterans (and spouses/dependents of veterans), and provided all data required for the 2022-2023 year.

Mandatory Criteria for Continued Designation as a GMVFC:

- Waive Application Fees for Veterans: Institutions reported 2,557 application fee waivers for AY 2022-23.
- Veterans' Orientation: Institutions reported 2,932 students participating in the special orientation sessions in AY 2022-23.
- Priority Class Scheduling: Institutions reported that 4,578 students participated in priority scheduling for the fall, winter, spring, or summer semesters/terms of AY 2022-23.
- Military Articulation & Transfer Process: Friendly Campuses reported serving a combined total of 6,375 veteran or dependent transfer students, transferring 81,606.41 credit hours in AY 2022-23.

Chart 1, below, details the total number of veteran students, their spouses/dependents, course articulation, and total graduates:

CHART 1: AY 2022-23 Reported NEW Incoming Enrollment for GMVF Campuses

SYSTEM	CAMPUS	NEW VETS	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	TOTAL SPOUSE/ DEPS	TOTAL SPOUSE/ DEPS CREDIT HRS	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS VETS+ SPOUSE/ DEPS	TOTAL VET GRADS	TOTAL SPOUSE/ DEP GRADS
LSU System	LSU A&M	24	1,411	506	10,557.70	11,968.70	194	555
	LSUA	102	7,000.55	133	8,019.61	15,020.16	51	25
	LSUE	32	1,402.73	8	557	1,959.73	6	7
	LSUS	41	1,363	8	379	1,742	98	50
Total		199	11,177.28	655	19,513.31	30,690.59	349	637
SU System	SUBR	19	1,086.50	22	1,259	2,345.50	33	31
	SUNO	15	162	4	39	201	6	7
	SUSLA	4	39	1	17	56	4	1
Total		38	1,287.50	27	1,315	2,602.50	43	39
UL System	GSU	6	297	3	192	489	8	11
	LA TECH	1,164	25,72.84	175	494	3,066.84	56	52
	MCNEESE	54	1,050	77	3,187	4,237	10	11
	NICHOLLS	271	780	157	489	1,269	39	16
	NSU	8	0	0	0	0	102	6
	SLU	32	2,049.20	14	703	2,752.20	47	41
	ULL	80	5,584.45	79	3,239	8,823.45	41	42
	ULM	58	2,986	86	3,150	6,136	32	36
UNO	127	359	27	80	439	8	3	
Total		1,800	15,678.49	618	11,534	27,212.49	343	218
LCTCS	BRCC	69	2,437.67	128	4,828	7,265.67	61	94
	BPCC	12	118.5	6	46	164.5	34	18
	CLTCC	0	0	0	0	0	8	20
	DELGADO	1,063	1,832	1,165	1,663	3,495	40	15
	FTCC	14	672	27	1,071	1,743	17	24
	LDCC	28	1,453	23	692	2,145	44	67
	NTCC	17	308	16	153	461	12	33
	NWLTC	0	0	0	0	0	48	45
	NUNEZ	1	3	0	0	3	14	13
	RPCC	18	503.7	32	845	1,348.70	12	37
	SLCC	94	1,774	121	1,998	3,772	40	0
SOWELA	96	275	108	428	703	18	25	
Total		1,412	9,376.87	1,626	11,724	21,100.87	348	391
GRAND TOTAL		3,449	37,520.14	2,926	44,086.31	81,606.41	1,083	1,285

Staff Analysis

Based upon the applications received, BOR staff has determined that each of the 28 public postsecondary institutions and one non-public institution listed below meet the requirements specified in R.S. 17:3138.5 and R.S. 3165.2 for designation as a *Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campus* for the 2022-23 academic year. This represents 100% participation in this program by public postsecondary institutions in the state. This year also marks the first time a private university, Dillard University, has met the initial criteria and attained the designation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends **approval** to forward to the Governor the following **28 public** postsecondary institutions and one *non-public* institution with an endorsement as having met requirements for continued and initial designation as *Governor's Military and Veteran Friendly Campuses*:

Louisiana Community and Technical College System

- **Baton Rouge CC**
- **Bossier Parish CC**
- **Central Louisiana TCC**
- **Delgado CC**
- **Fletcher Technical CC**
- **Louisiana Delta CC**
- **Northshore TCC**
- **Northwest Louisiana TCC**
- **Nunez CC**
- **River Parishes CC**
- **South Louisiana CC**
- **SOWELA CC**

Louisiana State University System

- **LSU A&M**
- **LSU Alexandria**
- **LSU Eunice**
- **LSU Shreveport**

Southern University System

- **Southern University A&M**
- **Southern University New Orleans**
- **Southern University Shreveport**

University of Louisiana System

- **Grambling State University**
- **Louisiana Tech University**
- **McNeese State University**
- **Nicholls State University**
- **Northwestern State University**
- **Southeastern Louisiana University**
- **University of Louisiana Lafayette**
- **University of Louisiana Monroe**
- **University of New Orleans**

Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

- **Dillard University**