



BOARD of REGENTS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

Notice of Meetings

Louisiana Board of Regents

P.O. 3677 ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677
Phone: (225)-342-4253 ▪ Fax: (225)-342-9318
www.laregents.edu

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Board Development	9:00 AM	Iowa Room 1-153 Claiborne Building, 1st Floor 1201 N. Third St. Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority (LATTA)	10:30 AM	Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100 Claiborne Building, 1st Floor
Committee Meetings** Legislative Academic and Student Affairs Facilities and Property Research and Sponsored Initiatives Statewide Programs Planning, Research, and Performance	10:40 AM	Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100 Claiborne Building, 1st Floor
Board of Regents Meeting**	1:30 PM	Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100 Claiborne Building, 1st Floor

ADA Accessibility Requests

If you have a disability and require a reasonable accommodation to fully participate in this meeting, please contact Karlita Anderson five (5) business days before the meeting date via email at Karlita.Anderson@laregents.edu or by telephone at (225) 219-7660 to discuss your accessibility needs.

INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE AGENDAS MAY BE FOUND AT WWW.LAREGENTS.EDU.

* The meeting may begin later contingent upon adjournment of previous meeting. Meetings may also convene up to 30 minutes prior to the posted schedule to facilitate business.

** The Board of Regents reserves the right to enter into Executive Session, if needed, in accordance with R.S. 42:11 *et seq.*

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*Vice Chair
At-Large*

Dallas L. Hixson
*Secretary
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2nd Congressional District

Christian C. Creed
5th Congressional District

Blake R. David
3rd Congressional District

Stephanie A. Finley
3rd Congressional District

Ted H. Glaser III
6th Congressional District

Phillip R. May Jr.
1st Congressional District

Darren G. Mire
2nd Congressional District

Wilbert D. Pryor
4th Congressional District

Christy Oliver Reeves
5th Congressional District

Devesh Sarda
Student Member

K. Samer Shamieh, M.D.
1st Congressional District

Collis B. Temple III
6th Congressional District

Judy A. Williams-Brown
4th Congressional District

Agenda

Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority (LATTA)

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

10:30 AM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Louisiana Purchase Room (1-100)
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of the Minutes
- V. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Rulemaking - Rulemaking to amend Section 315 to add the applicable interest rates for the START Saving Program for the calendar year ending December 31, 2025.
- VI. Other Business
- VII. Adjournment

LATTA Members: Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed, Chair; David Aubrey; Misti Cordell; Christian Creed; Blake David; Stephanie Finley; Ted Glaser III; Dallas Hixson; Rachel Kincaid; Phillip May, Jr.; Darren Mire; Wilbert Pryor; Christy Reeves; Devesh Sarda; Samer Shamieh; Terri Sterling; Collis B. Temple III; and Judy Williams-Brown.



START SAVING PROGRAM

LOUISIANA'S 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLAN
— A PROGRAM OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS —

Minutes Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority (LATTA) December 10, 2025

The Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority (LATTA) met on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 11:28 a.m. in the Claiborne Building, Thomas Jefferson Room, 1201 North Third Street, First Floor, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Commissioner Reed called the meeting to order, and the roll was called.

LATTA Members Present

Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, Chair
Regent David Aubrey
Regent Misti Cordell
Regent Christian Creed
Regent Blake David
Regent Stephanie Finley
Regent Ted Glaser
Regent Dallas Hixson
Amy Matthews*
Regent Phillip May
Regent Darren Mire
Regent Wilbert Pryor
Regent Christy Oliver Reeves
Regent Samer Shamieh
Regent Terrie Sterling
Regent Collis Temple
Regent Judy Williams-Brown

Staff Members Present

Rhonda Bridevaux
Dr. Susannah Craig
Robyn Lively

LATTA Members Absent

Regent Devesh Sarda

**Proxy for Rachel Kincaid*



Seventeen members were present, which represented a quorum, and there was no public comment.

On motion of Regent May, seconded by Regent Creed, the LATTA approved the minutes from the April 23, 2025, meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA


- A. Approval of Final Rulemaking – Rulemaking to amend Section 313 of the START Saving Program rules to allow for the transfer of ownership of an account when a court order requires it and to amend Section 315 to add the applicable interest rates for the START Saving Program for calendar year ending December 31, 2024.

Dr. Susannah Craig, Interim Executive Director of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), explained that at the April 23, 2025 LATTA meeting the Board of Regents (BOR) authorized rulemaking that allows the transfer of ownership of an account in the event staff receives a valid order from a court of competent jurisdiction. Dr. Craig further explained that this rulemaking adds the interest rates to be applied to deposits in the START Saving Plan’s principal protection option and to be applied for eligible Earnings Enhancements for the tax year ending December 31, 2024. The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends that the Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority authorize publication of the final rule.

- B. Approval of Rulemaking – Rulemaking to amend Section 107 of the START Program administrative rules, Sections 707, 709, and 715 of the START K12 Program rules, and Section 507 of the LA ABLE Account program rules to implement provisions of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025.

Dr. Susannah Craig, Interim Executive Director of LOSFA, explained that this rulemaking expands the use of START, START K12, and LA ABLE Account program accounts.

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- For START, the definition of Qualified Higher Education Expenses has been expanded to include costs for attendance in recognized credential programs as well as fees and continuing education expenses when courses are required to maintain a postsecondary credential.
- For START K12, the bill expands the definition of Qualified Education Expenses beyond tuition to include curriculum materials, tutoring, norm-referenced achievement tests, AP exams, and education therapies, and increases the maximum annual distribution amount for START K12 to \$20,000 from \$10,000.
- For LA ABLE, this rulemaking implements the LA ABLE to Work provisions, which include the definition of annual contribution limit, as well as adds an exception to this limit for qualified account owners.

On motion of Regent May, seconded by Regent Hixson, the LATTA approved the Consent Agenda items.

There being no further business, on motion of Regent May, seconded by Regent Reeves, the meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.



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AGENDA ITEM V.A.

Consent Agenda: Approval of Rulemaking

Rulemaking to amend Section 315 to add the applicable interest rates for the START Saving Program for the calendar year ending December 31, 2025.

BACKGROUND

This proposed rulemaking adds interest rates to be applied to deposits in the START Saving Plan's principal protection option and to be applied for eligible Earnings Enhancements for the tax year ending December 31, 2025.

LSA R.S. 17:3095E(2) requires the State Treasurer to determine and report to the Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority the total earnings and the rate of return achieved on deposits in the Louisiana Education Tuition and Savings Fund (the "Fund") and, based upon that report, the Authority, with the approval of the State Treasurer, shall establish the rate of interest to be applied to the accumulated funds in the START accounts of record and to credit the appropriate amount of interest earnings to each such account. LSA R.S. 17:3093D(1)(f) requires the Authority to adopt rules that include the interest rates approved by the State Treasurer to be paid on START accounts of record at the close of each calendar year.

The compilation of quarterly reports received from the State Treasurer for the year ending December 31, 2025, indicate that on an average daily balance of deposits of \$432,386,587.02, the Fund earned \$10,636,329.45. Further, the compilation of quarterly reports of the State Treasurer indicates that the Savings Enhancement Fund, which contains the Earnings Enhancements annually appropriated by the state legislature, earned \$997,955.24 on an average daily balance of \$31,158,928.04. The State Treasurer has notified the Authority by letter dated February 11, 2026, that the approved, calculated interest rate for deposits was 2.46% and for Earnings Enhancements was 3.20%.

LOSFA Advisory Board Recommendation

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends that the Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority approve the rulemaking to amend Section 315 to add the applicable interest rates for the START Saving Program for the 2025 calendar year and authorize the Executive Director of LOSFA to publish a Notice of Intent to make these rules permanent.



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Agenda

Board of Regents Meeting*

Wednesday, April 29, 2026
10:40 AM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Louisiana Purchase Room (1-100)
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of Minutes from March 24, 2026
- V. Reports and Recommendations of Standing Committees
 - A. Legislative
 - B. Academic and Student Affairs
 - C. Facilities and Property
 - D. Research and Sponsored Initiatives
 - E. Statewide Programs
 - F. Planning, Research, and Performance
- VI. Meauxmentum Moment – Measuring Student Success at LSUS through the Meauxmentum Framework
- VII. Chair’s Comments
- VIII. Reports and Recommendations by the Commissioner of Higher Education
- IX. Other Business
- X. Adjournment

**Note: The Board of Regents reserves the right to enter into Executive Session, if needed, in accordance with R.S. 42:11 et seq.*

DRAFT
MINUTES
BOARD OF REGENTS

March 24, 2026

The Board of Regents met at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, in the Louisiana Purchase Room (1-100), Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Chair Cordell called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Emily Skaikay called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Present for the meeting were:

Kim Hunter Reed, Commissioner
Misti Cordell, Chair
Terrie Sterling, Vice Chair
David Aubrey
Christian Creed
Blake David
Ted Glaser III
Dallas Hixson
Wilbert Pryor
Christy Oliver Reeves
Devesh Sarda, Student Member
K. Samer Shamieh
Collis Temple III
Judy Williams-Brown

Mgt. Board representative present was:

LSU

Mgt. Board representatives not present were:

LCTCS
Southern
UL

Absent from the meeting were:

Stephanie Finley
Phillip May
Darren Mire

Appendix A
Guest List

OATHS OF OFFICE

Board Officers (Vice Chair and Secretary)

The newly appointed officers for 2026 were sworn in by Brianna Golden Phillips, Director of Government Affairs. She administered the oaths of office to Regent Terrie Sterling as Vice Chair and Regent Dallas Hixson as Secretary.

Members to Serve on the Executive Committee

The members of the 2026 Executive Committee were sworn in by Ms. Golden Phillips. The members of the Executive Committee who were sworn in include Regents Creed, David, Shamieh, and Temple.

Chair Cordell briefly updated the Board on the U.S. Department of Education's inquiry into BOR's previous performance objectives. Chair Cordell reported that the Board has approached the process with a strong commitment to transparency and full compliance with federal requests. She noted that prior to the January 2025 executive order, the Board was already in the process of updating the funding formula, which resulted in a formula that emphasizes outcomes. A formal response was submitted Friday, March 13, 2026. Commissioner Reed added the Board and staff understand the need to align with federal and state policy priorities and mandates.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Cordell asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 6, 2026 MEETING

On motion of Regent Hixson, seconded by Regent Temple, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2026 meeting.

MEAUXMENTUM MOMENT- MEAUXMENTUM SUMMIT 4 UPDATE

Chair Cordell reported that the fourth Meauxmentum Summit was held in February at the Cajundome in Lafayette. She noted the positive feedback highlighting the strong work being done through the Meauxmentum framework. Chair Cordell emphasized Dr. Denley's deep commitment to the initiative, which she states is clearly reflected in the quality and impact of these summits. Chair Cordell introduced Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation.

Dr. Denley stated that in its fourth year the Meauxmentum Summit hosted over 500 participants, including senior leaders, department chairs, faculty, student affairs staff, Meauxmentum champions, and students. The summit featured 18 national experts including prominent higher education leaders, who highlighted Louisiana's progress in higher education reform. The Meauxmentum speakers emphasized how other states are increasingly looking to replicate Louisiana's approach, which is focused on achieving the 60% attainment goal.

Dr. Denley stated that the event underscored strong national recognition of Louisiana's work, with attendees praising the state's leadership and innovation in higher education. He added that the summit was described as sold out and highly influential, reinforcing momentum efforts designed to improve student success.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Cordell made the following comments:

- She recognized Regent Devesh Sarada, student member, who gave his report.
 - Regent Sarada reported a successful Washington, D.C. trip with Louisiana's congressional delegation, focusing on higher education issues. He emphasized improving communication channels to better elevate student concerns through leadership.
 - He reported on the McNeese COSBP meeting, addressing student mental health and burnout, and highlighted priorities including hazing prevention, TOPS and MJ Foster scholarships, and career alignment.
 - He referred to his Alzheimer's research previously presented nationally, noting the latest work includes more detailed Louisiana-specific data, strengthening its broader research impact despite data integration challenges.
- She presented highlights from student leaders who traveled to Washington, D.C. for the annual DC Mardi Gras visit with Louisiana's congressional delegation, where they engaged with policy makers and gained valuable firsthand experience. She noted that the trip was a fun and meaningful opportunity, especially for students meeting elected officials for the first time.
- She recounted the trip to Regent Glaser's sugar mill and farm in Pointe Coupee Parish that board members participated in where they learned about the complexity of sugar production. She described the experience as highly educational and invited Regent Glaser to provide further details on the visit.
 - Regent Glaser highlighted the large-scale organization of Louisiana's sugar industry, noting its major production output, coordinated harvest system, and heavy transportation demands. He emphasized its importance as a key economic driver, especially in Pointe Coupee Parish.
 - He noted that while agriculture faces policy and economic challenges, sugar remains a vital and relatively stable commodity in Louisiana.
 - He stated his concern that agriculture was omitted from a report on Louisiana's top industries despite its historic importance. He emphasized its strong economic impact and proposed inviting LSU AgCenter representatives to highlight its role, stressing the importance of valuing essential resources like food and water.

AUDIT

LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR MANAGEMENT LETTER–ANNUAL AGENCY AUDIT FOR FY 2024 – 25

Ms. Elizabeth Bentley-Smith, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, explained that the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) completed a Financial Audit of the Louisiana Board of Regents for Fiscal Year 2024 – 25, for which no findings were noted.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR MANAGEMENT LETTER–ANNUAL START AUDIT FOR CY 2024

Ms. Bentley-Smith explained that the LLA completed a Financial Audit of the Student Tuition Assistance and Revenue Trust Programs (START) for Calendar Year 2024, for which one finding was noted: Noncompliance and Control Weakness over GEAR UP Scholarships. The corrective action plan for this finding, which includes returning unspent scholarship funds to the grantor, will be completed by June 30, 2026.

OTHER BUSINESS

Regent David Aubrey asked whether the Board of Regents completes performance audits to prove a return on investments related to employment outcomes after graduation. Ms. Bentley-Smith stated that she would work with other deputies to provide this information to the Board.

FINANCE

FY 2026–2027 EXECUTIVE BUDGET OVERVIEW

Ms. Elizabeth Bentley-Smith, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, stated the FY 2026–2027 Executive Budget was presented to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) on January 23, 2026, as a standstill budget that included a total recommended State General Fund (SGF) decrease of \$40.1M for higher education. The decrease includes one-time (non-recurring) State General Fund allocations of \$49.4M and Mandated Costs reductions of \$4.2M due to retirement cost savings. The decreases are offset by increases of \$5.3M for the LSU First benefits program, a \$4.4M means of financing swap for TOPS, and \$4M for the purchase of a software platform for the START Saving

programs. Additionally, the M. J. Foster Promise scholarship program has been allocated another \$14.5M to bring the total statutorily dedicated funding to \$25M.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF THE FY 2026–27 PRELIMINARY FUNDING RECOMMENDATION

Ms. Bentley-Smith stated that annually, no later than March 31, the Board of Regents is statutorily required to submit to the Senate Education Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Committee on Education, and the House Committee on Appropriations any formula created and adopted by the Board for funding institutions of postsecondary education in the ensuing year. The formula submission is based on funds recommended for higher education in the Governor’s Executive Budget.

Ms. Bentley-Smith further explained that the preliminary submission is based on a standstill budget for all of higher education, distributing adjustments as noted to the respective agency/institution. Although there is a standstill budget, the new funding formula will be applied for FY27; this allocation has been reviewed and approved by all system presidents. In the event funding levels change as the appropriations bill moves through the process, a new allocation aligned with the latest version of the bill will be submitted to the Legislature.

On motion of Regent Hixson, seconded by Regent Creed, the Finance Committee approved the distribution in accordance with the methodology to be shared with the Legislature as required by statute. The Board will continue advocating for increased funding during the legislative process.

LEGISLATIVE

LEGISLATIVE STUDY REPORTS UPDATE

a. Task Force on Career Alignment Interim Report: Response to SCR 38 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session

Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation, provided an overview of the Task Force on Career Alignment Interim Report. He noted that Senate Concurrent Resolution 38 of the 2025 Regular Session established the task force to strengthen Louisiana’s education-to-career pipeline and improve in-state graduate retention.

Dr. Denley highlighted key findings, including that most institutions have career centers and work-based learning opportunities, though only half require career services engagement. He also noted challenges such as limited integration of career services across academic programs and fragmented internship and employer engagement efforts.

He concluded with an overview of the report’s focus areas, which include developing a faculty work-based learning playbook, creating a statewide opportunity index, expanding career coaching,

strengthening workforce reporting, implementing a work-study-to-work learning model, and increasing employer engagement through more centralized processes.

Regent Sarda thanked Dr. Denley and the task force for its work and invited Student Government Association Presidents Cruz Cassard (Nicholls State University) and Hannah Habisreitingner (University of Louisiana at Monroe) to share their perspectives, noting Mr. Cassard's role on the Task Force on Career Alignment.

Mr. Cassard shared that the task force was formed to help create meaningful opportunities for students to remain in Louisiana, address brain drain and strengthen connections to career services and paid internships. He expressed appreciation for the task force's leadership and the state's commitment to real solutions. Ms. Habisreitingner echoed these sentiments, emphasizing the importance of connecting students to career opportunities and the positive impact of aligning degrees with workforce pathways.

On motion of Regent Sarda, seconded by Regent Temple, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Task Force on Career Alignment Interim Report as requested by the Legislature.

a. Power Based Violence Report: Response to Act 472 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session

Ms. Brianna Golden Phillips, Director of Government Affairs, provided a brief overview of the Power-Based Violence Report. She noted that since the establishment of the Power-Based Violence Review Panel, legislative actions have progressively strengthened accountability around power-based violence, improved coordination between law enforcement and institutions, enhanced training and reporting standards, and addressed emerging threats, including AI-related harms.

According to the 2025 Power-Based Violence Report, training compliance remained high, with 34,359 employees (94%) and all 200 confidential advisors (100%) completing required training. The report also reflects 119 formal complaints filed between October 2024 to September 2025, with outcomes including findings of responsibility, informal resolutions, and other case dispositions, demonstrating continued monitoring and resolution of incidents.

Additionally, the report included legislative and programmatic recommendations, which include expanding statutory coverage to address unlawful deepfakes and AI-generated sexual content. A related bill has been filed during the 2026 Regular Legislative Session to strengthen campus safety education and reporting and clarify statutory definitions. Additionally, the Board of Regents will continue to update and enhance training to ensure compliance, relevance, and effective prevention and response.

On motion of Regent Aubrey, seconded by Regent Sarda, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Task Force on the Power Based Violence Report as requested by the Legislature.

2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Ms. Golden Phillips provided an overview of the 2026 Legislative Priorities and other legislative items.

2026 BOR Legislative Priorities

- **SB 305 – Career Alignment (Sen. Edmonds / Rep. Freiberg)** – Requires the Board of Regents to create a statewide dashboard linking degree programs to workforce outcomes and to collaborate with Louisiana Works to collect data on work-based learning experiences and evaluate how academic credit may be awarded for those experiences.
- **HB 636 – Hazing Prevention (Rep. LaFleur; Sens. Boudreaux and Price)** – Strengthens hazing prevention by requiring annual campus-wide education, improved reporting requirements, consistent adjudication procedures, and statewide oversight mechanisms.
- **HB 738 – Student Disciplinary Procedures (Rep. McMakin)** – Updates student disciplinary processes by clarifying notice requirements, maintaining the clear-and-convincing evidence standard with a limited exception, expanding access to evidence, extending appeal deadlines, and requiring written decisions.
- **SB 347 – Digital Misuse / Power-Based Violence (Sen. Barrow)** – Expands the statutory definition of power-based violence to include digital misconduct, sexual exploitation, and emerging technologies such as AI-generated and deepfake imagery.
- **HB 513 – Name, Image, and Likeness (Rep. Young / Sen. Connick)** – Establishes a regulatory framework for NIL activities involving high school and postsecondary athletes, including protections for minors, prohibited industries, educational requirements, and institutional oversight.
- **HB 749 – College Savings Security (Rep. Carver / Sen. Foil)** – Authorizes the Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority to contract with a program manager to administer START, START K–12, and ABLE college savings accounts.
- **HB 649 – Dual Enrollment Access (Rep. Brass)** – Creates a single statewide application process for dual enrollment students to streamline participation across Louisiana public postsecondary institutions.
- **HB 325 – TOPS Tech Eligibility (Rep. Brass)** – Expands eligibility for the TOPS Tech award to include students earning early college credit through dual enrollment or other approved workforce-aligned learning experiences.
- **TOPS Data (Rep. Bamberg)** – Evaluates the effectiveness of all TOPS programs, the administering agency requires standardized data from all public and nonpublic institutions on students who receive each type of TOPS aid and those who do not.
- **HB 407 – M.J. Foster Promise Award (Rep. Larvadain)** – Revises eligibility requirements by reversing the initial age restriction associated with the M.J. Foster Promise Award.
- **HB 104 – Phased Retirement (Rep. Bacala)** – Authorizes public postsecondary systems to implement voluntary phased retirement policies to support faculty and staff retention, succession planning, and knowledge transfer beginning July 1, 2027.
- **SB 142 – Regents Support Fund Protections (Sen. Reese)** – Preserves the public character and requirements of endowments matched by the Board of Regents Support Fund endowment dollars

and ensures continued compliance with program protections regardless of changes to the Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund.

- **Higher Education Funding Structure Study (Rep. Chaisson)** – Directs the Board of Regents to evaluate Louisiana’s higher education funding structure and report recommendations to legislative committees by February 26, 2027.
- **TOPS Return on Investment Study (Rep. Turner)** – Directs LED, Louisiana Works, the Board of Regents, and LAFIRST to jointly evaluate the state’s return on investment for the TOPS program.
- **Athletic Department NIL Study (Rep. Young)** – Requests a study examining the financial implications of NIL and revenue-sharing activities on collegiate athletics and long-term program sustainability.
- **High School NIL Trust Accounts Study (Rep. Chaisson)** – Requests examination of establishing trust accounts for high school athletes under age 18 to hold a percentage of NIL compensation earnings.

Bills of Interest

- **HB 99 – Guns on Campuses (Rep. McCormick)** – Authorizes individuals 18 years of age or older who are legally permitted to possess a firearm under state and federal law to carry a firearm on the campus of any public college or university in Louisiana.
- **HB 229 – Low-Earning Outcome Programs (Rep. Wyble)** – Prohibits public postsecondary education management boards from allocating state funds to academic programs identified by the federal government as low-earning outcome programs.
- **HB 385 (Rep. Bamberg) – TOPS Repayment** – Requires students who lose TOPS eligibility due to failure to meet program requirements to repay scholarship funds. The bill authorizes the Board of Regents to establish limited exceptions and implement collection procedures.
- **HB 626 – Suicide Prevention (Rep. Jordan)** – Requires colleges and universities to develop and implement campus suicide prevention plans.
- **SB 120 – NIL Financial Literacy Training (Sen. Talbot)** – Increases the annual financial literacy and life skills training requirement for postsecondary student-athletes participating in NIL activities.
- **HB 391 – Eliminates Board of Regents (Rep. McMackin)** – Proposes a constitutional amendment to eliminate the Louisiana Board of Regents effective January 1, 2028. The proposal would be submitted to voters for approval at the statewide election on November 3, 2026.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to come before the Legislative Committee.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation, presented the Consent Agenda, which included such routine items as program name changes and modality updates. He also highlighted five program terminations at UL Monroe, affecting 18 faculty members and saving about \$600–700K this year, with greater long-term impact.

On motion of Regent Creed, seconded by Regent Reeves, the Board voted unanimously to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

Regent Aubrey asked for clarification on online courses and the funding formula. Dr. Denley stated that programs labeled 100% online will still have in-person options. For funding, in-state online students count the same as those on-campus, while out-of-state online students are not included in the funding formula.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Dr. Denley presented for the Board's consideration proposals for three new academic programs: an Associate in Health Studies at Baton Rouge Community College to support healthcare workforce needs as both a transfer pathway and entry-level training; a Bachelor's in Aviation at LSU Alexandria, developed from existing concentrations to prepare students for careers as commercial pilots or in aviation management; and a Bachelor's in Artificial Intelligence at LSU A&M, one of the first of its kind, designed to train AI engineers through rigorous technical coursework.

On motion of Regent Creed, seconded by Regent Reeves, the Board voted unanimously to approve the academic program as presented.

ACCELERATED BACHELOR'S DEGREE (ACCB)

Dr. Denley presented for the Board's consideration a proposal to introduce a new 90-hour accelerated bachelor's degree to help meet workforce needs more quickly and flexibly. Unlike the traditional 120-hour degree, the three-year program is more focused, allowing students to graduate faster while still meeting core learning objectives. Campuses gain flexibility by integrating some general education requirements into major coursework. Staff recommend approving this option for all four-year institutions.

On the motion of Regent Reeves, seconded by Regent Creed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the degree as presented.

Board members asked the current accreditation agency's position on these degrees. Dr. Denley responded that SACSCOC had approved a policy allowing "reduced" bachelor's degrees like the 90-hour program. Campuses must still complete a standard substantive change approval process with SACSCOC

to offer their first such degree, but the policy was developed in close coordination with the accreditor, positioning Louisiana as a leader in this area.

AccB PROGRAMS – LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERISTY OF ALEXANDRIA

Regent Sterling introduced LSU Alexandria’s proposal for two accelerated three-year bachelor’s programs and recognized President Paul Coreil on his retirement after over 43 years of service. Regents Glaser and Hixson praised President Coreil for impactful leadership, innovation, and contributions to LSU, central Louisiana, and the state.

Dr. Denley introduced for the Board’s consideration two proposed accelerated bachelor’s degrees: in Information Technology, to quickly prepare students for high-demand tech jobs, and in Bioinformatics, to train students in a specialized mix of biology, data science, and AI skills needed for advanced biomedical fields.

On motion of Regent Sarada, seconded by Regent Aubrey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the degree as presented.

FACULTY ANNUAL REVIEW

Dr. Denley provided information on the faculty annual review, noting that a vote would not be necessary as the presentation was for information purposes only. He stated that in Louisiana all faculty – tenured, tenure-track, and adjunct – undergo rigorous annual evaluations, which are consequential for career advancement. While each of the four public systems has slightly different processes and tools, the core approach is consistent.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Denley highlighted that Northwestern State University has proposed a new Ag Center, which is under review. The Academic and Student Affairs staff at the Board of Regents is examining how a new center would interact with existing agricultural centers at LSU A&M and Southern University, ensuring statewide support for agriculture. Notably, this comes after a related agribusiness program was recently sunsetted due to low enrollment.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

ADDITIONS TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS FY 2026–27 CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Chris Herring, Associate Commissioner for Facilities Planning and Emergency Management, presented two capital outlay projects submitted by the Louisiana State University (LSU) Board of Supervisors for late addition to the Board of Regents (BOR) FY 2026–27 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation.

I. Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU) Alex Box Stadium Improvements

The first project involves various upgrades to the Alex Box facility. Specifically, the project will build an addition to the batting cage facility at Alex Box Stadium and renovate existing spaces. The addition includes the construction of 11,500 square feet (SF) of space dedicated to new batting cages and a new 30,000 SF indoor practice facility. The practice facility will contain a full-size synthetic turf field. The existing batting cages will be renovated to create a new 8,000 SF pitching lab.

The final component of the project involves construction of a new alumni viewing deck in right center field of the stadium. The new viewing deck will provide additional seating opportunities and enhance the fan experience. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$18M and will be funded with self-generated revenues. The project is scheduled to be complete for the 2028 college baseball season.

II. Louisiana State University of Alexandria (LSUA) Workforce Academic Center

The second project submitted by the LSU Board of Supervisors for consideration involves a request from LSUA to construct a new Workforce Academic Center. LSUA's enrollment growth has created a critical need for additional instructional space, faculty and staff offices, and modern academic resources. To address this challenge, the institution is proposing the construction of a state-of-the-art two-story facility comprising approximately 46,600 SF with workforce development as its central mission. The facility is envisioned as a modern, multidisciplinary facility that will house instructional and collaborative spaces for high-demand academic programs aligned with central Louisiana's economic priorities. With all existing campus buildings operating at 100% capacity, this building will support LSUA's continued enrollment growth and programmatic expansion.

To demonstrate LSUA's commitment to the project, the university will provide \$2M in institutional funds to fully support the planning and development phase during year one of the capital outlay timeline, and no state funding will be requested for the initial phase. Should the \$2M be insufficient to cover design costs, LSUA is prepared to add additional funding. Upon completion of the planning effort, the institution will seek approximately \$21.3M in state funds to cover the cost of construction. The request for state funding will be submitted in a future capital

outlay cycle. Any BOR recommendation related to this request will consider the LSU Board of Supervisors' priority ranking for this project alongside other LSU System capital priorities.

Regent Sarda inquired about the proposed location of the new facility and the impact the project would have on parking. Dr. Anzilla Gilmore, Associate Vice President, Facility and Property Oversight with LSU A&M, confirmed the new facility would be located on an existing parking lot on the LSUA main campus. She was not aware of any parking-related issues at LSUA.

On motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent Shamieh, the Facilities and Property Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the addition of two capital outlay projects to the Board of Regents FY 2026–27 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation submitted by the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors, on behalf of Louisiana State University and A&M College and Louisiana State University of Alexandria, for the purpose of improvements to the Alex Box Stadium facility and construction of a new Workforce Academic Center, respectively.

OTHER BUSINESS & ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Herring informed the Board of the posture of House Bill 2 (HB 2), the state's capital outlay bill, after the introduction of the bill by the Louisiana House of Representatives. He noted 38 projects, totaling approximately \$269M across all public postsecondary institutions and the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON), were included in the bill to receive new state funding for fiscal year 2027. Mr. Herring also noted four additional higher education projects not funded through schedule nineteen. Finally, he highlighted that the current bill does not include new funding for the Act 751 program.

Regent Aubrey mentioned the lack of Act 751 program funding and legislative concern related to the slow pace of program expenditures. Mr. Herring acknowledged the slower-than-anticipated expenditures, discussed various underlying reasons for the delay, and noted proposed solutions to expedite project execution going forward.

Regent Sarda asked how many projects within the BOR Capital Outlay Recommendation were deferred maintenance in nature. Mr. Herring explained that the majority of projects included within the recommendation have some impact on deferred maintenance. While some projects may be strictly deferred maintenance, renovations and replacement facilities also reduce the deferred maintenance backlog.

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED INITIATIVES

FY 2025–26 BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, highlighted the process for developing external evaluations for proposals submitted to the constitutionally prescribed program components of the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) and specific award recommendations for FY 2025–26. She noted that the current Revenue Estimating Conference projection exceeds the budget approved during the 2025 Regular Legislative Session and sufficient funds are available in the Support Fund to accommodate the recommendations. She then specified the following five (5) recommendations for FY 2025–26 across all BoRSF subprograms, to be funded with earnings distributed during the fiscal year. By these recommendations, the Board was asked to authorize awards, with contingencies, as follows:

I. Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars

Board action completed the endowments for the five (5) proposals ranked 1–4 in the Consultants’ Report.

II. Enhancement of the Quality of Academic, Research, and Agricultural Departments and Units

Board action approved disbursements in the Endowed Professorships and Endowed Two-Year Workforce Scholarships subprograms as follows:

A. Endowed Professorships: A total of \$2,640,000 from the Support Fund for the Endowed Professorships subprogram, including First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships, to match new and prior-year requests at nine (9) institutions.

B. Endowed Two-Year Student Workforce Scholarships: \$1,760,000 from the Support Fund to match thirty-four (34) applications submitted in FY 2025–26 under the Endowed Two-Year Workforce Scholarships subprogram.

III. Targeted Research & Development

Board action approved disbursement of \$2,090,000 estimated to be available in FY 2025–26 to fund the nineteen (19) Research Competitiveness Subprogram proposals selected.

IV. Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students

Board action approved disbursement of \$1,000,000 from the Support Fund to match fourteen (14) applications, ranked 1–13, submitted in FY 2025–26 under the Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships subprogram.

V. Contingency Plan for Budgetary Shortfall

Board action approved the following contingency plan for a budgetary shortfall: Should available Support Fund revenues not achieve the amount cited herein during FY 2025–26, any shortfall shall be accommodated through a proportionate reduction in the amounts allocated for proposals in the competitive program components.

On motion of Regent Reeves, seconded by Regent Shamieh, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the FY 2025–26 BoRSF funding recommendations, with contingencies, as presented.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Susannah Craig, Interim Executive Director of LOSFA and Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success, explained that the TOPS statute requires that a student begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth-grade year. Act 95 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature implemented a provision which allows the administering agency to grant exceptions to this requirement when a student provides documentation that the transfer to a home study program later than the statutorily provided timeframe was beyond the student’s control. Four requests for exception to the deadline to begin a home study program were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of February 10, 2026. The students have presented facts and documentation that they believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

On motion of Regent Sarda, seconded by Regent Sterling, the Statewide Programs Committee recommended that the Board of Regents approve the request for exception to the deadline to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth-grade year.

TOPS EXCEPTIONS

Dr. Craig informed the Committee that Sections 705.A.6 and 7 of the TOPS administrative rules require TOPS recipients to continue to enroll full-time for the fall and spring semesters of each academic year, to remain enrolled throughout the semester, and to earn a minimum number of credit hours by the end of the academic year. Section 2103.E authorizes the governing body to grant an exception to the full-time, continuous enrollment and the annual earned-hour 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.”

Dr. Craig advised that 14 requests for exception to the TOPS requirements were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting on February 10, 2026. The students have presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

On motion of Regent Reeves, seconded by Regent May, the Statewide Programs Committee recommended that the Board of Regents approve the requests for exception to the TOPS regulatory provisions that require students to remain continuously enrolled and to earn the annual credit hours required during the academic year.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS SPOTLIGHT: LOUISIANA UNIVERSITIES MARINE CONSORTIUM (LUMCON)

Ms. Robison introduced Dr. Brian Roberts, Executive Director and Chief Scientist, to provide an overview of the work of LUMCON. Dr. Roberts described the structure of LUMCON, as well as its goals and objectives. He noted that LUMCON undertakes a strategic planning process every five years and that the current strategic plan, now in its second year of implementation, established high-level goals aligned with the mission, vision, and structure of LUMCON as well as a detailed action plan. Strategies and implementation were developed in collaboration with LUMCON's consortium members and other stakeholders across the state. This process, already yielding significant progress, ensures that LUMCON pursues the broad priorities and concerns of the full consortium, as well as those of the core leadership. Following this broad view, Dr. Roberts discussed LUMCON in its two principal postures: as an institution and as a consortium. He presented programs offered by LUMCON to engage consortium members in support of its goals and mission. Finally, Dr. Roberts outlined legislative priorities during the 2026 Regular Session.

This presentation was for information only. No action was needed.

Reflecting on the previous discussion regarding TOPS, Regent Pryor asked about studies of the TOPS program and whether a committee already exists that could address questions about TOPS. Dr. Craig indicated that the LOSFA Advisory Board does provide regular guidance on the TOPS program, but the scope of the proposed legislative study is beyond the charge of this body. Regent Pryor then requested information on the structure of the study and the questions it proposes to address. Dr. Craig responded that the study will be designed over the coming months. Regent Pryor asked about the total budget for TOPS and potential for increases following the study. Dr. Craig, Ms. Elizabeth Bentley-Smith, and Dr. Reed provided information on the cost of the TOPS program over time and the issues facing the body selected to study the program.

PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND PERFORMANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Susannah Craig presented the Consent Agenda. The first item consisted of seven license renewal applications from academic degree-granting institutions. All renewal applicants are institutions accredited by a U.S. Department of Education recognized accreditor and have previously been approved as licensed institutions by the Board of Regents.

The second item included recommendations from the Advisory Commission on Proprietary Schools approved during its January meeting. The recommendations consisted of the approval of one

initial license application and nine license renewal applications. Regent Aubrey asked about the services provided and fees charged for Brow Design By Dina. Dr. Craig and Director of Licensure, Courtney Britton confirmed the training provided, the sliding fee scale, and that as a non-accredited institution that does not lead to an in-demand occupation, the school was not eligible for any state funding.

On motion of Regent Hixson, seconded by Regent Williams-Brown, the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee unanimously recommended that the Board of Regents approve the items listed under the Consent Agenda.

- A. R.S. 17:1808 (Academic Licensure)
 - 1. Renewal Applications
 - a. Aspen University – Phoenix, AZ
 - b. Bard Early College in New Orleans – New Orleans, LA
 - c. California State University – Northridge – Northridge, CA
 - d. Lamar State College Orange – Orange, TX
 - e. Liberty University – Lynchburg, VA
 - f. Moreland University – Washington, DC
 - g. William Carey University – Hattiesburg, MS

- B. Advisory Commission on Proprietary Schools
 - 1. Initial License Applications
 - a. Southeastern Louisiana Technical College – Kentwood, LA
 - 2. Renewal Applications
 - a. Brow Design By Dina – Denham Springs – License #2345
 - b. Compass Career College – Hammond – License #2327
 - c. Gonzales Medical Assistant School – Gonzales – License #2164
 - d. Infinity College – Lafayette – License #2140
 - e. National Driving Academy – Greensburg – License #978
 - f. New Orleans Culinary & Hospitality Institute (NOCHI) – New Orleans – License #2237
 - g. Shreveport Bossier City Massage Academy – Shreveport – License #2396
 - h. Tulsa Welding School-Tulsa Campus – Tulsa, OK – License #2096
 - i. Williams Technical College – Houma – License #2141

The next item on the agenda was the Healthworks Commission Annual Report.

Ms. Mellynn Baker, Associate Commissioner for Student Success and Strategic Initiatives, introduced Dr. Ali Bustamante, Impact Econ Research, to present the data compiled for the Healthworks Commission Report. Dr. Bustamante stated that healthcare is Louisiana’s largest and fastest-growing private-sector industry, expected to add about 26,000 new jobs over the next decade. He noted that demand comes not only from growth but also from retirement and turnover, creating thousands of openings each year emphasizing that there are approximately 8,000 openings for home health aides and 4,000 openings for registered nurses. This means the state must continuously train and supply workers to avoid shortages. Dr. Bustamante stated that job needs span all levels, from doctors and nurses to aides and

therapists, and are driven by an aging population. Healthcare now makes up about 15% of jobs and could reach 1 in 5 jobs, making workforce training essential to meet demand and support economic growth.

Regent Sterling asked if the report will be shared with legislators related to the bill to limit funding for low-wage programs. It was said that report will be shared with legislators. Regent Shamieh asked if other medical roles that didn't interact with patients were included in the study. Ms. Baker responded noting that on page 10 of the report, Figure 4 indicates that Louisiana's healthcare sector by occupational group includes nearly 14% of these roles as office and administrative support roles. Regent Pryor expressed appreciation of the study and asked about the lack of nursing instructors and if the report addressed any bottlenecks like that one. Regent Sterling responded noting that there are several solutions underway but that grants which focus on instructors furthering their education to meet licensure requirements are one tool to support the nursing educator pipeline.

On motion of Regent Reeves, seconded by Regent Sarda, the Planning, Research, and Performance Committee unanimously recommended that the Board of Regents approve the items listed under the Consent Agenda.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Commissioner of Higher Education Kim Hunter Reed presented several items to the Board:

- She thanked Regent Glaser for an informative presentation and highlighted several recent activities including upcoming presidential investitures and successful participation in HBCU Day and Read Across America events, which promoted student engagement, literacy, and early childhood education across Louisiana campuses.
- She honored Dr. Norman Francis, praising his legacy as Xavier University's long-serving president and his impact on higher education, civil rights, and student opportunity. She emphasized that his contributions to Louisiana and beyond were recognized as deeply influential and lasting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Cordell asked if there was any other business to come before the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on the motion of Regent Temple, seconded by Regent Reeves, the meeting was adjourned.

Appendix A
Board Meeting Guest List
Tuesday, March 24, 2026

NAME	AFFILIATION
Brian Adams	Southeastern University
Paul Coreil	LSU Alexandria
Helen Taylor	LSU Shreveport
Adarian Williams	Grambling State University
Cheryl Bardales	LSU Alexandria
Joe Marin	LCTCS Board of Supervisors
Liz Beard	LSU Alexandria
Nate Sammons	LSU Alexandria
Jackie Bach	LSU
Rebecca Bouiol	LSU
Jeannine O'Rourke	UL System
William Tulak	LCTCS
Darrell Kouger	UNO/LSU N.O.
Margaret Finch	LSU
Brian Roberts	BOR-LUMCON
Elizabeth Dueff	Delgado
Jakob Ward	OPB
Helena Janssen	OPB
Alicia Williams	GSU
Pedro Santos	LSU Alexandria
Kenyatta Shamburger	Grambling State University
Richard DiCario	LSU School of Medicine
Steve Dawson	ULS System
Tanya Lueder	LSU Alexandria
Prakash Ghimire	LSU Alexandria



BOARD of REGENTS
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Blake R. David
3rd Congressional District

Stephanie A. Finley
3rd Congressional District

Ted H. Glaser III
6th Congressional District

Phillip R. May Jr.
1st Congressional District

Darren G. Mire
2nd Congressional District

Wilbert D. Pryor
4th Congressional District

Christy Oliver Reeves
5th Congressional District

Devesh Sarda
Student Member

K. Samer Shamieh, M.D.
1st Congressional District

Collis B. Temple III
6th Congressional District

Judy A. Williams-Brown
4th Congressional District

Agenda Legislative

Wednesday, April 29, 2026
10:40 AM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Louisiana Purchase Room (1–100)
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. 2026 Legislative Update
- IV. Other Business
- V. Adjournment

Committee Members: Darren G. Mire, Chair; Phillip R. May, Jr., Vice Chair; David Aubrey; Christy Oliver Reeves; K. Samer Shamieh; Collis Temple, III.; Devesh Sarda, (Student Member); LCTCS System Representative; LSU System Representative; SU System Representative; UL System Representative
Staff: Brianna Golden, Director of Government Affairs

**AGENDA ITEM III.A.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

2026 Legislative Update

An update on legislative priorities for the 2026 Regular Session will be shared for informational purposes only.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

This item is for informational purposes only.



Board of Regents Legislative Priorities

PRIORITY

BILL/AUTHOR



Career Alignment

- ▶ Requires the Board of Regents to create a statewide dashboard linking degree programs to workforce outcomes and to work with Louisiana Works to collect data on work-based learning experiences and evaluate how academic credit may be awarded for those experiences.

SB 305

**Sen. Edmonds
Rep. Freiberg**



Hazing Prevention

- ▶ Strengthens hazing prevention by requiring annual campus-wide education, improved reporting requirements, consistent adjudication procedures, and statewide oversight mechanisms.

HB 636

**Rep. LaFleur
Rep. Stagni
Sen. Boudreaux
Sen. Price**



Student Disciplinary Procedures

- ▶ Updates student disciplinary processes by clarifying notice requirements, maintaining the clear-and-convincing evidence standard with a limited exception, expanding access to evidence, extending appeal deadlines, and requiring written decisions.

HB 738

Rep. McMakin



Digital Misuse / Power-Based Violence

- ▶ Expands the statutory definition of power-based violence to include digital misconduct, sexual exploitation, and emerging technologies such as AI-generated and deepfake imagery.

SB 347

Sen. Barrow



College Savings Security

- ▶ Authorizes the Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority to contract with a program manager to administer START, START K-12, and ABLE college savings accounts.

HB 749

**Rep. Carver
Sen. Foil**



Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL)

- ▶ Establishes a regulatory framework for NIL activities involving high school and postsecondary athletes, including protections for minors, prohibited industries, educational requirements, and institutional oversight.

HB 513

**Rep. Young
Sen. Connick**



Athletic Department NIL Study

- ▶ Requests a study examining the financial implications of NIL and revenue-sharing activities on collegiate athletics and long-term program sustainability.

HR 168

Rep. Young

PRIORITY**BILL/AUTHOR****Dual Enrollment**

- ▶ Creates a single statewide application process for dual enrollment students to streamline participation across Louisiana public postsecondary institutions.

HB 649
Rep. Brass**TOPS Data**

- ▶ Evaluates the effectiveness of all TOPS programs, the administering agency requires standardized data from all public and nonpublic institutions on students who receive each type of TOPS aid and those who do not.

HB 1058
Rep. Bamburg**TOPS Tech Eligibility**

- ▶ Expands eligibility criteria for a TOPS Tech award to include the attainment of early college credit in high school through completion of dual enrollment courses or other approved skills and learning measures, and part-time enrollment.

HB 325
Rep. Brass**M.J. Foster Promise Program**

- ▶ Revises eligibility requirements by reversing the initial age restriction associated with the MJ Foster Promise Award.

HB 407
Rep. Larvadain**Math Bill**

- ▶ Revises TOPS Core Curriculum requirements in math to align with recent BESE action.

HB 1059
Rep. Broussard**Phased Retirement**

- ▶ Authorizes public postsecondary systems to implement voluntary phased retirement policies to support faculty and staff retention, succession planning, and knowledge transfer beginning July 1, 2027.

HB 42
Rep. Bacala**Support Fund**

- ▶ Preserves the public character and matching requirements of Board of Regents Support Fund endowment dollars and ensures continued compliance with program protections regardless of changes to the Louisiana Quality Education Trust Fund.

SB 142
Sen. Reese

UPDATED: APRIL 20, 2026



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Agenda

Academic and Student Affairs

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

11:25 AM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Louisiana Purchase Room (1–100)
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - A. Routine Staff Approvals
 - B. Terminations
- IV. Academic Programs
 - A. BS Health Administration – Louisiana State University Shreveport
 - B. AAS Physical Therapy Assistant — Louisiana State University Eunice
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

Committee Members: Terrie P. Sterling, Chair; Christian C. Creed, Vice Chair; David J. Aubrey; Ted H. Glaser III; Christy Oliver Reeves; K. Samer Shamieh; Devesh Sarda (Student Member); LCTC System Representative; LSU System Representative; SU System Representative; UL System Representative
Staff: Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation

AGENDA ITEM III.A.

Routine Academic Requests & Staff Approvals

Institution	Request
LSU Eunice	Request to update the CIP code for the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Computer Information Technology from 11.0301 (Data Processing) to 11.0103 (Information Technology) to better reflect the program's content and align with other institutions in the state. Approved.
SU A&M	Request to establish a Post-Master's Certificate (PMC) in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (CIP 51.3810). Approved.
Southeastern Louisiana University	Request to change the name of the College of Education, Health, and Applied Human Sciences to the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences. Approved.
Southeastern Louisiana University	Request to change the name of the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling to the Department of Educational Leadership, Counseling, and Research. Approved.
Southeastern Louisiana University	Request to change the name of the Department of Applied Family and Human Sciences to the Department of Applied Human Sciences. Approved.

AGENDA ITEM III.B.
Program Termination Requests

Louisiana State University A&M

UC Childcare Administration (CIP 13.1210)

Lack of enrollment led to the termination of this undergraduate certificate. There are no students currently enrolled in the program. Faculty identified to teach the certificate are still employed teaching in other programs.

Louisiana Tech University

BS Elementary Education/Special Education, Mild Moderate, Grades 1-5 (CIP 13.1202)

Lack of student interest and compulsory curriculum requirements led to the dissolution of this dual certification program. Feedback from students indicated that many wanted an elementary-only path and were not seeking the special education portion of the certification.

MA Teaching, Early Childhood Education Grades PK-3 (CIP 13.1210)

Lack of enrollment led to termination of the program. Feedback from prospective students indicated that many were seeking teacher certification through alternative means, primarily driven by lower cost and shorter time to completion.

MA Teaching, Elementary Education/Special Education, Mild Moderate, Grades 1-5 (CIP 13.1202)

Lack of enrollment led to termination of the program. Feedback from prospective students indicated that many were seeking teacher certification through alternative means, primarily driven by lower cost and shorter time to completion.

MA Teaching, Elementary Education Grades 1-5 (CIP 13.1202)

Lack of enrollment led to termination of the program. Feedback from prospective students indicated that many were seeking teacher certification through alternative means, primarily driven by lower cost and shorter time to completion.

MA Teaching, Middle School Education Grades 4-8 (CIP 13.1203)

Lack of enrollment led to termination of the program. Feedback from prospective students indicated that many were seeking teacher certification through alternative means, primarily driven by lower cost and shorter time to completion.

MA Teaching, Secondary Education Grades 6-12 (CIP 13.1205)

Lack of enrollment led to termination of the program. Feedback from prospective students indicated that many were seeking teacher certification through alternative means, primarily driven by lower cost and shorter time to completion.

MA Teaching, Special Education – Visually Impaired (CIP 13.1009)

Lack of enrollment led to termination of the program. Feedback from prospective students indicated that many were seeking teacher certification through alternative means, primarily driven by lower cost and shorter time to completion.

Legend

BS = Bachelor of Science

MA = Master of Arts

UC = Undergraduate Certificate

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of the request for termination for each of the degree programs listed above.

AGENDA ITEM IV.A.

Proposed Bachelor of Science Health Administration Louisiana State University Shreveport

Background Information

Louisiana State University Shreveport requests Board of Regents' approval to offer a Bachelor of Science Health Administration. The proposal was developed at the campus level following consultation with Regents' senior staff, approved by the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors, and submitted to Regents for consideration. The proposal was reviewed by CAOs throughout the state as well as by BOR staff in the Division of Finance and Administration.

Staff Summary

The Bachelor of Science Health Administration was developed in response to workforce need as documented by data at the state and national levels. As the proposal notes, "there is no similar program in the region designed to equip students for management, leadership, and decision making in the operations and general business administration in a healthcare setting." Graduates of the program should find meaningful employment in the extensive network of healthcare providers in the Shreveport-Bossier area, which includes three hospital systems; further, data from LA Works indicate a strong state-level need for experts in this field, and national data suggest that employment opportunities in health administration over the next ten years will outpace average growth in other areas. Finally, LSU-S's MHA in Health Administration has experienced impressive growth, more than doubling its enrollment since Fall 2020. This new degree will provide a population of students who may naturally transition into that program upon completion of the BS in Health Administration.

As stated in the proposal, "the BS in Health Administration will prepare students for leadership and management roles in healthcare organizations by providing knowledge and skills in healthcare system operations and general business administration in addition to a foundational awareness of the legal, ethical, and policy concerns that impact the industry." In this way, it will extend the LSU-S commitment "to develop a qualified workforce of business managers and leaders who will serve the communities and healthcare industry in northwest Louisiana and beyond." Graduates of the program will gain foundational knowledge of healthcare laws, regulations, and policies; develop skills in financial management; understand the role of human resource management in healthcare settings; be trained in data analysis; and apply decision-making abilities in healthcare settings.

The BS in Health Administration will be offered in both on-campus and online modes, thereby increasing the potential for the program to serve a large number of students. It will appeal to healthcare workers who have not completed a four-year degree and who are seeking opportunities for career advancement. A prior learning assessment (PLA) will be offered for applicants to the program, and credit will be given for AP and CLEP examinations as well as for military training or courses. Projections suggest enrollment should more than double over the first four years. Enrollment partners include Bossier Parish Community College, a regional two-year partner of LSU-S which offers a two-year Associate of Science degree in Healthcare Management.

The BS in Health Administration resonates with the LSU-S strategic plan. As stated in the proposal, the degree offers a high-value credential "that supports increased in-person undergraduate enrollment targets and, through an online offering, aligns with known regional job opportunities from a Louisiana Workforce Commission [LA Works] 5-star category that is available to working professionals. The program takes advantage of existing institutional structures and faculty as well as the industry relationships." Importantly, if approved, the BS in Health Administration will be the only degree of its kind in the northwestern Louisiana

region.

1. **Value:** Per Regents’ policy, this program meets the criteria for a Quality Credential of Value.
 - a. **Workforce Demand and Job Opportunities:** The BS in Health Administration addresses a growing need for medical and health services managers, which are indicated as 5-star jobs. Thus, the program will have strong and positive effects not only in the region but throughout the state: the program proposal indicates that this program will have a statewide impact. Projected earnings for graduates are also quite high.

Occupation	LWC Star Rating ¹	Current Jobs ²	Projected Jobs 2033 ²	% Change ²	Average Salary ¹
Medical and Health Services Managers	5	6,569	8,471	29%	\$100,334

¹Source – LWC

²Source – Lightcast

- a. **Curriculum Alignment with Employer Needs:** As noted in the proposal, the BS in Health Administration “will fill a regional gap for an on-campus option, while the online delivery mode provides flexibility to meet the needs of other regional learners. While the online option could have national impact, the primary purpose of the online offering is to support place bound learners in Louisiana.”
- b. **Same or Similar In-State Programs:** There are no such undergraduate programs in the service area of LSU-S. Similar programs in the state may be found at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the University of New Orleans, Herzing University-New Orleans, the University of Louisiana at Monroe, and LSU of Alexandria. The average number of completers in these programs last year was 20.2.
- c. **Student Enrollment and Completion:** The BS in Health Administration is expected to grow steadily over the first four years of the program life, more than doubling by Year 4:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
TOTAL Estimated Program Enrollment	9	13	18	22
TOTAL Estimated Program Graduates	0	2	4	6

2. **Resources:** As noted in the proposal, “two new full-time faculty positions were approved by LSU-S and are currently in the recruiting/hiring process with an expected start date of Fall 2026. A sufficient and qualified candidate pool for the two positions was obtained. No additional faculty, over and above the already approved positions, are required to expand the Department’s offerings to the bachelor's degree program level.” This confirms that the necessary resources for faculty have already been secured and that no additional resources will be needed.

	Current	Needed	Additional Costs
Faculty	Two new faculty have been budgeted to serve the Master of Health Administration program beginning in Fall	None: the hired underway have already been budgeted for Fall 2026.	\$0

	2026. These will join the five existing departmental faculty in serving the new bachelor's program.		
Physical (Facilities, Equipment, Library, & Technology)	Existing facilities are sufficient to support the program.	No additional resources are needed.	\$0
Student Support	Existing resources will meet the needs of the program.	No additional resources are needed.	\$0

3. **Master Plan Priorities:** The following aspects of the proposal directly address priorities or goals of the statewide attainment goal and 2030 Master Plan.

- **Accessibility:** Program delivery will be a combination of on-campus and 100% online modes. The rationale for multiple delivery modes comes from the challenges of serving Louisiana's rural healthcare infrastructure, a theme which was discussed in the letters of support for the program from local healthcare leaders.
- **Affordability:** Across LSU-S and the College of Business, faculty are encouraged to adopt OERs and AERs. The use of OER/AER materials is expected in the bachelor's-level program. The existing transfer pathway from two-year programs or other College of Business bachelor's degrees will continue to apply. Prior learning assessment will be available in line with LSU-S's existing procedures. Standardized prior learning credit is available for AP and CLEP as well as for certain military training or courses.
- **Partnerships:** As the program proposal states, "The range of healthcare providers that the Elrod Department of Health Administration has working relationships with include major health systems, large and small medical clinics, rural hospitals, nursing homes, compounding pharmacies, hearing centers, ambulance companies, orthotics and prosthetics firms, medical equipment manufacturers, and more. Representatives from local healthcare organizations serve on the LSU-S College of Business Advisory Council".
- **Work-based Learning:** These opportunities will grow from existing partnerships, many of which support the Master's in Health Administration. As the proposal states, there is "[a] large healthcare network in Shreveport-Bossier. Over multiple years of operation, LSU-S's Elrod Department of Health Administration has collaborated with the healthcare industry in and around Shreveport-Bossier to support students in the existing MHA program."

Staff Analysis

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Health Administration will prepare students to meet a need specific but not particular to the service region of LSU-S: based on the Lightcast projections for the ongoing, growing opportunities for degreed individuals in this area and throughout the state, many graduates will find gainful employment in Louisiana. In addition, the program's two modes will make it available to those learners in rural locations for whom the online option is preferable and practical. Students who complete the degree and remain in Louisiana will contribute significantly to the state's economy.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends conditional approval of the proposed Bachelor of Science in Health Administration (CIP 51.0701) with a progress report on program implementation to be submitted as part of the institution's 2026–2027 Academic Plan.

AGENDA ITEM IV.B.

Proposed Associate of Applied Science Physical Therapy Assistant Louisiana State University Eunice

Background Information

Louisiana State University Eunice (LSU-E) requests Board of Regents' approval to offer an Associate of Applied Science Physical Therapy Assistant. The proposal was developed at the campus level, approved by the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors, and submitted to Regents for consideration. The proposal was then reviewed by CAOs throughout the state as well as by BOR staff in the Division of Academic Affairs and Innovation and the Division of Finance and Administration. This program was listed in the most recent submission of the LSU-E academic plan.

Staff Summary

The Associate of Applied Science Physical Therapy Assistant program has been designed to meet what the proposal describes as "the critical healthcare needs of Region Four and the state of Louisiana." That need is driven by several factors: a shortage of employees, an aging workforce, and rapid job growth in this area. The program would provide a new allied healthcare program, giving students additional options of study. It would meet a regional need and contribute to regional economic development by preparing completers to enter the workforce. The program will be offered on site at LSU-E. In Fall 2026, leadership will seek specialized accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

The program proposal indicates that there is "a critical workforce gap" in the Acadiana region: "major healthcare providers, including Ochsner Health, LaBorde Occupational, and various skilled nursing facilities consistently report vacancies for licensed PTAs," demonstrating a need for graduates of the proposed program. According to the proposal, "regional demand often necessitates the use of travel PTAs to fill staffing gaps, which significantly increases operational costs for local facilities." By supplying graduates who are ready to enter this marketplace, the program will meet a demonstrated and growing need in the service area.

LSU-E's proposed program aligns with and extends the campus's mission to "prepare students to meet employment opportunities as determined by regional needs" and to "strengthen communities through partnership-driven initiatives." By offering a high-demand health science degree, LSU-E will fulfill its commitment to be a regional leader in workforce readiness and will "[reinforce] LSU-E's role as a primary provider of applied, career-focused programs." Expenses for the program include \$5,085 in accreditation fees, a one-time expense of \$109,850 for the acquisition of specialized clinical equipment and, during the first five years of the program, the addition of two full-time faculty positions, a full-time program director and a director of clinical education, at a total cost of \$210,000. Enrollment is projected to more than double in the first four years of the program with an expected Year 4 enrollment of 35 with 20 completers.

The Associate of Applied Science Physical Therapy Assistant program supports the mission and goals of the institution by empowering individuals and strengthening communities through responsive, innovative, and partnership-driven initiatives which foster academic excellence and workforce readiness, ultimately to build brighter futures for Louisiana.

LSU-E will be applying to two key funding opportunities to assist with the costs of this program. Specifically, LSU-E will be requesting \$250,000 from the LCTCS Rapid Response Fund. LSU-E will also be seeking funds from the federal Perkins Allocation.

1. **Value:** Per Regents’ policy, this program meets the criteria for a Quality Credential of Value.
- a. **Workforce Demand and Job Opportunities:** The AAS Physical Therapy Assistant will help meet a demonstrated workforce need by addressing what the proposal describes as an employment gap in the region. Program graduates will be well positioned to enter the statewide market, thereby contributing to the economic well-being of Louisiana. Employment prospects for completers are indicated below.

Occupation	LWC Star Rating ¹	Current Jobs ²	Projected Jobs 2033 ²	% Change ²	Average Salary ¹
Physical Therapist Assistants	5	204	254	25%	\$57,448

¹Source – LWC

²Source – Lightcast

- b. **Curriculum Alignment with Employer Needs:** As noted above, the AAS Physical Therapy Assistant is responsive to a marketplace gap and contributes to the growing need for healthcare-related professionals in the region as well as throughout the state.
- a. **Same or Similar In-State Programs:** The two other similar programs in the state, one at Bossier Parish Community College and one at Delgado Community College, are noted in the proposal as successful—13 and 26 completers, respectively, in the last year—but “insufficient to meet the statewide demand.”
- b. **Student Enrollment and Completion:** Enrollment projections for the first four years of the program suggest the potential for a more than doubling of students by Year Four. Specifically, the projections are as follows:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
TOTAL Estimated Program Enrollment	15	30	35	35
TOTAL Estimated Program Graduates	0	10	15	15

2. **Resources:** As noted above, expenses for resources will include the hiring of new faculty, accreditation fees, and equipment and supplies.

	Current	Needed	Additional Costs
Faculty	Existing faculty will help support the program.	Two new faculty will be hired: a Program Director and a Director of Clinical Education.	\$210,000
Physical (Facilities, Equipment, Library, & Technology)	Existing offices and classrooms are sufficient to support the program.	A one-time expense for specialized equipment will be needed.	\$109,850

Student Support	Existing resources will meet the needs of the program for the first year.	No additional resources will be needed.	\$0
Accreditation	Specialized accreditation will be requested.	Accreditation will be sought through the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).	\$5,085

3. **Master Plan Priorities:** The following aspects of the proposal directly address priorities or goals of the statewide attainment goal and 2030 Master Plan.

- **Accessibility:** As noted in the proposal, “off-campus clinical rotations in rural parishes and face-to-face, hybrid, and online general education prerequisites ensure broad access for adult learners in rural areas.”
- **Affordability:** Student cost will be relatively low: OER will be used, and credit for prior learning will be awarded. LSU-E will also inform students about opportunities for employer funding, and transfer agreements will be established to support students who wish to pursue this new curricular opportunity.
- **Partnerships:** Partners listed in the proposal include Ochsner Health and Lafayette General Hospital. Partnerships with private clinics will also be pursued.
- **Work-based Learning:** Students will receive a total of 16 weeks of hands-on patient care through three integrated, full-time clinical experiences.

Staff Analysis

The proposed Associate of Applied Science Physical Therapy Assistant addresses a critical workforce gap: as the proposal notes, it “aligns directly with the economic and educational needs of the Acadiana region.” Students completing the program will be ready to enter the marketplace in ways that will meet regional and statewide needs while contributing to the well-being of the state’s economy.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends conditional approval of the proposed Associate of Applied Science Physical Therapy Assistant (CIP 51.0806) with a progress report on program implementation to be submitted as part of the institution’s 2026–2027 Academic Plan.



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Agenda

Facilities and Property

Wednesday, April 29, 2026
11:25 AM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Louisiana Purchase Room (1–100)
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - A. Small Capital Projects Report
 1. LSUA: A.C. Buchanan Building Renovation
 2. LSUA: Oakland Hall Renovation
 3. LSU A&M: Hodges Hall Basement Corridor Renovations
 4. LSU A&M: Life Sciences, J.C. Miller, and Sturgis Hall Lab Renovations
 5. LSU A&M: Miller and Herget Hall Envelope Repairs
 6. LSU A&M: Student Union Elevator Modernization
 7. UNO: Science Lab 1072 and 1074 Renovations
 - B. Third-Party Projects Report
 1. ULM: Williamson Child Development Center
- IV. Additions to the Board of Regents FY 2026–27 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation:
 - A. LSU A&M: Construction and Engineering Student Hall
 - B. LSUA: Downtown Campus Parking Garage
 - C. LSUE: High Voltage Electrical Grid Repair
 - D. LSUS: Electrical Grid Improvements
 - E. GSU: Campus Dining and Student Union
 - F. GSU: Hotel and Conference Center
 - G. GSU: Perimeter Security Fencing
 - H. GSU: Deferred Maintenance Improvements
- V. Third-Party Project: SU A&M Student Housing
- VI. Other Business

VII. Adjournment

Committee Members: David J. Aubrey, Chair; Collis B. Temple III, Vice Chair; Ted H. Glaser III; Phillip R. May, Jr.; Darren G. Mire; Wilbert D. Pryor; Samer Shamieh; LCTC System Representative; LSU System Representative; SU System Representative; UL System Representative. **Staff:** Chris Herring, Associate Commissioner for Facilities Planning & Emergency Management

AGENDA ITEM III

Consent Agenda

A. Small Capital Projects Report

Pursuant to R.S. 39:128, BOR staff may internally approve small capital projects ranging from \$175,000 to \$1,000,000 and report these approvals to the Board during a subsequent meeting. In accordance with the Board of Regents' (BOR's) Facilities Policy, small capital project proposals thus are reviewed by staff, approved where appropriate, and reported to the Facilities and Property Committee.

The following small capital projects were approved by their respective systems or management boards, submitted for consideration, and approved by staff since the previous report:

1. Louisiana State University of Alexandria (LSUA): A.C. Buchanan Building Renovation – Alexandria, LA

LSUA's A.C. Buchanan building requires upgrades to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for the LSUA Allied Health program's students and partners. The project scope involves HVAC upgrades, wall reconfigurations, lighting replacements, and new paint and flooring. If funding remains upon completion of the interior renovations, LSUA intends to perform exterior glazing replacements as well. **The project renovates approximately 9,000 square feet (SF) of space at a cost of \$100/SF, for a total project cost of \$900,000. The project will be funded through a grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.**

2. Louisiana State University of Alexandria: Oakland Hall Renovation – Alexandria, LA

LSUA's Oakland Hall also requires interior and exterior upgrades to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for various instructional programs and departments on campus. The project scope involves HVAC upgrades, wall reconfigurations, lighting replacements, new paint and flooring, bathroom updates, network and technology upgrades, and potential exterior glazing replacements. **The project renovates approximately 9,000 SF of space at a cost of \$100/SF, for a total project cost of \$900,000. The project will be funded with a combination of operational funds (\$400,000) and a line-item appropriation from Act 461 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session.**

3. Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU): Hodges Hall Basement Corridor Renovations – Baton Rouge, LA

The existing basement corridors within LSU's Hodges Hall are in disrepair, do not meet current operational standards, and are not conducive to student or staff needs. The project scope involves abatement and selective demolition, patching and painting of existing walls, installation of new LED lighting and HVAC grilles, and electrical modifications as needed.

The project renovates approximately 2,833 SF of space at a cost of \$88.25/SF, for a total project cost of \$250,000. The project will be funded with auxiliary revenues.

4. Louisiana State University and A&M College: Life Sciences, J.C. Miller, and Sturgis Hall Lab Renovations – Baton Rouge, LA

This project modernizes various LSU AgCenter laboratories located on the LSU main campus that are in disrepair and not configured to support current research initiatives. The project renovates five rooms located in the Life Sciences Building, J.C. Miller Hall, and Sturgis Hall. The scope of work includes abatement and selective demolition, removal and refurbishment of existing fume hoods, and installation of new laboratory casework, countertops, finishes, and plumbing fixtures. **The project renovates approximately 4,966 SF of space at a cost of \$139.96/SF, for a total project cost of \$695,000. The project will be funded with operational funds.**

5. Louisiana State University and A&M College: Miller and Herget Hall Envelope Repairs – Baton Rouge, LA

The exterior enclosures of LSU's Miller and Herget Halls exhibit deteriorated sealants and window-to-wall interfaces, which increase the risk of water intrusion and accelerated building degradation. This project will provide an exterior condition assessment to develop targeted repairs to address deficiencies before they result in more extensive damage. The potential scope of work includes the removal and replacement of deteriorated sealants at wall panel joints, window-to-wall intersections, and window frame interfaces, along with surface preparation and access means. The scope may also include localized ancillary repairs identified through the assessment. **The total project cost of \$418,000 will be funded with auxiliary revenues.**

6. Louisiana State University and A&M College: Student Union Elevator Modernizations – Baton Rouge, LA

This project involves modernizing three elevators within the LSU Student Union. Elevators one and two, as well as the freight elevator are no longer reliable and require updates with nonproprietary components to facilitate more straightforward future repairs. The project scope includes updates to the elevators, systems, controls, and any finishes directly related to the elevator cabs. **The total project cost of \$985,000 will be funded with auxiliary revenues.**

7. University of New Orleans (UNO): Science Lab 107 and 1074 Renovations – New Orleans, LA

The existing chemistry laboratories within UNO's Science building are original to the building and require updates to meet current standards. This project is the final phase of lab renovations initiated by UNO five years ago. The project scope addresses selective abatement, installation of new electrical, plumbing, and mechanical systems, and new finishes and casework. The project also includes new lab equipment, stools, and technology improvements. **The project renovates approximately 2,500 SF of space at a cost of \$237.60/SF, for a total project cost of \$594,000. The project will be funded with private donations.**

B. Third-Party Project Report

In accordance with revisions made to the Facilities Policy during the meeting of the Board of Regents held on October 25, 2017, third-party project proposals are reviewed by staff, approved where appropriate, and thereafter reported at the next meeting of the Facilities and Property Committee. Pursuant to the revised policy and similar to the small capital project approval process, BOR staff may approve third-party projects funded without the issuance of debt.

The following third-party project was approved by the respective systems or management board, submitted for consideration, and approved by staff since the previous report:

1. University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM): Williamson Child Development Center – Monroe, LA

The University of Louisiana System (ULS) Board of Supervisors, on behalf of ULM, submitted a third-party project for the purpose of reconstructing the Williamson Child Development Center. In October of 2022, an electrical fire damaged the facility, resulting in a total loss. The site will be leased to ULM Facilities, Inc., which will be responsible for the improvements. The project scope involves construction of an approximately 4,200 SF facility with rooms for infants through pre-K. The new center will also contain a resource room, kitchen, meeting space, and necessary prep areas. **The total project cost of \$1.915M will be funded with a combination of Office of Risk Management proceeds (\$480,000) and private donations (\$1.435M).**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of the Consent Agenda, including the small capital and third-party project reports, as presented.

AGENDA ITEM IV.

Additions to the Board of Regents FY 2026–27 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation

BOR staff received eight project requests for inclusion in the Board of Regents FY 2026–27 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation. A brief description of each project is below.

A. LSU A&M: Construction and Engineering Student Hall

This project is a key component of LSU’s Strategic Capital Plan and Campus Master Plan. The initiative will advance the School of Construction’s mission by supporting continued growth in enrollment, research, and industry engagement. The project involves construction of a new 40,000 SF facility for the College of Engineering’s Construction and Engineering Student Hall, located at the core of the new South Quad. The total project cost is estimated to be \$30M and will be funded with a combination of self-generated revenues (\$15M) and state financing (\$15M). No state dollars are being requested in FY 2026–27, and the request for state funding will be

submitted in a future capital outlay cycle. Any future BOR recommendation will consider the LSU Board of Supervisors' priority ranking for this project alongside other LSU System capital priorities.

B. Louisiana State University of Alexandria: Downtown Campus Parking Garage

This project involves construction of a new three-level, open-deck parking structure on an existing surface parking lot adjacent to the site of LSUA's new Downtown Health Education building. The parking garage will include approximately 270 parking spaces and provide safer student access to the new facility upon completion. The total project cost is estimated to be \$7.5M (\$750,000 in FY 2026–27) and will be funded with state financing. Any future BOR recommendation will consider the LSU Board of Supervisors' priority ranking for this project alongside other LSU System capital priorities.

C. Louisiana State University Eunice (LSUE): High-Voltage Electrical Grid Repair

Due to the current uncertainty surrounding funding of the Act 751 program in FY 2026–27, LSUE is requesting state funding in the amount of \$4.8M to replace the campus electrical distribution system. The project scope involves the removal and replacement of the existing medium voltage switchgear, associated distribution infrastructure, and integration with a modernized power supply system. The project also includes coordination with the local utility provider to transition portions of the medium voltage distribution to the local provider where feasible. This project will result in a modern, reliable, and maintainable electrical distribution network capable of supporting campus operations, academic programs, and future growth.

D. Louisiana State University Shreveport (LSUS): Electrical Grid Improvements

LSUS' current electrical grid operates at 4150V and has been in service for approximately sixty years. Modernizing this infrastructure will reduce downtime caused by system failures, better support increasing electrical demands, and transition the campus from an aging, capacity-constrained system to a modern, scalable, and resilient electrical distribution network. The project scope involves replacing the current electrical distribution grid with a new 35kV system. Due to the current uncertainty surrounding funding of the Act 751 program in FY 2026–27, LSUS is requesting state funding in the amount of \$4.62M to support this project.

E. Grambling State University (GSU): Campus Dining and Student Union

The ULS submitted four projects on behalf of GSU related to projects being pursued through the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Capital Financing Program. The HBCU Capital Financing Program is a federal program that provides low-cost capital to HBCUs for the repair, renovation, and construction of campus improvements.

Initial authorization was granted by the ULS in August of 2025 to initiate the development of projects to be considered for loan financing. While the final details of the loan have not been established, GSU was recently informed that each project requires inclusion in House Bill 2 (HB 2) to provide the necessary budget authority to advance the work upon the closing date, even though no state funds are being requested. This creates a timing issue with the Regular Legislative Session scheduled to end June 1. If the projects do not appear in HB 2 this legislative session, design and construction would not be authorized to begin until July of 2027. The projects are being brought for BOR consideration now to allow for the amendment into HB 2. GSU anticipates the final details to be complete this summer and will return to the ULS and BOR for final approval once in place.

The first project involves construction of a new \$25M campus dining and student union facility. The new facility will replace aging infrastructure and create a central hub for student life, improving food access, promoting engagement, and supporting campus-wide events. The project scope involves construction of a 40,000 SF multi-functional facility that combines a state-of-the-art dining hall with flexible seating, student lounges, meeting rooms, and offices for student organizations.

F. Grambling State University (GSU): Hotel and Conference Center

The second project GSU intends to fund through HBCU financing involves construction of a new \$43.5M hotel and conference center. This project will enhance the university's capacity to host academic conferences, board meetings, alumni and university events, and community gatherings while generating auxiliary revenues. The conference center will serve as hub for learning, professional development, and community engagement, while the hotel will support visiting scholars, prospective students, and institutional partners. Additionally, the project will enhance academic hospitality and tourism-related programs by providing hands-on learning opportunities, internships, and experiential training for students. The project scope involves construction of a new 143,000 SF full-service hotel and conference center featuring approximately 120 guest rooms, flexible meeting spaces, ballroom and breakout rooms, on-site dining, and administrative offices. The project is designed to be self-sustaining, leveraging demand from university-related activities, athletics, external conferences, and community events to generate consistent revenue streams to meet financial obligations.

G. Grambling State University (GSU): Security Perimeter Fencing

The third HBCU financing project addresses critical campus safety concerns for which GSU has been unsuccessful in securing funding through the traditional state capital outlay process. This project will construct a perimeter security fence around the university and create access control points at various entrances to campus. The project supports the university's mission by enhancing the safety, security, and well-being of students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors, which is essential to maintaining a conducive learning environment. A more secure environment

promotes uninterrupted academic activities, protects institutional assets, and supports emergency preparedness and campus policing initiatives. The total project cost is estimated to be \$5M.

H. Grambling State University (GSU): Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Upgrades

The final HBCU financing project involves strategic investment to address capital renewal, deferred maintenance, and infrastructure upgrades across the GSU campus. Approximately \$16.4M of the federal loan will be prioritized to make critical repairs and upgrades to HVAC systems, roofing replacements, electrical and plumbing infrastructure, and ADA and accessibility enhancements to both academic and residential buildings. This effort is critical to preserving campus assets, enhancing safety, and reducing operational costs and is necessary due to the uncertainty related to continued Act 751 program funding.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of the eight additions to the Board of Regents FY 2026–27 Capital Outlay Budget Recommendation submitted on behalf of four Louisiana State University System institutions and Grambling State University. Approval of the Grambling State University projects is limited to inclusion in House Bill 2; Grambling State University shall return to the University of Louisiana System and the Board of Regents for final approval once all project details are finalized.

AGENDA ITEM V.

Third-Party Project: Southern University and A&M College (SU A&M) Student Housing

The Southern University System, on behalf of SU A&M, submitted a third-party project for the purpose of constructing new student housing in an open field adjacent to the student recreation center where former residential halls were demolished in 2013. The project consists of two separate four-story housing structures to be built in two phases. The project will be administered through a standard lease/lease-back agreement where SU A&M will lease the site to the Southern University Foundation, which will be responsible for constructing the new facilities. The Foundation intends to seek public financing over a forty-year term through the Louisiana Public Facilities Authority for both phases of the project.

The first phase of the effort encompasses approximately 500 new student beds dedicated to first- and second-year students, with an estimated project cost of approximately \$43M. The total cost of the Phase I issuance is approximately \$53M, including all necessary debt service and maintenance reserve funds. SU A&M has a waitlist for student housing, and this project will provide sufficient capacity for all students currently on the waiting list for on-campus housing. While SU A&M does not intend to implement a first-year residency requirement, a first-fill

requirement will be included within the bond covenants to ensure students are assigned to the new facilities before existing housing options. A rental rate increase of 5% across all housing stock was approved by the SU Board of Supervisors during its April 17th meeting to maintain and upgrade the existing options. While the proforma provided by the bond counsel assisting SU A&M with the project indicates housing rental revenues generated from Phase I will be sufficient to cover the operating expenses and debt service, the institution intends to pledge general revenues of the university to secure financing in the event housing revenues are not sufficient to satisfy the debt service.

Phase II will begin through a subsequent bond issuance and will consist of approximately 352 beds dedicated to upper-level students. The wings of the new facilities are oriented to create an enclosed quad with pedestrian walkways, planting beds, patios, seating areas, and open recreation space.

Senior Staff recommends approval of the third-party project submitted by the Southern University Board of Supervisors, on behalf of Southern University and A&M College, for the purpose of constructing Phase I of new student housing.

AGENDA ITEM VI.

Other Business



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Agenda

Research and Sponsored Initiatives

Wednesday, April 29, 2026
1:00 PM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Louisiana Purchase Room (1–100)
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Division of Endowed Chair into Endowed Professorships: Louisiana State University and A&M College
- IV. Other Business
- V. Adjournment

Committee Members: Dallas L. Hixson, Chair; Darren G. Mire, Vice Chair; Stephanie A. Finley; Ted H. Glaser III; Wilbert D. Pryor; K. Samer Shamieh
Staff: Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Research and Sponsored Initiatives

AGENDA ITEM III.

Division of Endowed Chair into Endowed Professorships: Louisiana State University and A&M College

Background Information

In August 2011, the Board of Regents approved guidelines for the division of Endowed Chairs funds to establish Endowed Professorships, setting the minimum corpus level of professorships so created at \$250,000. Since this determination, several institutions have divided BoRSF–matched Chairs to establish Professorships at this level or higher.

Staff Summary

The Marjory B. Ourso Distinguished Chair of Accounting Systems is a \$2 million endowed chair held by LSU and A&M College, matched by the BoRSF in FY 2020–21. LSU A&M requests approval to divide it into four Endowed Professorships, each with a corpus of \$500,000 (\$300,000 non-state/\$200,000 BoRSF), as follows:

- Marjory B. Ourso Professorship in Accounting #1
- Marjory B. Ourso Professorship in Accounting #2
- Marjory B. Ourso Professorship in Accounting #3
- Marjory B. Ourso Professorship in Accounting #4

The original donor allowed LSU A&M to make decisions on behalf of the funds that have been endowed, so donor permission to make this change is not required.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Consistent with the August 2011 policy, the Senior Staff recommends approval of LSU A&M’s request to divide the Marjory B. Ourso Distinguished Chair of Accounting Systems into four (4) endowed professorships, each with a corpus of \$500,000 (\$300,000 non-state/\$200,000 BoRSF), as follows: (1) Marjory B. Ourso Professorship in Accounting #1; (2) Marjory B. Ourso Professorship in Accounting #2; (3) Marjory B. Ourso Professorship in Accounting #3; and (4) Marjory B. Ourso Professorship in Accounting #4.



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Devesh Sarda
Student Member

K. Samer Shamieh, M.D.
1st Congressional District

Collis B. Temple III
6th Congressional District

Judy A. Williams-Brown
4th Congressional District

Agenda

Statewide Programs

Wednesday, April 29, 2026
1:05 PM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Louisiana Purchase Room (1-100)
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Final Rulemaking – Geaux Teach Program Rulemaking to Implement Act 59 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature
 - B. Approval of Final Rulemaking – M.J. Foster Promise Program Rulemaking to Implement Act 152 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature
 - C. Approval of Final Rulemaking – TOPS, TOPS Tech, and TOPS Tech Early Start Rulemaking to Implement Acts 152, 347, 268, and 359 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature and to Add Core Courses as Equivalents in the TOPS Core Curriculum
 - D. ACT Exception – TOPS Statutory Provision that Requires a Student to Earn a Qualifying Score on the ACT No Later than the National ACT Test Date in April of the Year of High School Graduation.
 - E. TOPS Home Study Exceptions – TOPS Statutory Provision that Requires Students to Begin a Home Study Program No Later than the Conclusion of the Tenth-grade Year
 - F. TOPS Exceptions – TOPS Regulatory Provisions that Require Students to Remain Continuously Enrolled and to Earn the Annual Credit Hours Required during the Academic Year
- IV. Statewide Programs Spotlight: LOUIS: The Louisiana Library Network
- V. Other Business

VI. Adjournment

Committee Members: Christy Oliver Reeves, Chair; Wilbert Pryor, Vice Chair; Ted H. Glaser III; Phillip May, Jr.; Terri P. Sterling; Devesh Sarda (Student Member)
Staff: Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Research and Sponsored Initiatives

AGENDA ITEM III.A.

Consent Agenda: Approval of Final Rulemaking – Geaux Teach Program

Geaux Teach Program final rulemaking to implement Act 59 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature

BACKGROUND

At its August 20, 2025, meeting, the Board of Regents authorized publication of a Notice of Intent to effect the below-described rule changes. The Notice of Intent was published in the Louisiana Register on September 20, 2025.

This rulemaking implements Act 59 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature, which provides that Geaux Teach will now be considered a restricted first-dollar program. It will be applied to awarded students' tuition, fees, textbooks, and instructional materials prior to the application of any other state or institutional aid. This amendment will ensure that students receive the maximum benefit of the Geaux Teach Program as well as any other scholarships, including TOPS, and need-based aid for which they are eligible.

LOSFA ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends that the Board of Regents authorize publication of the final rule.

AGENDA ITEM III.B.

Consent Agenda: Approval of Final Rulemaking – M.J. Foster Promise Program

M.J. Foster Promise Program final rulemaking to implement Act 152 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature

BACKGROUND

At its August 20, 2025, meeting, the Board of Regents authorized publication of a Notice of Intent to effect the below-described rule changes. The Notice of Intent was published in the Louisiana Register on September 20, 2025.

This rulemaking implements Act 152 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature, which adds to the responsibilities of the M.J. Foster Promise Advisory Council by requiring that it identify eligible programs for TOPS Tech and TOPS Tech Early Start as well as for the M.J. Foster Promise Program.

LOSFA ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends that the Board of Regents authorize publication of the final rule.

AGENDA ITEM III.C.

Consent Agenda: Approval of Final Rulemaking – TOPS, TOPS Tech, and TOPS Tech Early Start – and to Add Course Equivalents in the TOPS Core Curriculum

Final rulemaking to implement Acts 152, 347, 268, and 359 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature with respect to TOPS, TOPS Tech, and TOPS Tech Early Start, as well as designation of certain courses as equivalent to those required in the TOPS Core Curriculum

BACKGROUND

At its August 20, 2025, meeting, the Board of Regents authorized publication of a Notice of Intent to effect the below-described rule changes. The Notice of Intent was published in the Louisiana Register on September 20, 2025.

This rulemaking:

- Implements Act 152 to add to the responsibilities of the M.J. Foster Promise Advisory Council by requiring that it identify eligible programs for TOPS Tech and TOPS Tech Early Start as well as for the M.J. Foster Promise Program;
- Implements Act 347 to create the TOPS Excellence Award, to provide awards amounts for the Excellence Award, and to provide for related matters;
- Implements Act 359, which eliminates the requirement that students attending home study programs earn a higher score on the ACT than students who attend public, private, parochial, or charter schools;
- Implements Act 268, which delays the requirement that students must earn one unit of Computer Science in order to qualify for any TOPS award to graduates of 2030–2031;
- Implements TOPS Core Curriculum course equivalents that were approved by the Board of Regents in April 2025, including Creative Writing as an equivalent to Art; IB Psychology as an equivalent to Social Studies; and Tagalog I-IV, Turkish I-IV, Urdu I-IV, and West Germanic Languages (Dutch) I-IV.

LOSFA ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends that the Board of Regents authorize publication of the final rule.

AGENDA ITEM III.D.

Consent Agenda: ACT Exception

Request for exception to the TOPS provision that requires a student to earn a qualifying score on the ACT no later than the national ACT test date in April of the year of high school graduation

BACKGROUND

The TOPS statute requires that a student achieve a qualifying score on the ACT no later than the national ACT test date in April of the year of high school graduation. The law provides for an exception to this requirement if the administering agency determines that the student was prevented from taking the test prior to high school graduation due to circumstances beyond the student's control and which were attributable to the administration of the test. The law allows an extension under these circumstances to September 30 of the year of the student's high school graduation, and provides that a student will not be assessed a one-semester reduction in his award if such an extension is granted.

A request was received for students attending a school for exception to the TOPS provision that requires a student to earn a qualifying score on the ACT no later than the national ACT test date in April of the year of high school graduation. This request was reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of March 19, 2026. The school has presented facts and documentation that the school believes justifies the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

LOSFA ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends approval of the request for exception to the TOPS provision that requires a student to earn a qualifying score on the ACT no later than the national ACT test date in April of the year of high school graduation.

AGENDA ITEM III.E.

Consent Agenda: TOPS Home Study Exceptions

Requests for exception to the TOPS statutory provision that requires students to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth-grade year

BACKGROUND

The TOPS statute requires that a student begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth-grade year. Act 95 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature implemented a provision that allows the administering agency to grant exceptions to this requirement when a student provides documentation that the transfer to a home study program later than the statutorily provided timeframe was beyond the student's control.

Two requests for exception to the deadline to begin a home study program were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of March 19, 2026. The students have presented facts and documentation that the students believe justifies the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

LOSFA ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends approval of the requests for exception to the deadline to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth-grade year.

AGENDA ITEM III.F.

Consent Agenda: TOPS Exceptions

Requests for exception to the TOPS regulatory provisions 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 full time for the fall and spring semesters of each academic year, to remain enrolled throughout the semester, and to earn a minimum number of credit hours by the end of the academic year. Section 2103.E authorizes the governing body to grant an exception to the full-time, continuous enrollment and annual earned-hour 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.”

Sixteen requests for exception to the TOPS requirements were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting on March 19, 2026. The students have presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

LOSFA ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends approval of the requests for exception to the TOPS regulatory provisions that require students to remain continuously enrolled and to earn the annual credit hours required during the academic year.

AGENDA ITEM IV.

Statewide Spotlight: LOUIS: The Louisiana Library Network

STAFF SUMMARY

LOUIS: The Louisiana Library Network is a statewide academic library consortium of 47 public and private college and university libraries. By working together, these libraries maximize resources, share expertise, and ensure access to information and technology—supporting research, teaching, and learning across Louisiana. Operating as a statewide program of the Louisiana Board of Regents, LOUIS is operated by a team of 10 and supports:

Shared Library Technology

LOUIS manages the shared infrastructure students and faculty use to discover and access resources and information. A current statewide library technology migration will modernize user experience, improve operational efficiency, and generate more than \$100,000 in annual savings for member institutions.

E-Resources: Online Articles, Streaming Videos, E-books, and More

All members have 24/7 access to a core set of electronic academic resources spanning disciplines from science, technology, and medicine, to the arts and humanities. Institutions can opt into additional resources with group pricing, expanding access to meet curriculum and research needs while leveraging shared purchasing power.

Affordability and Student Success

Through partnerships with faculty and libraries, LOUIS advances the adoption and creation of open and affordable educational resources that reduce the cost of course materials. Since 2012, these efforts have helped more than 810,000 Louisiana students save nearly \$72 million in reported textbook costs, including \$15.4 million in potential savings in the 2024–25 academic year. LOUIS has received three federal grants with \$5.4 million in total project funding to create open resources for dual enrollment and workforce courses.

Strengthening Institutional Capacity

LOUIS provides training, technical support, and opportunities for collaboration. This includes designing in-person and online professional development, providing members responsive technical support through a ticketing system and knowledge base, and producing a variety of materials to spotlight members and share best practices.

For more information about LOUIS, see the current strategic plan (Attachment A).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information only; no action is required.

ATTACHMENT A



Strategic Plan

2024-2026



Mission:

LOUIS is a consortium of Louisiana academic libraries united to harness and leverage the strength of their collective power to provide cost-effective information resources, services, and technology that advance the teaching, learning, and research missions of its members' institutions.

Values:

Collaboration - As LOUIS, we unite to amplify our collective impact. Working together allows us to effectively leverage expertise and resources, advancing higher education across Louisiana.

Support - Our focus is meeting member needs by providing equitable access to critical technologies, resources, and information for all students and faculty.

Advocacy - We advocate for the diverse needs of our member institutions by championing the value of academic libraries and the resources required for them to best serve their campuses and communities.

Affordability – Together we can leverage the strength of our collective power to negotiate advantageous pricing for technology and resources for all of our members. We support initiatives reducing the cost of education for students through affordable education resources (AER) and open education resources (OER).

Transparency - We uphold high standards of clarity, communication, and responsibility through transparent processes, data-driven analysis, and collaborative decision making involving the membership, working groups, and the Executive Board.

Vision:

We strive to:

- Ensure that Louisiana's academic libraries are the premier source of authoritative, affordable information and technology, meeting the teaching, learning, and research needs of our diverse communities.
- Actively pursue external funding to expand projects, resources, and initiatives upholding our mission.
- Facilitate communication, cooperation, and collaboration by leveraging library faculty and staff expertise across the consortium.
- Advocate for and promote the value, needs, and evolving roles of our academic libraries, highlighting our significant return on investment.
- Lower the cost of education through affordable learning programs and creative digital opportunity initiatives, reducing financial barriers to student success.

Strategic Directions and Goals

Build an advocacy strategy to demonstrate the value of LOUIS and our academic libraries across Louisiana higher education.

1.1 Offer professional development for library personnel on effective advocacy approaches, including data storytelling, peer to peer library comparisons, stakeholder engagement, awareness campaigns, and advocacy best practices.

1.2 Promote LOUIS resources, technologies, and services to stakeholders including campus administration, the Board of Regents, and the Legislature.

1.3 Support the membership's efforts in academic library scholarship, specifically to highlight LOUIS initiatives, resources, efforts, and services.

Expand and enhance resources, services, and innovative technologies within budget.

2.1. Identify, develop, and promote inclusive and accessible library services, tools, and technologies based on universal design principles.

2.2 Explore emerging innovations to meet evolving user needs and advance academic libraries.

2.3 Identify ways to enhance the consortium-wide interlibrary loan network, including controlled digital lending.

2.4 Support student success efforts including creative, innovative models to address the affordability of higher education through OER/AER, digital opportunity initiatives, and partnerships with student success focused campus offices.

Facilitate opportunities for collaboration and build capacity through networking, professional development, and sharing expertise.

3.1 Establish communities of practice for ongoing idea exchange and problem-solving on current and emerging topics relevant to academic libraries.

3.2 Enable informal mentorships or sponsorships, faculty and staff exchanges, and other networking across member libraries to build capacity and share expertise. Seek to facilitate knowledge sharing in diverse areas beyond those traditionally supported.

3.3 Provide accessible online platforms and communication channels that make collaboration simple and inclusive for all interested faculty and staff at member institutions.

3.4 Boost understanding of consortium resources, services, technologies, and communities by orienting library faculty and staff new to member institutions.



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Agenda

Planning, Research, and Performance

Wednesday, April 29, 2026
1:25 PM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Louisiana Purchase Room (1–100)
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - A. R.S. 17:1808 - Academic Licensure
 1. Renewal Applications
 - a. Alliant International University – San Diego, CA
 - b. CBD College – Los Angeles, CA
 - c. The Chicago School – New Orleans, LA
 - d. San Joaquin Valley College – Visalia, CA
- IV. Other Business
- V. Adjournment

Committee Members: Ted H. Glaser, Chair, Judy Williams-Brown, Vice Chair, Blake R. David, Dallas L. Hixson, Darren G. Mire, Christy Oliver Reeves, Devesh Sarda (Student Member)
Staff: Dr. Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.a.
Alliant International University
San Diego, California

BACKGROUND

Alliant International University (AIU) is a private institution with its main campus located in San Diego, California. The university is accredited by the Western Association of School and Colleges, Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC).

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

AIU offers 19 academic programs that lead to doctoral, master's, and bachelor's degrees, along with certificate programs and credentialing. It provides a range of online programs in healthcare, psychology, counseling, social services, criminal justice, education, and business. The university currently has two students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	1
Master's	1
Bachelor's	0
Associate	0
Certificate	0
Other	0
Total	2

FACULTY

Alliant International University has 168 full-time and 402 part-time faculty members holding master's or doctoral degrees.

FACILITIES

AIU offers 100% online instruction to Louisiana residents, with some programs requiring field experience to be completed in-state.

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 Alliant International University.

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.b.

CBD College

Los Angeles, California

BACKGROUND

CBD College (CBD), founded in 1982 as Community Based Education & Development, which is the basis of their current name, is a non-profit healthcare career college located in Los Angeles, California. The college is accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health and Education Schools (ABHES).

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

CBD's main campus offers academic programs that lead to certificates as well as associate and bachelor's degrees in various healthcare fields such as physical therapy assistant, health science, and diagnostic medical sonography. However, CBD offers only an online Bachelor of Health Science program to Louisiana residents. The college currently has one student in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	0
Bachelor's	1
Associate	0
Other	0
Total	1

FACULTY

CBD has seven full-time and six part-time faculty holding a bachelor's degree or above to support Louisiana students.

FACILITIES

CBD offers 100% online instruction to Louisiana residents with a required clinical practicum to be completed at a local healthcare facility.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the scope of the programs and the credentials of its faculty, program accreditation, and the general oversight by the home campus, Senior Staff recommends approval of the application for license *renewal* from CBD College.

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.c.

The Chicago School

Los Angeles, CA

BACKGROUND

The Chicago School (TCS) is a private institution with its main campus located in Los Angeles, California, and a local campus in New Orleans, Louisiana, based in Xavier University of Louisiana. This university is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), as well as the American Psychological Association.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

TCS offers 39 academic programs that lead to doctoral, master's, and bachelor's degrees, along with certificate programs centered around psychology, nursing, and other health sciences. The university currently has 48 students enrolled in these programs according to the Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment
Doctorate	24
Master's	20
Bachelor's	0
Associate	0
Certificate	4
Other	0
Total	48

FACULTY

TCS has 81 part-time and 15 full-time faculty members, all holding doctoral degrees.

FACILITIES

TCS offers online and classroom lecture instruction for Louisiana students.

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 The Chicago School.

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.d.
San Joaquin Valley College
Visalia, California

BACKGROUND

San Joaquin Valley College (SJVC) is a private college with fifteen campuses in California and Arizona. SJVC is accredited by the Western Association of School and Colleges, Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC).

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

SJVC offers 22 academic programs that lead to certificates as well as associate and bachelor's degrees. These programs include subject areas of business, medical, information technology, and technical career fields. The college currently does not have any students enrolled.

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

FACULTY

SJVC has 37 full-time and part-time faculty holding various levels of degrees.

FACILITIES

San Joaquin Valley College provides online instruction to Louisiana students, and some programs require an externship to be completed within the state.

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 San Joaquin Valley College.