



Notice of Meetings

Louisiana Board of Regents

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Wednesday, September 23, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Board Development	9:00 AM	Iowa Room 1-153 Claiborne Building, 1st Floor
Committee Meetings**		
Finance		
Facilities and Property		
Academic and Student Affairs		
Research and Sponsored Programs		
Statewide Programs		
Planning, Research, and Performance		
	10:00 AM	Louisiana Purchase Room 1-110 Claiborne Building, 1st Floor 1201 N. Third St. Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Board of Regents Meeting**	12:45 PM	Louisiana Purchase Room 1-110 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.*



BOARD of REGENTS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

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

Misti S. Cordell
*Chair
At-Large*

Terrie P. Sterling
*Vice Chair
At-Large*

Dallas L. Hixson
*Secretary
At-Large*

David J. Aubrey
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

Maria Nechaeva
Student Member

Wilbert D. Pryor
4th Congressional District

Christy Oliver Reeves
5th Congressional District

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

Collis B. Temple III
6th Congressional District

Judy A. Williams-Brown
4th Congressional District

Agenda

Board of Regents Meeting*

Wednesday, September 23, 2026
12:45 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. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of Minutes from August 26, 2026
- V. Reports and Recommendations of Standing Committees
 - A. Finance
 - B. Facilities and Property
 - C. Academic and Student Affairs
 - D. Research and Sponsored Initiatives
 - E. Statewide Programs
 - F. Planning, Research, and Performance
- VI. Meauxmentum Moment: Year 7 Update
- VII. Approval of Board of Regents 2027 Meeting Calendar
- VIII. Chair's Comments
- IX. Reports and Recommendations by the Commissioner of Higher Education
- X. Other Business
- XI. 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

August 26, 2026

The Board of Regents met at 10:40 a.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, in the Louisiana Purchase Room (1–100), Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Misti Cordell called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

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

Present for the meeting were:

Misti Cordell, Chair
Terrie Sterling, Vice Chair
Dallas Hixson, Secretary
David Aubrey
Blake David
Phillip May, Jr.
Darren Mire
Christy Oliver Reeves
Maria Nechaeva, Student Member
K. Samer Shamieh
Judy Williams-Brown

Mgt. Board representatives present were:

LCTC Representative
LSU System Representative
SU System Representative
UL System Representative

Absent from the meeting were:

Christian Creed
Stephanie Finley
Ted Glaser III
Wilbert Pryor
Collis Temple III

Appendix A
Guest List

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 10, 2026 MEETING

On motion of Regent Aubrey, seconded by Regent Hixson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2026 meeting.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Chair Cordell inquired whether any member of the Board wanted to take up any of the Committee reports separately before a motion was made to accept all reports. There were no requests.

On motion of Regent Sterling, seconded by Regent May, the Board voted unanimously to approve all Committee recommendations from the August 26, 2026 Committee meetings.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE – MEAUXMENTUM MOMENT

Chair Cordell introduced Richard Nelson, the new president of the Louisiana Community and Technical Colleges (LCTC). Chair Cordell noted that during the 2025–26 school year, the LCTC System awarded approximately 52,000 credentials to more than 41,000 completers, with nearly 20,000 graduates entering high-demand occupations.

President Nelson presented to the Board his five-point plan—expanding, connecting, aligning, partnering, and delivering—to expand access to the state’s twelve LCTC institutions. The plan seeks to address the challenge of adapting training to meet rapidly evolving workforce demands. Strategies include streamlining applications; improving information on programs, salaries, and employment outcomes; strengthening counseling; addressing childcare and transportation barriers; and reducing reliance on student loans.

To recruit more students, President Nelson announced the creation of the LCTC Charter School to connect high school students to career and technical training, as well as ongoing studies of existing programs, including M.J. Foster Promise, TOPS Tech, and Pell, to boost student support. He also emphasized incorporating employer-driven priorities into programs for incarcerated individuals.

Board members discussed the urgency created by major economic-development investments and the importance of reaching students earlier. President Nelson noted that the average age of an LCTC student is 26 and said the system must enroll more traditional-age students. He cited employer investments supporting workforce training at SOWELA Technical, Louisiana Delta, and Nunez Community Colleges.

Regent Hixson praised the energy around the opportunities ahead, while Chair Cordell noted discussions around connecting residents to jobs and retaining young people in Louisiana. Regent Aubrey reaffirmed his support for two-year institutions and asked how LCTC is accelerating progress toward the 2030 Meauxmentum goal. President Nelson responded that the system needs approximately \$600 million in new funding to respond to current workforce opportunities.

Regent May noted workforce-training expectations connected to data-center investments. Commissioner Reed emphasized expanded financing models and potential rapid-response funding to build capacity as needs change, and Regent Sterling underscored the need for talent developed at both the two-year and four-year institutions and the importance of working together.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Cordell made the following comments:

- She recognized Regent Maria Nechaeva, student member, who reported on the start of the fall semester at Southeastern Louisiana University, including increased enrollment as well as student activities supporting the campus food pantry and Thanksgiving meals.
- She noted that over 200,000 students are enrolled in Louisiana's public and postsecondary institutions this fall. She wished them all a successful and safe semester.
- She discussed a visit she and Commissioner Reed made in June to Muse 3 Farm in St. Helena Parish. She described the small family start-up farm established in 2015 by four brothers: Allen, Burnell, Chris, and Mittie Muse. The farm consists of over 200 acres where the Muses grow pine for timber and raise cattle, goats, and chickens. The visit provided insight into the impact of small businesses on Louisiana's economy. She thanked Regent Glaser and the LSU and Southern Ag Center directors for participating in the visit. The Muses report that they have had over 800 student visitors in 2026.
- She announced that Regents will host its annual staff retreat on August 31 at Pennington Biomedical Research Center, during which Commissioner Reed will moderate a lunch panel with Regents Hixson and Reeves. In addition, the Chair and Commissioner Reed will hand out staff awards.

LEGISLATIVE

POLICY OVERVIEW

Ms. Brianna Golden Phillips provided a brief overview of proposed policy updates and revisions across several Board committees.

ADMENDMENTS TO THE UNIFORM ANTI-HAZING POLICY

Regent Mire highlighted the enactment of HB 636, the Caleb Wilson Anti-Hazing Prevention Act, and recognized Mrs. Urania Wilson, Caleb's mother, who was present to share remarks.

Mrs. Wilson expressed her gratitude to Commissioner Reed and her staff for their support and collaboration with her family. She emphasized her hope that no other child would lose their life or be harmed because of hazing and expressed her belief that Louisiana can serve as a national leader in hazing prevention. She again thanked the Board for its efforts.

Ms. Golden Phillips presented the major components of the Uniform Anti-Hazing Policy:

- **Strengthens institutional accountability by incorporating enhanced sanctions for hazing violations**, including the permanent banishment of organizations when a hazing incident results in a student's death.
- **Establishes organizational reporting obligations and clear expectations for reporting alleged hazing incidents**, coordinating with law enforcement, documenting institutional actions, and maintaining confidential and anonymous reporting mechanisms.
- Strengthens institutional responsibilities to provide **comprehensive hazing prevention education for students and expand annual training requirements** for recognized student organizations, organizational advisors, and institutional hearing panels.
- **Expands public disclosure requirements** by requiring institutions to maintain publicly accessible information regarding organizational findings of responsibility for hazing and disciplinary sanctions while protecting individual student privacy.

Regent Aubrey asked about reporting and public disclosure of hazing incidents, including the annual reporting timeline and whether the Board receives institution-specific data. Ms. Golden Phillips confirmed that the Board will receive hazing incident data through the annual Power-Based Violence Report. Dr. Allison Smith noted that institutions are also required to report under the federal Stop Campus Hazing Act, which includes public transparency requirements and requires reporting at least twice annually.

On motion of Regent May, seconded by Regent Reeves, the Board unanimously approved the amendments to the Uniform Anti-Hazing Policy.

AMENDMENTS TO THE UNIFORM POLICY ON POWER-BASED VIOLENCE

Ms. Golden Phillips presented the amendments to the Uniform Policy on Power-Based Violence:

- Clarifies that power-based violence applies **to conduct committed based on sex**, consistent with Louisiana law.
- **Implements Enhanced Prevention and Educational Outreach** to provide information regarding power-based violence no fewer than four times during each academic year.
- Directs institutions to share information regarding Power-Based Violence **with the parent or legal guardian of an enrolled student who is a minor.**

On motion of Regent Aubrey, seconded by Regent May, the Board unanimously approved the amendments to the Uniform Policy on Power-Based Violence.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Tristan Denley presented the Consent Agenda, which included routine staff approvals, name changes, changes to Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes, minor reorganizations of academic units, a new graduate certificate/graduate assistantship item, and academic program terminations.

Dr. Denley reported that, with the terminations included on the agenda, institutions had terminated approximately 50 academic programs during the current year and 130 programs since the current phase of academic planning began. He noted that institutions continue to evaluate their academic offerings and redirect resources as appropriate. Additional program requests will be presented at the September meeting.

On motion of Regent Nechaeva, seconded by Regent Shamieh, the Consent Agenda was approved unanimously.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Dr. Denley presented a proposal for an Associate of Applied Science in Technical Studies at Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College.

The proposed degree would provide students who have completed technical diplomas in areas such as advanced manufacturing, automotive technology, diesel-powered equipment technology, HVAC, industrial maintenance, plumbing, electrical technology, and welding with a pathway to complete additional general education coursework and pursue further education, including transfer into bachelor's degree programs.

Dr. Denley noted that similar degree structures are offered throughout the Louisiana Community and Technical College System and that the proposed program would not require additional institutional resources.

On motion of Regent Reeves, seconded by Supervisor Smith (LCTC Representative), the motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF POLICIES

Regent Sterling stated that four policy-related items, developed primarily in response to recent legislative action, would be considered individually.

Joint Policy with LA Works Workforce Pell

Dr. Denley presented a proposed joint policy with Louisiana Works concerning Workforce Pell.

Recent federal legislation expanded Pell Grant eligibility to certain short-term credentials. Dr. Denley explained that eligible programs must meet federal and state requirements related to high-demand, high-wage occupations, graduation and placement rates, and program length.

Louisiana Works and the Louisiana Board of Regents were designated by the Governor's Office to collaboratively establish the list of programs eligible for consideration in Louisiana. Dr. Denley reported that the first group of programs had been reviewed by the Workforce Pell Committee, with five programs expected to advance to the Workforce Investment Council. Programs approved through the state process would subsequently be submitted by the Governor's Office to the U.S. Department of Education for final federal approval.

Dr. Denley further explained that the proposed policy addresses academic credit transfer and credential stackability to ensure eligible credentials provide pathways to additional education or credentials.

On motion of Regent Reeves, seconded by Supervisor Smith (LCTC Representative), the motion was approved unanimously.

Update to Academic Affairs 2.22 Dual Enrollment

Dr. Denley presented an update to Academic Affairs Policy 2.22 concerning dual enrollment, as required by Act 438 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session.

The proposed revised policy establishes a uniform statewide dual enrollment application process and a standardized tuition rate framework for public postsecondary institutions.

Dr. Denley explained that students would have access to a single-portal application process to view and apply for dual enrollment opportunities throughout the state.

The policy also establishes separate standardized pricing categories for academically based dual enrollment courses and career and technical education courses. Dr. Denley noted that the policy advances the Board's ongoing efforts to improve consistency, access, and ease of enrollment for Louisiana high school students participating in dual enrollment.

On motion of Supervisor Henry (SUS Representative), seconded by Regent Reeves, the motion was approved unanimously.

Establishment of Academic Affairs 2.26 Accreditation and Update to Academic Affairs 2.13 Program Accreditation

Dr. Denley presented two related accreditation actions authorized by Act 486 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session: the establishment of Academic Affairs Policy 2.26 regarding institutional accreditation and an update to Academic Affairs Policy 2.13 regarding program accreditation.

Dr. Denley explained that the proposed institutional accreditation policy builds upon an executive order from the Governor's Office that established a task force to examine accreditation. The policy also reflects federal changes which allow institutions to select from federally recognized institutional accreditors rather than being limited to accreditors based on geographic region.

The proposed policy would not require Louisiana institutions to change accreditors. Instead, it would establish a state process through which an institution could pursue accreditation by another federally recognized accreditor. Institutions seeking an alternative accreditor

would be required to obtain approval from their respective public postsecondary management board and complete the applicable federal and accreditor approval processes.

Dr. Denley emphasized that institutions would be limited to accreditors approved under the Board of Regents' policy.

Dr. Denley explained that the proposed update to Academic Affairs Policy 2.13 would clarify Board requirements for program-level accreditation, including requirements applicable to certain engineering-related technical programs and veterinary medicine programs. During discussion, a committee member asked whether allowing multiple accreditors could result in differences in accreditation rigor. Staff explained that eligible accreditors must first be recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and approved by the Board before becoming available to Louisiana institutions.

The Committee also discussed CPHE, a proposed national accrediting organization. Staff explained that CPHE is not currently recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and therefore is not yet an option under the proposed policy.

Discussion further clarified that institutions would generally remain with their existing accreditors but could pursue an approved alternative through the required institutional, state, and federal processes.

On motion of Regent Shamieh, seconded by Regent Aubrey, the motion was approved unanimously.

Rescinding of Uniform Policy on Governor's Military & Veteran-Friendly Campuses

Dr. Denley presented a proposal to rescind the Board's Uniform Policy on the Governor's Military and Veteran-Friendly Campus Program, consistent with Act 130 of 2025 and Act 772 of 2026. Act 772 transfers administration of the program from the Board of Regents to the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs, making the existing Board policy unnecessary. Regents staff have worked with the Department to transfer program materials and support continuity.

Chair Cordell thanked Charlton McGinley and others involved in developing the program. Dr. Denley recognized Dr. Lupe Lamadrid, Senior Policy Analyst at the Board of Regents, for her work supporting the program and the transition.

On motion of Regent Reeves, seconded by Regent Nechaeva, rescinding of the policy was approved unanimously.

There being no other business, on motion of Regent Reeves, seconded by Regent Nechaeva, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

UPDATE ON GOOGLE CAREER CERTIFICATES

Chair Shamieh introduced an update on the Google Career Certificates initiative for informational purposes only. Dr. Denley provided an overview of the statewide partnership with Google, launched approximately one year ago to provide students, faculty, and staff access to Google professional certificate programs. He noted that faculty have used the certificate resources to strengthen their knowledge of artificial intelligence, support professional development, and incorporate AI tools and content into their courses.

Dr. Denley introduced Dr. Elizabeth Hornsby, Chief Knowledge Officer and co-founder of Veritas Global EduConsulting and adjunct professor at Southern University at New Orleans. He recognized Dr. Hornsby for her work supporting faculty statewide in navigating the Google certificate resources and integrating the content into their courses.

Dr. Hornsby thanked the Committee and provided a comprehensive overview of the Google Career Certificates initiative, highlighting its benefits to students, including opportunities to develop industry-relevant skills and earn credentials aligned with workforce needs. At the conclusion of the presentation, Board members expressed their appreciation for Dr. Hornsby's work and recognized her with a standing ovation.

There being no other business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

AUDIT

Board of Regents Formula, Admissions, and Scholarships Audit Plan, FY 2026-27

Ms. Elizabeth Bentley-Smith presented the Formula, Admissions, and Scholarships Audit Plan for FY27. Ms. Bentley-Smith discussed the process used to determine the Formula and Admission Audit Plan, noting that efficiency and effectiveness could be increased by focusing on specific data elements for higher-risk areas and institutions rather than conducting the broad

review previously utilized.

She then discussed the audit plan for scholarships managed by the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), which is in accordance with Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 28, Part IV, Section 107. In accordance with standard auditing practices, an annual risk assessment guided the selection of institutions for review, ensuring resources are focused on areas with the highest potential for noncompliance. The targeted compliance rate for these reviews is 90%.

On motion of Regent Mire and seconded by Regent David, the Audit Committee recommended that the Board approve the Board of Regents' Formula, Admissions, and LOSFA Programs Audit Plans for FY27.

Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) Facility Usage Rates

The LUMCON facilities in Houma (Blue Works) and Cocodrie (DeFelice Marine Center) offer both internal and external users many services, including lodging, cafeteria, educational programming, facilities rentals, vessel hire, etc. To support these services, LUMCON has continually maintained a fee schedule differentiated by specific user types.

Ms. Bentley-Smith noted that in accordance with Act 314 of 2016, the Board of Regents is required to approve LUMCON's fee schedule. The updated fees were presented noting the current schedule, along with discount rates offered to other public entities to access the services offered. Ms. Bentley-Smith stated that the fees were derived through reference to peer institutions, the regional market where the facilities are located and Louisiana's current General Services Administration (GSA) rates, which are incorporated into the State Travel Policy.

On motion of Regent Hixson, seconded by Regent Mire, the Audit Committee recommended approval of LUMCON's rates as presented

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion of Regent Hixson, seconded by Regent David, the meeting was adjourned.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY

Approval of Facilities Policy Revision

Ms. Elizabeth Bentley-Smith, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration,

reported on two substantive changes in the Board of Regents Facilities Policy, which incorporated legislative changes resulting primarily from Act 772 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session.

The primary changes to the policy involve the passage and implementation of Act 772 of the 2026 Regular Session. This act removed BOR approval of two types of projects initiated under the provisions of LA R.S. 39:128. The first legislative change no longer requires management boards to submit ‘Small Capital Projects’, or projects initiated by the management board with a construction cost of \$2M or less, to the BOR for staff approval.

The second policy change removes BOR approval of projects initiated under the provisions of LA R.S. 39:128, known as Act 959 projects. With implementation of the new legislation, Act 959 projects will now require management board and JLCB approval only, and will no longer require BOR approval. Under the provisions of both of these legislative changes, management boards are required to report the status of projects to the BOR. Ms. Bentley-Smith also noted that policy revisions updated the definitions of Master Plan and Professional Services Selection Boards.

On motion of Regent Mire, seconded by Regent May, the Facilities and Property Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the items on the Consent Agenda’s Small Capital Projects report.

Other Business

Mr. Chris Herring, Vice President for Facilities, Capital Planning and Development of the University of Louisiana System, provided the Board with an update on the Grambling State University (GSU) Library, which has been closed for approximately two months following a sewage leak. In late June, a campus sewer main backed up, affecting the library because of its proximity to the main line. A claim was filed immediately with the Office of Risk Management (ORM) and its third-party administrator, Sedgwick. The parties are finalizing the scope of work and replacement of the damaged flooring is anticipated to be completed by the end of September. In the interim, laboratory spaces have been made available to accommodate students affected by the library closure.

There being no further business to come before the Facilities and Property Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED INITIATIVES

DIVISION OF ENDOWED CHAIR INTO ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS: SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY

Ms. Carrie Robison informed the Committee that the Leon Ford Family Endowed Chair in Regional Studies is a \$1 million endowed chair held by Southeastern Louisiana University, matched by the BoRSF in FY 1998–99. With donor and Board of Supervisors concurrence, SLU requests approval to divide it into four Endowed Professorships, each with a corpus of \$250,000 (\$150,000 non-state/\$100,000 BoRSF), as follows:

- Leon Ford III Endowed Super Professorship in Southeast Louisiana Studies
- Edward Brent Dufreche Endowed Super Professorship in Biology
- Nora Dell Fritscher Endowed Super Professorship in Nursing
- Phil and Ann Livingston, in Memory of Lacy Ann Livingston, Endowed Super Professorship in Nursing

On motion of Regent David, seconded by Regent Shamieh, the Research and Sponsored Initiatives Committee recommended that the Board of Regents approve Southeastern Louisiana University's request to divide the Leon Ford Family Endowed Chair in Regional Studies into four (4) endowed professorships, each with a corpus of \$250,000 (\$150,000 non-state/\$100,000 BoRSF), as follows: (1) Leon Ford III Endowed Super Professorship in Southeast Louisiana Studies; (2) Edward Brent Dufreche Endowed Super Professorship in Biology; (3) Nora Dell Fritscher Endowed Super Professorship in Nursing; and (4) Phil and Ann Livingston, in Memory of Lacy Ann Livingston, Endowed Super Professorship in Nursing.

APPOINTMENT OF ENDOWED CHAIRHOLDER WITHOUT NATIONAL SEARCH: LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE

Ms. Robison notified the Committee that LSU A&M requests to appoint Dr. Christopher G. Arges, Principal Chemical Engineer at Argonne National Laboratory and as a CASE Senior Scientist Affiliate at the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Molecular Engineering, to the Gordon A. and Mary Cain Chair in Chemical Engineering #4, a \$2 million Chair matched by the BoRSF in 2007–08.

Ms. Robison summarized Dr. Arges' qualifications, noting that this request is not to approve an internal appointment but to expedite the hiring of a new faculty member. Ms. Robison added that the proposed appointment meets the criteria set forth in policy related to filling a chair without a national search.

On motion of Regent David, seconded by Regent Shamieh, the Research and Sponsored Initiatives Committee recommended that the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Dr. Christopher G. Arges to the Gordon A. and Mary Cain Chair in Chemical Engineering #4.

As stipulated in Board policy, a copy of the Letter of Appointment sent to Dr. Arges must be submitted to the Board within 90 days of this approval.

BoRSF ENDOWMENT PROGRAM POLICY ADDITIONS

Ms. Robison indicated that the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF) provides endowment matching to support faculty and student success across four programs: Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars, Endowed Professorships/Endowed First-Generation Student Scholarships, Endowed Superior Graduate Students, and Endowed Two-Year Workforce Scholarships. She noted that the Board has regularly taken action to set forth circumstances in which changes can be made to the posture of specific endowments, including renaming, moving from one endowment type to another, and use of expendable dollars. These Board actions are not always incorporated into formal policy.

Ms. Robison informed the Board that Regents had previously adopted rules related to two common issues related to BoRSF matched endowments: changes from one endowment type to another and use of expendable funds to create new endowments (see Attachment A). These rules have been used since their adoption and should be added to the policies for clarity.

On motion of Regent David, seconded by Regent Mire, the Research and Sponsored Initiatives Committee recommended that the Board of Regents approve BoRSF endowment program policy additions as presented. These policy additions will be effective immediately.

There being no other business to come before the Committee, on motion of Regent David, seconded by Regent Shamieh, the meeting was adjourned.

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Rulemaking – M.J. Foster Promise Program rulemaking to implement Act 642 of the 2026 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature

Dr. Susannah Craig, Interim Director for the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), notified the Committee that Act 633 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature provided for a gradual reduction in the minimum age of eligibility for the M.J. Foster Promise Program from 21 to 17, beginning in the 2024–2025 academic year. Act 642 of the 2026 Regular Session essentially pauses the reduction in age provided for by Act 633 of 2024 and provides that the minimum age for initial eligibility for the 2026–2027 and 2027–2028 academic years shall be 21. Dr. Craig noted that this allows Board of Regents to study the age impact and make a determination if the age threshold should remain at 21. Under the provisions of Act 642, any student who received an M.J. Foster Promise Program award during the 2024–2025 or 2025–2026 academic year and who is continuing their studies will be permitted to continue receiving Program funds even if they have not yet attained the age of 21.

- B. Approval of Rulemaking – TOPS and TOPS Tech rulemaking to implement Act 355, Act 695, and Act 794 of the 2026 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature as well as designation of certain courses as equivalent to those required in the TOPS Core Curricula

Dr. Craig notified the Committee of Legislative Acts of the 2026 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature. Act 355 allows a former member of the United States Armed Forces who was honorably discharged from a military installation in Louisiana to qualify for a TOPS Tech award if he establishes domicile in Louisiana within one year of discharge on or after January 1, 2020 and eliminates the requirement that a veteran must provide a TOPS Tech qualifying ACT score to be eligible. Act 695 permits students to substitute the specific math sequence courses to satisfy math core curriculum requirements. Act 794 provides amendments to the initial and continuing eligibility requirements for TOPS Tech recipients; and expands the law to allow a student to qualify using two of the following three academic criteria: at least a 2.50 cumulative grade point average on the core curriculum; a minimum ACT score of 17 or a Silver Level score on the ACT WorkKeys; or successful completion of either at least nine academic or technical early college credits, which may be attained through dual enrollment, or equivalent validated skills and learning measures as approved by the Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council. Act 794 also permits continuing TOPS Tech recipients to attend school on a part-time basis. Dr. Craig further explained that this rulemaking adds core equivalents for TOPS, which allow for course equivalents for Financial Literacy and the Computer Science requirement as a Math and Computer Science requirement as a Science.

- C. Returning Out-of-State (ROOS) Exception – Request for exception to the TOPS regulatory provision that requires a student to submit supporting documentation for their Application to Return from an Out-of-State College by the deadline set forth in administrative rules

Dr. Craig notified the Committee that TOPS statute requires that a student apply to return to an eligible Louisiana college or university to receive their TOPS award and that the Board of Regents provide a deadline for filing the application. The Board's rules require a student to file the Application to Return from an Out of State College or University (ROOS application) no later than the July 1 following the academic year during which the student returns to an eligible Louisiana college or university and that they must submit all supporting documentation no later than January 15 following the July 1 deadline. The Board's rules currently do not provide for an exception to the ROOS application deadline, but the Board has allowed a student to file the initial application for a TOPS award late under extremely limited circumstances when the student was able to demonstrate that their failure to submit the application was outside of their control. She noted that one request for exception to the ROOS documentation deadline was reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting on June 25, 2026. The student has presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

- D. Home Study Exceptions – Requests for exception to the TOPS statutory provision that requires a student to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth grade

Dr. Craig notified the Committee that 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 time frame was beyond the student's control. She noted that 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 on June 25, 2026. The students have presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

- E. 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

Dr. Craig notified 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 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.” She noted that fifteen requests for exception to the TOPS requirements were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting on June 25, 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 Sterling, seconded by Regent Nechaeva, the Statewide Programs Committee voted unanimously to recommend Board approval of the Consent Agenda items.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Craig, Dr. Lupe Lamadrid and Ms. Allison Vicknair provided an informational presentation to the Committee on the Hunger-Free Campus Program, highlighting milestones and successes of the program across the thirty participating public institutions and four private institutions.

PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND PERFORMANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

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

The second item was recommendations from the Advisory Commission on Proprietary Schools for approval of one initial license and twenty-nine license renewal applications.

On motion of Regent Reeves, seconded by Regent Hixson, 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. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University - Daytona Beach, FL
 - b. National University - San Diego, CA
 - c. Reach University - Oakland, CA
 - d. Relay Graduate School of Education - New York, NY
 - e. Southern New Hampshire University - Manchester, NH
 - f. Texas Wesleyan University - Fort Worth, TX
 - g. Upper Iowa University - Fayette, IA
 - h. Walden University - Minneapolis, MN
- B. Advisory Commission on Proprietary Schools
 - 1. Initial License Applications
 - a. Ivy League Medical Training - Hammond, LA
 - 2. Renewal Applications
 - a. Advance Nursing Training-Bogalusa - License #2405 - Bogalusa, LA
 - b. CDL Mentors of Baton Rouge Truck Driving School - License #2319 - Baton Rouge, LA
 - c. Cooper's Defensive Driving - License #2375 - New Orleans, LA
 - d. Delta College of Arts & Technology - Baton Rouge - License #857 - Baton Rouge, LA
 - e. Diesel Driving Academy - Baton Rouge - License #717 - Baton Rouge, LA
 - f. Diesel Driving Academy - West Monroe - License #2406 - West Monroe, LA
 - g. Global Trucking Academy - License #2245 - Marksville, LA
 - h. Hands on HVAC School-Shreveport - License #2355 - Bossier City, LA
 - i. Holmes Healthcare Training Center - License #2301- New Orleans, LA
 - j. Inspire Code Consulting Institution - License #2390 - Slidell, LA
 - k. Integrated Education Solutions - License #2292 - Violet, LA
 - l. Louisiana Institute of Massage Therapy - License #2180 - Lake Charles, LA
 - m. Med-Advance Training - License #2272 - Baton Rouge, LA
 - n. Moes' Phlebotomy Services - License #2408 - Independence, LA
 - o. Nashville Auto-Diesel College - License #2051 - Nashville, TN
 - p. Northeast Maritime Institute - License #2409 - Houma, LA

- q. Operation Spark - License #2247 - New Orleans, LA
- r. Ouachita Truck Driving Academy - License #2050 - Sterlington, LA
- s. Petra College - License #2215 - Hammond, LA
- t. Precision Welding Testing & Training - License #2293 - Geismar, LA
- u. Remington College - Lafayette - License #2152 - Lafayette, LA
- v. Remington College - Shreveport - License #2153 - Shreveport, LA
- w. Safe Road Truck Driving School - License #2333 - New Orleans, LA
- x. Unitech Training Academy - Alexandria - License #2384 - Alexandria, LA
- y. Unitech Training Academy - Baton Rouge - License #2385 - Baton Rouge, LA
- z. Unitech Training Academy - Houma - License #2386 - Houma, LA
- aa. Unitech Training Academy - Lafayette - License #2387 - Lafayette, LA
- bb. Unitech Training Academy - New Orleans - License #2388 - New Orleans, LA
- cc. Unitech Training Academy - West Monroe - License #2389 - West Monroe, LA

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to come before the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Regent Hixson, seconded by Regent Reeves, 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 commended six Board of Regents staff members who were selected through a competitive process to present at the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) Policy Conference.
- She mentioned that Louisiana is one of eight states selected by SHEEO to convene around advancing state and system strategies for work-based learning as part of a multi-state initiative designed to help states scale work-based learning.
- She noted the Board's partnership with the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs. Doug Dupree, a student, and Liam Doyle, the executive director of the office, participated in a listening session with students with physical disabilities to discuss their experiences on campus. In addition, Brianna Golden, Regents' Director of Government Affairs, invited them

to address the Council of Student Body President to talk about the importance of building community and supporting all students.

- She recognized Emily Skaikay for her work with the foster youth project, through which the staff and board contributed supplies for college-going Louisiana foster students. In its first year the project helped fewer than 20 students, while in 2026 backpacks were distributed to 65 college-bound foster youth. A handwritten note from the Governor's Fellows with well wishes for a successful school year was included in each backpack.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Cordell asked if there was any other business to come before the Board. She reminded Board members that the September Board meeting will take place over two days. On Tuesday, September 22, the Board will host its annual higher education budget hearings, and on Wednesday, September 23, Regents will hold committee and board meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Regent Sterling, seconded by Regent Hixson, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Appendix A

Board Meeting Guest List

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

NAME	AFFILIATION
Eric Turner	LAICU
Margaret Finch	LSU A&M
Jessica Lemoine	LSU-Alexandria
Nate Sammons	LSU-Alexandria
Jeannine O'Rourke	UL System
Urania Wilson	Caleb Wilson's mother
Jackie Bach	LSU A&M
Joe Messina	LSU A&M
Blair LeBlanc	HLS Fiscal
Dianne Olivier	UL - Lafayette
Brian Roberts	LUMCON/BoR
Elizabeth Hornsby	Veritas Global EduConsulting
Christopher Nitsch	Veritas Global EduConsulting
Darrilyn Favorite	OPB
Jakob Ward	OPB
Robert René	SU System
Luria Young	SUBR
Reggie Abraham	SU System



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Agenda

Finance

Wednesday, September 23, 2026
10:00 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. Review and Acceptance of the Financial Accountability Uniform Fiscal Policy in accordance with Act 772 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session
- IV. Review and Acceptance of FY 2026–2027 Operating Budgets
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

Committee Members: Blake R. David, Chair; Dallas L. Hixson, Vice Chair; David J. Aubrey; Christian C. Creed; Collis Temple III; Judy Williams-Brown; LCTC System Representative; LSU System Representative; SU System Representative; UL System Representative

Staff: Elizabeth Bentley-Smith, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration

AGENDA ITEM III.

Review and Acceptance of the Financial Accountability Uniform Fiscal Policy

In accordance with Act 772 of the 2026 Regular Legislative Session (contained in R.S. 17:3134), the purpose of this Financial Accountability Uniform Fiscal Policy is to establish consistent reporting requirements for the stewardship of public, federal, restricted, auxiliary, and other funds administered by all public post-secondary education institutions. The accountability framework provides for the systematic and ongoing evaluation of institutional fiscal health by the state's higher education management boards and the Board of Regents, as is the intent of the legislature.

The policy has been reviewed by system presidents, system CFOs, as well as staff from the Division of Administration and Inspector General's office. It will be presented to the board for consideration and approval.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends that the Board approve the Financial Accountability Uniform Fiscal Policy.

AGENDA ITEM IV

Review and Acceptance of FY 2026–2027 Operating Budgets

The September Board of Regents' budget hearings will provide an opportunity for the Board to receive budget presentations from each of the management boards regarding their campus and system budgets as well as from Board of Regents, which includes the programs of LOSFA and LUMCON. These hearings will focus on the FY 2026–2027 Operating Budgets. The budget hearings will allow for questions and discussion on immediate and long-term budget adjustments. Below is the schedule for the budget hearings:

Schedule of Budget Hearings for Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Board Conference Room, Claiborne Building, 6th Floor

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

9:00 a.m.	Introduction
9:05 a.m.	Statewide Budget Outlook
9:45 a.m.	Board of Regents and Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA)
10:20 a.m.	Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON)
10:50 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m.	Louisiana Community and Technical College System
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Break
12:45 p.m.	Southern University System

1:45 p.m. Break
2:00 p.m. Louisiana State University System
3:00 p.m. University of Louisiana System

Following the hearings, the Board of Regents will meet on Wednesday, September 23 to review and consider acceptance of the FY 2026–2027 operating budgets. BoR staff will present statewide summary information for the Board’s consideration. This month’s actions will complete the final step in the FY 2026–2027 budget cycle. Next month, staff will update and prepare a preliminary full formula funding request for FY 2027–2028.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends that the Board accept the Fiscal Year 2026–2027 Operating Budgets.



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Agenda

Facilities and Property

Wednesday, September 23, 2026
10:20 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. LSU A&M: Foundation Building Chiller Installation
 - 2. LSU A&M: Herget Hall Roof Replacement
 - 3. LSU A&M SVM: Small Animal Surgery Modifications
 - 4. LSU A&M: Pleasant Hall Renovation for Sea Grant
 - 5. LSU Shreveport: Port Grille Dining Area Renovation
 - 6. LSU A&M: 459 Commons Roof Replacement
 - 7. LSU AG: Bathhouse Renovations
 - 8. LSU A&M SVM: Hospital Student Relations Renovation
 - 9. LSU Alexandria: Soccer Pitch Lights
- IV. Capital Outlay Visits Update
- V. Other Business
- VI. 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; K. Samer Shamieh; LCTC System Representative; LSU System Representative; SU System Representative; UL System Representative

Staff: Elizabeth Bentley-Smith, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration

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 and A & M College (LSU): Foundation Building Chiller Installation – Baton Rouge, LA

The existing Chiller is oversized, causing short-cycling issues in the Foundation Building. This project will replace the oversized chiller. **The total project cost of \$350,000 will be funded with operational revenues.**

2. Louisiana State University and A & M College (LSU): Herget Hall Roof Replacement – Baton Rouge, LA

The existing roof of Herget Hall is failing. This project will replace the failing flat roof. **The total project cost of \$365,000 will be funded with auxiliary funds.**

3. Louisiana State University and A & M College (LSU): Pleasant Hall Renovation of Sea Grant

This project will renovate the existing interior square footage of the 2nd floor of Pleasant Hall for use by the Sea Grant Department. It will include selective demolition and abatement, selective replacement of existing finishes, refinishing existing doors, selective new millwork, LED lighting, and repair of existing windows. **The total project cost of \$475,000 will be funded by other ancillary self-generated revenue.**

4. Louisiana State University and A & M College (LSU): 459 Commons Roof Replacement

The existing spray polyurethane foam (SPF) roofing system, installed over an older built-up roof, has exceeded its serviceable life and is exhibiting widespread coating failure, blistering, ponding water, and moisture intrusion throughout the roof assembly. Portions of the existing roofing system also contain asbestos-containing material that must be properly abated during demolition. This project will remove the deteriorated roofing system down to the metal deck,

repair deteriorated substrate as required, replace roof drainage components, flashings, gutters, and downspouts, and install a new roofing system to restore the building envelope, eliminate water intrusions, extend the service life of the facility, and protect University assets. **The total cost of \$675,000 will be funded by auxiliary revenues.**

5. Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine: Small Animal Surgery Modifications – Baton Rouge, LA

The existing finishes in the small animal surgery unit no longer meet the accreditation board's requirements. This project will include selective abatement and demolition of the existing floor finish, installation of the new floor finish, floor prep, moisture mitigation, new wall prep, and FRP finish panels as required. **The total project cost of \$275,000 will be funded by operational funds.**

6. Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine: Hospital Student Relations Renovation

This project will provide adequate Men's and Women's restrooms that are ADA-compliant and add a Rounds Room to meet users' current needs. The work will include demolition of existing restroom facilities, including abatement. The renovation is to include MEP work for the new spaces. The Rounds Room is to include necessary AV work, data and power for the TV, and data for the rounds table. The cost is above average due to the amount of underground plumbing required, including concrete demo and replacement. **The total cost of \$675,000 will be funded by operational revenues.**

7. Louisiana State University Agricultural Center: Bathhouse Renovations

The condition of the bathhouses is dated, and the plumbing fixtures need to be upgraded for more reliable operation. This project will renovate the boys' and girls' bathhouses, update plumbing fixtures, replace HVAC, clean tiles, and add ADA accessibility. **The total cost of \$800,000 will be funded by auxiliary revenues.**

8. Louisiana State University – Shreveport: Port Grille Dining Area Renovation

This project aims to enhance the student dining experience, as this grill serves the entire campus. **The total cost of \$345,000 will be funded by auxiliary revenues.**

9. Louisiana State University – Alexandria: Soccer Pitch Lights

This project will provide design and construction of a lighting system that meets all NAIA guidelines for night play. **The total cost of \$375,000 will be funded by auxiliary revenues.**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior staff recommends approval of the Consent Agenda, including the small capital projects report, as presented.

AGENDA ITEM IV.

The Associate Commissioner for Facilities and Emergency Management in collaboration with system colleagues at Southern University, Louisianan State University, University of Louisiana, and Louisiana Community and Technical College schedule campus visits to review capital outlay and deferred maintenance needs. We welcome all board members to attend the Capital Outlay visits. Please see below for past and upcoming visitation dates.

Monday, August 24, 2026

- LSU Eunice: 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.
LSU Alexandria: 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

- LSU Health Sciences Center - Shreveport: 8:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.
LSU Shreveport: 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

- LSU A&M, LSU AgCenter, and Pennington Biomedical Research Center: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 10, 2026 (Changed from September 3, 2026)

- Southern University Shreveport: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Monday, September 14, 2026

- Southern University at New Orleans: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

- LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Monday, September 21, 2026

- McNeese State University: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette: 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 24, 2026

- **Nicholls State University:** 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

- Southeastern Louisiana University: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Monday, October 5, 2026

- Louisiana Tech University: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- Grambling State University: 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

- University of Louisiana Monroe: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- Northwestern State University: 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 8, 2026

- LSUNO: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.



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Agenda

Academic and Student Affairs

Wednesday, September 23, 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. Consent Agenda
 - A. Routine Staff Approvals
 - B. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) State Renewal
- IV. 2026 Statewide Strategic Academic Planning
- 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; Maria Nechaeva (Student Member); LCTC System Representative; LSU System Representative; SU System Representative; UL System Representative

Staff: Dr. Tristan Denley, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation

AGENDA ITEM III.A.

Routine Academic Requests & Staff Approvals

Institution	Request
CLTCC	Request to offer the following program 100% online: AS Business Administration (CIP 52.0101) Approved
LSU A&M	Request to offer the following programs 100% online: - MS Petroleum Engineering (CIP 14.2501) - MMC Mass Communication (CIP 09.0102) Approved
LSUS	Request to offer the following program 100% online: BS Nonprofit Administration (CIP 44.0201) Approved
LSUNO	Request to offer the following programs 100% online: - BS Healthcare Management (CIP 51.0701) - BS Urban Studies (CIP 45.1201) - BA Film Arts (CIP 50.0501) - MA History (CIP 54.0101) - MA Sociology (CIP 45.1101) Approved
LA Tech	Request to offer the following programs 100% online: - UC Forensic Psychology (CIP 42.2812) - UC Lean Six Sigma (CIP 14.3501) - GC Teacher Leader Education (CIP 13.0401) - GC Visual Impairments/Blind Education (CIP 13.1009) - GC Industrial/Organizational Psychology (CIP 42.2804) - GC Special Ed Mild/Mod Elementary Education Gr. 1–5 (CIP 13.1001) - GC Six Sigma Black Belt (CIP 14.3501) - MA Industrial/Organizational Psychology (CIP 42.2804) - EDD Educational Leadership (CIP 13.0401) Approved
McNeese	Request to offer the following programs 100% online: UC Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) Business (CIP 52.0299) Approved
ULL	Request to offer the following program 100% online: MEd Educational Leadership (CIP 13.0401) Approved
SU A&M	Request to offer the following programs 100% online: - MAT Multiple Levels (CIP 13.1206) - PhD Science and Mathematics Education (13.1399) Approved

AGENDA ITEM III.B.

SARA Application for State Membership Renewal 2026

Executive Summary

The National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) is a private nonprofit organization that helps expand students' access to educational opportunities and ensure more efficient, consistent, and effective regulation of distance education programs.

Recognizing the growing demand for distance education opportunities, higher education stakeholders – including state regulators and education leaders, accreditors, the U.S. Department of Education, and institutions – joined together in 2013 to establish the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA), which streamline regulations around distance education programs.

SARA is intended to make it easier for students to take online courses offered by institutions based in another state by reducing the cost and administrative burden on institutions seeking authorization in various states. SARA is a voluntary agreement among regional compacts (SREB, NEBHE, MHEC, and WICHE) and member states. The SARA application process, through which a state is required to identify its regional compact, ensures that each institution meets the uniform standards established for participation in the interstate reciprocity agreement.

Current membership in SARA now includes 49 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. State membership renewal is required every two years after the initial approval.

Act 13 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorized the Louisiana Board of Regents to seek SARA membership on behalf of the State of Louisiana. In October 2014, Louisiana's initial application for SARA membership was approved by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA), effective December 2014. This year marks Louisiana's sixth renewal with NC-SARA.

In fall 2025 there were 29,707 Louisiana residents enrolled in out-of-state distance education programs and 23,091 out of state residents enrolled in Louisiana distance education programs.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of the 2026 Renewal Application for Louisiana's Participation in SARA and authorization for staff to submit the 2026 Renewal Application to the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) for final approval and to reaffirm with NC-SARA the state's continued SARA membership.

AGENDA ITEM IV.

2026 Statewide Strategic Academic Planning

Background Information

The Louisiana Constitution of 1974 gives the Board of Regents (BOR) the responsibility to revise or eliminate an existing degree program, department of instruction, division, or similar subdivision and to approve, disapprove, or modify a proposed degree program, department of instruction, division, or similar subdivision. In October 2021, Regents approved revisions to the Academic Affairs policy on Academic Planning and Degree Program Proposals ([AA 2.04](#)) to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the academic planning process. These revisions included the creation of an annual cycle requiring that all institutions submit a three-year academic plan providing a list of proposed new degree programs at the associate level and above along with updates on recently approved programs, low-completer programs, changes in program modality, and planned program terminations.

BOR staff organized a series of meetings that included system-level decision-makers, directors of the state's eight regional economic development offices, and representatives from LA Works and the Louisiana Office of Economic Development to ensure the alignment of academic programs with short- and long-term workforce needs. Such meetings exemplify the BOR's shift in our understanding of student success: as noted in the Year Seven Master Plan Update, while enrollment, persistence, and credential completion remain important goals, the BOR is keenly interested in how students succeed *after* degree completion. Our academic planning process emphasizes our commitment to that success by ensuring that academic programs align with current and future workforce needs. As we prioritize and promote this new conceptualization of student success, we have relied increasingly on predictive workforce data and have provided expanded technical support for our institutions as they go about the work of academic planning. All these efforts have heightened the level of intentionality in our work so that academic planning is informed by, and in turn contributes to, the current and future economic needs of the state.

The annual academic planning process does not replace the campus-level development of individual degree program proposals. Instead, it provides Regents with a regular, comprehensive, programmatic review of institutional plans as well as an analysis of how those plans are responsive to labor market needs in individual regions and throughout the state. Through innovations in policy and process, partnerships between our state's public institutions and representatives from government and industry, and collaborations with external consultants such as Lightcast, our work demonstrates the intentionality with which we approach the academic planning process, all with an eye toward achieving the goals of our state's Master Plan for higher education, *Louisiana Prospers*.

Staff Summary

Process

Policy requires that a three-year academic plan be developed annually by each of Louisiana's public institutions of higher education. Regents staff circulate submitted academic plans to the four system-level Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) for review and comment. Regents staff meet with representatives from each of the state's eight Regional Economic Development Organizations (REDOs), the Louisiana Office of Economic Development (LED), and LA Works (LWC) to discuss academic plans in the context of current and anticipated regional and statewide workforce needs. Regents staff then meet with each of the four CAOs and, when needed, with institution-level leaders in academic affairs to review and adjust plans in ways that are responsive to those conversations. The plans included in this month's Board materials reflect the input that we have received from all those sources. While the recent state capital investments that have been announced will require significant additional capacity in skilled trades and applied technology that additional capacity is largely not addressed here as new program requests. Regents

continues to work with the campuses and LA Works to expand existing capacity or build specific training that addresses these employer needs.

In March, Regents staff hosted a statewide webinar for CAOs to review the academic planning process and to provide resources designed to support their planning activities, including expanded Regents-funded access to [Lightcast Labor Analytics](#) and the online [interactive statewide curriculum inventory \(CRIN\)](#). Institutions were provided with [an updated three-year academic planning template](#) and instructed to provide an executive summary, a list of planned new programs for the next three years, a review of recently implemented programs with progress reporting requirements, plans to improve programs with a low number of graduates, notifications of changes in modality, and planned program terminations.

Planned New Programs

The purpose of institutional academic planning is to facilitate the efficient statewide coordination of academic degree program offerings, helping keep our institutions vital and ensuring the success of our students while meeting both regional and statewide needs. The annual academic planning process provides an opportunity for collaboration and partnerships among institutions, encourages innovation in program design to meet student and employer needs, and minimizes unnecessary program duplication. Academic plans may be adjusted throughout the year based on shifting institutional resources or priorities resulting from a strategic review of regional and state needs as well as an ongoing assessment of an institution's program inventory with regard to productivity and value: in short, academic planning draws from our commitment to return on investment—for our students, for our institutions, and for our state.

A list of planned new degree programs for the coming year is included in Attachment A: that list includes 31 new programs as well as 1 cooperative academic partnership (see below) which includes participation from 4 institutions. In total, including the 4 institutions participating in the cooperative academic partnerships, 22 of our institutions have requested approval for the development of plans for new programs.

Next Steps for Program Approval

Academic planning includes requests for approval of programs to be planned over a three-year period. Year 1 is a year of planning, not implementation: in approving Year 1 listings, Regents are giving a “green light” for campuses to develop full-scale plans which must be submitted for the Regents’ review no later than the deadline for the submission of academic planning documents for the following year, which falls annually on the first business day of August. These fully developed proposals will contain detailed information about employment trends and explanations of how the proposed curricula will meet the needs of industry in the institution’s region, thereby establishing a career pipeline for completers. The full proposals will undergo the standard rigorous statewide review and analysis process, including external review for proposed graduate programs, before being presented to the Board for final consideration and approval for implementation. Programs listed for Years 2 and 3 in academic planning documents allow Regents staff, personnel from LED and LA Works, and the Regents themselves a longer view on plans.

Review of Existing Programs

As part of the academic planning process, institutions are charged with assessing the viability of their full inventory of programs. Institutions provide updates on recently approved programs and other programs requiring regular progress reports, the status and plans for low completer programs, planned changes in modality, and requested program terminations.

- **Program Progress Reports**

Regular progress reports are required for every new academic degree program until the program demonstrates success and sustainability. Regents staff evaluate programs by analyzing their performance

and considering factors contributing to program viability. That analysis includes reviewing recent enrollment, growth, and completion rates over the last 3 years. Academic plans include narratives describing program performance, issues that have hindered growth (if such is the case), and action plans to be implemented to bolster program success. When new programs fall short of expectations, Regents staff work directly with institutions to determine whether action may be taken to improve program performance or whether the program should be terminated. Institutions submit 5 years of enrollment and completion numbers when available for those programs that require regular progress reporting. Attachment B is a summary of the status of those programs with progress reporting requirements for this year.

- Terminations

Requests for termination typically result from institutional review of programs with low enrollment and completion numbers. Other terminations reflect adjustments in institutional program portfolios that ensure program alignment with student and employer needs as well as discipline-specific standards. Attachment C is a list of program termination requests. These include 14 programs from 5 institutions which will be terminated, upon Regents' approval, in September 2026. In addition, institutions plan to present 36 more programs for termination throughout this academic year. Those programs are still working through approval processes at the campus and system levels. Programs scheduled for termination later in the year will be presented to the Regents as recommended termination dates approach, providing institutions time to notify faculty, staff, and students and, where needed, to develop teach-out plans. Since the implementation of academic planning in 2022 through the most recent cycle in August 2026, we have terminated 130 programs, all in the interest of institutional efficiency and alignment with workforce needs. Today's request to terminate an additional 14 programs brings that total to 144; by the end of the academic year, we anticipate the total will grow to 180.

Requests for termination are reviewed at the system level before being presented to the Board of Regents. Once a termination request is fully approved, the teach-out plan is developed, reviewed at the various levels, and submitted to the institution-level accrediting body and, if appropriate, the program-level accrediting body for approval. While decisions regarding termination are ideally made at the institution level, management boards and the Board of Regents have the authority to terminate underperforming programs when such an action seems appropriate and responsible. Regents staff continue to work with institutional and system leaders on plans concerning the viability of programs that do not meet productivity thresholds. The overall performance of programs in an institution's inventory, especially those identified as falling below expectations, will inform further termination recommendations as well as the review of proposed new programs as they are submitted throughout the year.

- Cooperative Academic Arrangements

The academic planning process presents opportunities for collaboration and partnerships between and among the state's two- and four-year institutions. Such is the case in the development of academic collaboratives such as the [LA Cyber Academy](#) which draws from faculty at six different institutions to offer students a credential of value that is not the result of efforts at any one campus but is, in fact, the result of an active, meaningful collaboration among many. Collaboratives such as the LA Cyber Academy open an exciting new path forward, where talent drawn from multiple locations collectively offer credentials of value while conserving resources at each participating location. This fall, Regents staff are working with system- and institution-level CAOs to investigate the possibility of building a cooperative academic arrangement among four institutions to meet one of the state's strongly emerging needs: expertise in Construction Management. These institutions include CLTCC, Fletcher, LSUE, and SOLACC.

- Accelerated Bachelor's (AccB) degrees

Louisiana is leading the way in introducing an innovative new degree type for our state's learners: the Accelerated Bachelor's degree, a 90-hour model which improves time to completion and, consequently,

return on investment by presenting a unique experience for students pursuing this credential. Replacing up to 12 hours of General Education requirements with discipline- and/or career-aligned courses that meet the General Education outcomes and by building in a work-integrated learning experience, the AccB offers students an opportunity to complete a bachelor's-level credential of value that prepares them for immediate entry into the workforce, often in ways that grow out of the work-integrated learning experience itself. The Board of Regents approved the AccB as a new degree type in March 2026, and LSUA received approval for the first two of these in the state in that same month: the AccB in Bioinformatics and the AccB in Information Technology. Enthusiasm for this unique, cutting-edge opportunity is growing: in the current cycle of Academic Planning, 5 institutions have requested planning approval for a total of 6 AccB degrees. We look forward to the further expansion of accelerated bachelor's degrees in ways which will resonate with students, complement the needs of the workforce, and ensure that Louisiana prospers.

Staff Analysis

In its current iteration, the academic planning process offers a powerful tool for analyzing the statewide and regional perspectives on the development of new and existing academic offerings. The inclusion of the review of recently approved programs and those programs that are not producing graduates as expected provide the institution, management boards, and the Regents with a more complete picture that facilitates planning to strengthen institutions' program portfolios as well as the state's overall program inventory. Today, senior staff recommend the acceptance of the list of 31 planned new programs, 1 cooperative academic partnership, and 14 immediate program terminations. Further, senior staff have received indications from management boards regarding the planned termination of 36 additional programs throughout the current academic year. We will bring those terminations to the Board of Regents for action at the appropriate times.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends the Board take the following actions on the 2026-2027 institutional academic plans:

- **Receive and accept the Year One list of planned new degree programs and a cooperative academic arrangement**
- **Receive and accept the program progress reports**
- **Approve the requested program terminations**

Attachment A – Planned New Programs Year 1 (2026–2027)

NOTE: A key to degree types is provided at the end of this document.

RLMA	Institution	Program Name	State Industry Need
1	Delgado	AAS Maritime Management	LED FastStart has many projects with workforce needs requiring this education. LA Works identifies this field as aligned with current and projected workforce demand.
		AAS Railroad Operations Technology	LED FastStart agrees with the need.
	LSUHSC-NO	OTD Doctor of Occupational Therapy	LA Works identifies this field as an area of sustained workforce demand within Louisiana’s healthcare sector.
		PsyD Doctor of Psychology	LA Works identifies this field as supporting workforce needs within Louisiana’s healthcare and health services sector.
		DrPH Doctor of Public Health	LA Works identifies this field as supporting workforce needs within Louisiana’s healthcare and health services sector.
	Nunez	None	
	SUNO	AccB Communications and Media Studies	
		AccB Public Health	LA Works identifies this field as supporting workforce needs within Louisiana’s healthcare and health services sector.
	LSUNO	BS Data Science	LED FastStart agrees with the need.

RLMA	Institution	Program Name	State Industry Need
2	BRCC	AAS Physical Therapy Assistant	LA Works identifies this field as an area of sustained workforce demand within Louisiana's healthcare sector.
	LSU A&M	MS Artificial Intelligence Applications & Solutions	LED FastStart agrees with the need.
		EdD Organizations and Human Sciences	LED FastStart has many projects with workforce needs requiring this education.
		DBA Doctor in Business Administration	LED FastStart has many projects with workforce needs requiring this education.
	NTCC	None	
	RPCC	None	
	Southeastern	AccB Business and Technology	LED FastStart has many projects with workforce needs requiring this education.
	SUBR	MS/PhD Agricultural Sciences & Technology	LED FastStart agrees with the need.

RLMA	Institution	Program Name	State Industry Need
3	Fletcher	AS Teaching Grades 1–5	LA Works identifies this program as aligned with demonstrated workforce needs for qualified educators in Louisiana.
		AAS Construction Management*	LED FastStart has some projects with workforce needs requiring this education. LA Works identifies this program as aligned with current and projected workforce demand in Louisiana’s construction and industrial sectors.
	Nicholls	AccB Information Technology	LED FastStart agrees with the need.

*This program will be presented as a part of cooperative academic arrangement.

RLMA	Institution	Program Name	State Industry Need
4	LSUE	AAS DMS Echocardiography and Vascular	LA Works identifies this field as an area of sustained workforce demand within Louisiana's healthcare sector.
		AAS Construction Management*	LED FastStart has some projects with workforce needs requiring this education. LA Works identifies this program as aligned with current and projected workforce demand in Louisiana's construction and industrial sectors.
	SoLACC	AAS Accounting	LED FastStart agrees with the need.
		AAS Construction Management*	LED FastStart has some projects with workforce needs requiring this education. LA Works identifies this program as aligned with current and projected workforce demand in Louisiana's construction and industrial sectors.
	ULL	BS Dental Hygiene	LA Works identifies this field as an area of sustained workforce demand within Louisiana's healthcare sector.
5	McNeese	AccB Teacher Education	LA Works identifies this program as aligned with demonstrated workforce needs for qualified educators in Louisiana.
	SOWELA	AS Teaching	LA Works identifies this program as aligned with demonstrated workforce needs for qualified educators in Louisiana.

*This program will be presented as a cooperative academic arrangement.

RLMA	Institution	Program Name	State Industry Need
6	CLTCC	AAS Instrumentation and Electrical	LED FastStart has many projects with workforce needs requiring this education. LA Works identifies this field as aligned with current and projected workforce demand.
		AS Construction Management*	LED FastStart has many projects with workforce needs requiring this education. LA Works identifies this program as aligned with current and projected workforce demand in Louisiana's construction and industrial sectors.
	LSUA	None	
7	BPCC	None	
	GSU	DNP Nursing Practice	LA Works identifies this field as an area of sustained workforce demand within Louisiana's healthcare sector.
		MS Advanced Cybersecurity	LED FastStart agrees with the need.
	LA Tech	None	
	LSUHSC-S	None	
	LSUS	BS Supply Chain Management and Logistics	LED FastStart has many projects with workforce needs requiring this education. LA Works identifies this field as aligned with current and projected workforce demand.
		MS Biotechnology	LED FastStart agrees with the need.
	NLTCC	AAS Career Technical Education (CTE) Educator	LA Works identifies this program as aligned with demonstrated workforce needs for qualified educators in Louisiana.

	Northwestern	MBA Business Administration	LED FastStart agrees with the need.
	SUSLA	None	

*This program will be presented as part of a cooperative academic arrangement.

RLMA	Institution	Program Name	State Industry Need
8	LDCC	AAS Agribusiness & Crop Science	
	ULM	AccB Pharmacology and Toxicology	LA Works identifies this field as supporting workforce needs within Louisiana's healthcare and health services sector.
		MS Software Development	LED FastStart agrees with the need.

KEY:

AAS = Associate of Applied Science

AAS DMS = Associate of Applied Science Diagnostic Medical Sonography

AccB = Accelerated Bachelor's

AS = Associate of Science

BS = Bachelor of Science

DBA = Doctor of Business

DrPH = Doctor of Public Health

EdD = Doctor of Education

MBA = Master of Business Administration

MS = Master of Science

OTD = Doctor of Occupational Therapy

PhD = Doctor of Philosophy

PsyD = Doctor of Psychology

Attachment B – Progress Reports

NOTE: A key to degree types is provided at the end of this document.

The following degree programs have demonstrated strong enrollment, have met or exceeded minimum completion threshold requirements, and are on track to meet accreditation requirements if applicable. No further reporting is required for these programs.

Baton Rouge Community College	AAS Computing and Information Systems
Bossier Parish Community College	AAS Fire Science
Bossier Parish Community College	AAS Cyber Security
Fletcher Technical Community College	AAS Care and Development of Young Children
LSU A&M	PhD Biological Engineering
LSU A&M	DDes in Cultural Preservation
LSU A&M	PhD Industrial Engineering
LSU A&M	PhD Construction Management
LSU A&M	GC Cybersecurity Risk Management
LSU A&M	PhD in Geography
LSU Alexandria	Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS)
McNeese State University	DNP Advanced Practice Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing
McNeese State University	MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Nicholls State University	MS Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics Leadership
Nicholls State University	BS in Safety Management
Northwest LA Technical Community College	AAS Practical Nursing
River Parishes Community College	AAS Systems Administration
Southeastern Louisiana University	MS Child Life
Southern University and A&M College	BM in Music
University of Louisiana at Monroe	DPT Physical Therapy
University of Louisiana at Monroe	PhD Pharmacy
University of Louisiana at Monroe	PhD Pharmacology
University of Louisiana at Monroe	BS Occupational Therapy Assistant

The following degree programs have demonstrated successful implementation and show satisfactory progress through enrollment and completion growth. The next report for these programs will be due with the 2027 Academic Plans.

Baton Rouge Community College	AA American Sign Language Studies
Baton Rouge Community College	AAS in Aviation Maintenance Technology
Bossier Parish Community College	AAS Software Development
Bossier Parish Community College	AAS Diagnostic Medical Sonography
Central LA Technical Community College	AAS Cloud Computing
Grambling State University	BS in Cybersecurity
Grambling State University	BS Cloud Computing

Fletcher Technical Community College	AAS Computer Information Systems
LSU A&M	MS Financial Economics
LSU A&M	GC Financial Analytics
LSU A&M	GC Preparing Future Faculty
LSU A&M	BA African and African American Studies
LSU A&M	PhD Anthropology
LSU Alexandria	UC Echocardiography
LSU Health Sciences Center - NO	BS in Public Health
LSU Health Sciences Center - NO	PhD Nursing
LSU Shreveport	BS Mass Communication
LSU Shreveport	BS Occupational Physiology
LSU Shreveport	GC Nonprofit Administration
Louisiana Delta Community College	AAS Technical Studies
Louisiana Tech University	UC Professional Land Surveyor
Louisiana Tech University	UC Sport Coaching
LSU New Orleans	GC Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence
LSU New Orleans	BS Urban Construction Management
LSU New Orleans	PhD Justice Studies
LSU New Orleans	MA Justice Studies
Nicholls State University	BS in Petroleum Engineering Technology
Northwestern State University	BS Sports and Recreation Management
Northwestern State University	UC Medical Humanities
Northwestern State University	MS Computer Information Systems
Northwestern State University	BFA Production and Design
Northwestern State University	BFA Musical Theatre
Nunez Community College	AAS Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
Nunez Community College	AAS Electrical Construction
Nunez Community College	AAS Instrumentation
Nunez Community College	AAS Wind Energy Technology
Nunez Community College	AAS Emergency Medical Services Paramedic
Nunez Community College	AAS Computer Science
River Parishes Community College	AAS Criminal Justice
South Louisiana Community College	AAS Medical Assistant
South Louisiana Community College	AS Health Studies
Southeastern Louisiana University	BA World Languages
Southeastern Louisiana University	MS Athletic Training
Southeastern Louisiana University	BA Theatre
Southeastern Louisiana University	MS Computer Networking and Administration
Southeastern Louisiana University	MSW Social Work
Southeastern Louisiana University	BS Integrated Science and Technology
Southern University and A&M College	MAT in Multiple Levels
Southern University and A&M College	BS Hospitality and Food Industry Leadership
Southern University and A&M College	BS Computer Engineering
Southern University and A&M College	BS Construction Management

Southern University in New Orleans
 Southern University in New Orleans
 Southern University in New Orleans
 Southern University in New Orleans
 Southern University in Shreveport
 Southern University in Shreveport
 Southern University in Shreveport
 Southern University in Shreveport
 University of Louisiana at Lafayette
 University of Louisiana at Lafayette
 University of Louisiana at Lafayette
 University of Louisiana at Lafayette
 University of Louisiana at Lafayette
 University of Louisiana at Monroe
 University of Louisiana at Monroe
 University of Louisiana at Monroe
 University of Louisiana at Monroe
 University of Louisiana at Monroe
 University of Louisiana at Monroe

BS Nursing - BSN
 MAT Elementary/Special Education Mild/Mod Grades 1-5
 MAT Secondary/Special Education Mild/Mod Grades 6-12
 BS Cybersecurity
 AAS in Polysomnographic Technology
 AS Teaching, Grades 1-5
 AAS Engineering Technology
 CAS Cybersecurity
 PhD in Earth and Energy Sciences
 MS in Environmental Resource Science
 MS Athletic Training
 MS Industrial Chemistry
 MAT Elementary Education, Grades 1-5
 BA Music
 OTD Occupational Therapy
 BAS Organizational Leadership
 PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy
 PhD in Family Systems
 UC Spanish for Medical Personnel

The following programs have demonstrated some progress since implementation but have not met enrollment and completion expectations in a reasonable time frame. Regents staff will meet with institutions to identify and address program issues. An institutional action plan for program improvement is due January 15, 2027, and a report on progress toward meeting enrollment and completion expectations is due June 1, 2027.

Louisiana Tech University
 Louisiana Tech University
 Louisiana Tech University
 Louisiana Tech University
 Louisiana Tech University
 LSU A&M
 LSU A&M
 LSU Health Sciences Center - NO
 LSU Health Sciences Center - Shrv
 LSU Health Sciences Center - Shrv
 LSU New Orleans
 LSU Shreveport
 LSU Shreveport
 Southeastern Louisiana University
 Southeastern Louisiana University
 Southern University in Shreveport
 University of Louisiana at Monroe

UC Biological Visualization
 UC Business Data Analytics
 UC Medical Physics
 GC Business Data Analytics
 GC Health Sciences
 GC Agribusiness
 PhD Statistics
 UC Categorical Medical Laboratory Science
 PhD Rehabilitation Sciences
 BS Cardiovascular Technology
 MS Cyber Security & Operations
 GC Occupational Physiology
 BS Nonprofit Administration
 UC Sales Leadership
 GC Sport Management
 AAS Graphic and Web Design
 BS in Unmanned Aircraft Systems Management

The following programs were approved or implemented within the past two years and are on track for successful implementation but do not yet have significant enrollment or completers. The next progress reports for these programs are due with the 2027 Academic Plans.

Central LA Technical Community College	AS Business Administration
Delgado Community College	AA Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Delgado Community College	AAS Invasive Cardiovascular Technology
Grambling State University	PhD Criminology and Justice Administration
Fletcher Technical Community College	AAS Cybersecurity
Fletcher Technical Community College	AAS Cardiovascular Sonography
Fletcher Technical Community College	AAS Radiologic Technology
Louisiana Delta Community College	AAS Medical Laboratory Technician
Louisiana Tech University	DETM Engineering Technology Management
Louisiana Tech University	MS Cognitive Science
Louisiana Tech University	BS Scientific Visual Communication
LSU A&M	BMT Music Therapy
LSU A&M	MS Interior Design
LSU A&M	BS Coastal Meteorology
LSU A&M	BS Fire and Emergency Services Administration
LSU A&M	BS Construction Engineering
LSU A&M	BA Chemistry
LSU Alexandria	BS Cybersecurity Technology
LSU Health Sciences Center - NO	PhD Biomedical Sciences
LSU Shreveport	MS Applied Behavior Analysis
LSU Shreveport	MS Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling
LSU Shreveport	GC Rehabilitation Counseling
Northshore Technical Community College	AAS Patient Navigator
Northwestern State University	MSW Social Work
Southern University and A&M College	BBA Risk Management and Insurance
Southern University and A&M College	BA Digital Media Arts
SOWELA Technical Community College	AAS Respiratory Care
University of Louisiana at Monroe	BS Disaster Management
University of Louisiana at Monroe	BS Integrative Science

KEY:

AAS = Associate of Applied Science
AS = Associate of Science
BA = Bachelor of Arts
BAAS = Bachelor of Applied Arts & Sciences
BAS = Bachelor of Applied Science
BBA = Bachelor of Business Administration
BFA = Bachelor of Fine Arts
BM = Bachelor of Music
BMT = Bachelor of Music Therapy
BS = Bachelor of Science

CAS = Certificate of Applied Science
DDES = Doctor of Design
DETM = Doctor of Engineering and Technology Management
DNP = Doctor of Nursing Practice
DPT = Doctor of Physical Therapy
GC = Graduate Certificate
MA = Master of Arts
MAT = Master of Arts in Teaching
MS = Master of Science
MSW = Master of Social Work
OTD = Doctor of Occupational Therapy
PhD = Doctor of Philosophy
UC = Undergraduate Certificate

Attachment C – Program Terminations September 2026

NOTE: A key to degree types is provided at the end of this document.

- Louisiana State University A&M
 - GC School Librarianship
- Louisiana State University New Orleans
 - BA International Studies
 - MAT Elementary/Special Education Mild/Mod Gr 1-5
 - MAT Secondary/Special Education, Mild/Mod Grades 6–12
- Louisiana State University Shreveport
 - UC Artificial Intelligence
 - UC Cybersecurity and Networking
- LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans
 - PhD Biochemistry
 - PhD Pharmacology
 - PhD Anatomy
 - PhD Genetics
 - PhD Molecular and Integrative Physiology
 - PhD Neuroscience
 - PhD Physiology
- SOWELA Technical Community College
 - AAS Aviation Maintenance Technology

KEY:

AAS = Associate of Applied Science

BA = Bachelor of Arts

GC = Graduate Certificate

MAT = Master of Arts in Teaching

PhD = Doctor of Philosophy

UC = Undergraduate Certificate



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Agenda

Research and Sponsored Initiatives

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

11:05 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. Appointment of Endowed Chairholder without National Search:
Louisiana State University and A&M College

IV. Other Business

V. Adjournment

AGENDA ITEM III.

Appointment of Endowed Chairholder without National Search: Louisiana State University and A&M College

Background Information

Since 2015 the Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars policy has included a provision to waive the requirement that BoRSF-matched Endowed Chairs be filled as the result of a national search to allow an internal appointment to be made. This provision was updated in August 2024 to clarify the requirements of internal appointments and seek documentation verifying that any internal appointment is fulfilling the goals of the Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars program. Institutions are limited in the number of waivers they may request in an academic year.

Staff Summary

Louisiana State University and A&M College (LSU) requests to appoint Dr. Bhuvnesh Bharti, Professor in the Cain Department of Chemical Engineering, to the Gordon A. and Mary Cain Chair in Chemical Engineering #2, a \$2 million Chair matched by the BoRSF in 2000–01 that has been vacant since September 2024. Dr. Bharti, a recently promoted full professor, is described by LSU as “a nationally and internationally recognized scholar in soft matter, materials engineering, and the energy-environment nexus.” His record includes 80 peer-reviewed papers published in prominent journals in the field. In addition, he has secured more than \$11 million in total research support. Support for his research has been provided by all the major federal funding agencies in his field, including the National Science Foundation, NASA, Department of Energy, and Environmental Protection Agency. He is the recipient of an NSF CAREER Award, the most prestigious and competitive grant provided to early-career faculty.

Dr. Bharti’s qualifications are aligned with policy requirements for appointment to an Endowed Chair and he would likely win a national search should one be conducted. All necessary approvals have been secured. If approved, this waiver request would represent the second of LSU’s three allowed uses of the national search waiver provision in FY 2026–27.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Senior Staff recommends approval of Louisiana State University and A&M College’s request to waive the national search requirement to appoint Dr. Bhuvnesh Bharti to the Gordon A. and Mary Cain Chair in Chemical Engineering #2. As stipulated in Board policy, a copy of the Letter of Appointment sent to Dr. Bharti must be submitted to the Board within 90 days of this approval.



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Agenda

Statewide Programs

Wednesday, September 23, 2026
11:10 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. Approval of Rulemaking – Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program rulemaking to amend the administrative rules.
 - B. Home Study Exceptions – Requests for exception to the TOPS statutory provision that requires a student to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth grade
 - C. 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.
- IV. Statewide Spotlight: National Collegiate Recovery Month
 - A. Northwestern State University
 - B. South Louisiana Community College
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

Committee Members: Committee Members: Christy Oliver Reeves, Chair; Wilbert Pryor, Vice Chair; Ted H. Glaser III; Phillip May, Jr.; Terri P. Sterling; Maria Nechaeva (Student Member)

Staff: Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Research and Sponsored Initiatives

AGENDA ITEM III.A.

Consent Agenda: Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program Rulemaking

Rulemaking to amend the Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program administrative rules.

BACKGROUND

Established in 1980, the Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship Program is funded with dedicated monies and awards scholarships valued at \$2,000 per academic year for undergraduates and \$3,000 per year for graduate students, up to a total maximum award of \$12,000. In accepting the Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship, the student agrees to attain a degree in one of the approved majors at a Louisiana public college or university offering such degrees.

Prior to the 2010–2011 academic year, the Program was a loan forgiveness program requiring a student to sign a promissory note to accept the award and to complete an eligible program of study. Due to low interest in the award, the program was converted to a pure scholarship program; however, the administrative rules making this change retained the provisions regarding the loan repayment program. This rulemaking proposes deleting those obsolete provisions regarding loan repayment.

In addition, the current administrative rules provide that a student may receive an award beginning in their junior year of college, and they provide that student may only receive an award for up to two years of graduate school. The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends that these provisions be amended to remove the maximum number of years a student may receive the award such that a student who does not receive the award as an undergraduate student will still be eligible to receive up to \$12,000 in scholarship funds for graduate school; alternatively, an undergraduate student will still be eligible to receive up to \$12,000.

The administrative rules also provide that a student must have at least a cumulative GPA of 2.50 for undergraduate study and a 3.00 for graduate school. The LOSFA Advisory Board proposes reducing the graduate school cumulative GPA requirement to 2.50.

LOSFA ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends that the Louisiana Board of Regents adopt the above-described rulemaking and authorize the Interim Executive Director of LOSFA to publish a notice of intent to make these rules permanent.

AGENDA ITEM III.B.

Consent Agenda: Home Study Exceptions

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

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 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 time frame was beyond the student's control.

Five requests for exception to the deadline to begin a home study program were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting on September 2, 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 deadline to begin a home study program.

AGENDA ITEM III.C.

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.”

Twelve requests for exception to the TOPS requirements were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting on September 2, 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.



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Agenda

Planning, Research, and Performance

Wednesday, September 23, 2026
11:40 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. Consent Agenda
 - A. R.S. 17:1808 - Academic Licensure
 1. Renewal Applications
 - a. Baton Rouge General Medical Center – Baton Rouge, LA
 - b. Central Texas College – Killeen, TX
 - c. Oral Roberts University – Tulsa, OK
 - d. Remington College – Garland, TX
 - e. University of Massachusetts Global – Aliso Viejo, CA
 2. Conditional License Updates
 - a. John Melvin University – Crowley, LA
 - License renewal as accreditation candidate
 - b. Robert Cavalier University – Gretna, LA
 - License extension for six months
 - c. American University of Technology – New Orleans, LA
 - License withdrawal
- IV. Other Business
- V. Adjournment

Committee Members: Ted H. Glaser III, Chair, Judy Williams-Brown, Vice Chair, Blake R. David, Dallas L. Hixson, Darren G. Mire, Christy Oliver Reeves, Maria Nechaeva (Student Member)

Staff: Dr. Susannah Craig, Deputy Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Student Success

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.a.
Baton Rouge General Medical Center
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

BACKGROUND

Baton Rouge General Medical Center, School of Radiologic Technology and Baton Rouge General School of Nursing (BRGM) is a higher education institution with its main campus in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This institution is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and Joint Review Commission on Education in Radiologic Technology (JCERT).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

BRGM offers a Nursing Diploma and a certificate in radiologic technology. The institution currently has 211 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	LA Unduplicated Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	0
Bachelor's	0
Associate's	0
Certificate	45
Diploma	166
Total	211

FACULTY

BRGM has 10 full-time and 10 part-time faculty at various degree levels supporting its programs.

FACILITIES

BRGM offers classroom lectures, laboratories, and clinicals to Louisiana residents. Instruction and laboratory instruction take place at the main campus at the Baton Rouge General Mid City Medical Center. Clinical rotations are held at various hospitals, health centers, and clinics across South Louisiana.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given the programs' scope and the credentials of its faculty, the institution's campus, and program accreditation, Senior Staff recommends the application for license *renewal* from Baton Rouge General Medical Center (BRGM).

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.b.

Central Texas College Killeen, Texas

BACKGROUND

Central Texas College (CTC) is a public institution with its main campus located in Killeen, Texas, with an additional location at Fort Polk, Louisiana. This university is accredited by The Commission on Colleges and Universities.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

CTC offers 27 academic programs that lead to associate of applied science programs, associate of arts programs, associate of science programs, and certificate programs. These programs include subject areas of general studies, social science, applied management, business, social services, chemical dependency, criminal justice, legal studies, cyber defense, cyber and homeland security, hospitality services, information technology, and computer science. The university currently has 70 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	LA Unduplicated Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	0
Bachelor's	70
Associate's	0
Certificate	0
Other	0
Total	70

FACULTY

CTC has one full-time and seven part-time faculty to support its operations at Fort Polk and additional online faculty at various degree levels supporting programs available to Louisiana students.

FACILITIES

CTC offers online instruction, classroom lectures, and classroom laboratory instruction to Louisiana students.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Given its regional accreditation, the credentials of its faculty, and the scope and the credentials of its faculty, Senior Staff recommends that the Board of Regents approve license *renewal* for Central Texas College located in Killeen, Texas.

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.c.
Oral Roberts University
Tulsa, Oklahoma

BACKGROUND

Oral Roberts University (ORU) is a private institution with its main campus located in Tulsa, Oklahoma, with an additional location at Church of the King in Mandeville, Louisiana. This university is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

ORU offers 14 academic programs that lead to bachelor's and master's degrees. These programs include subject areas of religious studies, business, healthcare, sports administration, communication studies, liberal studies, information technology, leadership studies, psychology, and political science. The university currently has 70 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	LA Unduplicated Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	0
Bachelor's	70
Associate's	0
Certificate	0
Other	0
Total	70

FACULTY

ORU has 15 part-time faculty to support its operations in Mandeville and additional online faculty at various degree levels supporting programs available to Louisiana students.

FACILITIES

ORU offers online, classroom lecture/laboratory, and independent study instruction to Louisiana residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.d.

Remington College Garland, Texas

BACKGROUND

Remington College (RC) is a non-profit, postsecondary educational institution with its main campus in Garland, TX. The College has campuses in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, and Shreveport. RC is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC). Louisiana campuses of Remington College are also licensed as Louisiana Proprietary Schools.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

RC offers 12 academic programs that lead to a diploma, associate, or bachelor's degree in a variety of fields including healthcare, criminal justice, business, electronics, and information technology. The institution currently has 103 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	LA Unduplicated Enrollment
Doctorate	0
Master's	0
Bachelor's	3
Associate's	100
Certificate	0
Other	0
Total	103

FACULTY

RC has 26 full-time and part-time faculty at various degree levels supporting programs available to Louisiana students.

FACILITIES

RC offers online, classroom lecture/laboratory, and independent study instruction to Louisiana residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

AGENDA ITEM III.A.1.a.
University of Massachusetts Global
Aliso Viejo, California

BACKGROUND

University of Massachusetts Global (UMASSG) is a private higher education institution with 25 campuses across California and Washington, as well as a virtual campus online. The university was formally known as Brandman University, headquartered in Irvine, California, and was originally licensed in Louisiana under that name. UMass Global is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges – Senior College and University Commission.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

UMASSG offers 38 programs that lead to doctorate, master's, bachelor's, and associate degrees as well as certificate programs. UMASS Global offers programs in Business, Education, Nursing & Health Sciences, Data Science, Psychology, Social Sciences, Communications, and Criminal Justice. The university currently has 33 students in its Louisiana Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment.

Degree Level	LA Unduplicated Enrollment
Doctorate	3
Master's	6
Bachelor's	19
Associate's	4
Certificate	1
Other	0
Total	33

FACULTY

UMASSG has 77 full-time and 727 part-time faculty at various degree levels supporting programs available to Louisiana students.

FACILITIES

UMASSG offers 100% online instruction to Louisiana residents, with in-state clinical placement or field experiences for select programs.

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 University of Massachusetts Global (UMASSG).

Agenda Item III.A.2.a

John Melvin University Crowley, Louisiana

BACKGROUND

Revised Statute 17:1808 requires the Board of Regents to register and license academic degree-granting, postsecondary institutions in Louisiana. Regents' rules and regulations reflect the revised statutes with particular emphasis placed on the attainment of appropriate accreditation. During the initial licensure process, John Melvin University (JMU) identified the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) as its desired accreditation agency.

JMU's stated mission is *"to prepare and empower a diverse ground of Christ-centered students with the knowledge, ethics, and expertise needed to positively impact an ever-changing and evolving world."* The university's primary aim is to deliver high-quality non-denominational Christian education and to engage individuals in challenging academic opportunities that allow them to reach their highest potential.

JMU's initial application materials were reviewed by staff and by an external consultant. Following this process, staff determined that the university merited a limited period of state licensure to allow it sufficient time to seek TRACS candidacy and accreditation. At its meeting in June 2023, the Board of Regents approved a three-year conditional license for John Melvin University with the following stipulations:

1. Beginning June 1 of the first year of institutional operation and on that date every year thereafter during the term of initial licensure, the University shall report the status of its progress toward preparation and submittal of an application for accreditation candidacy through TRACS. This report shall at a minimum evidence attendance and participation of appropriate University officials at periodic TRACS workshops for pre-applicant institutions and general membership meetings.
2. At the end of this period of initial licensure, the University shall provide evidence of submittal of an application for TRACS candidacy. If accomplished, the Regents will consider another eighteen to twenty-four months of licensure. If not accomplished, the Regents will consider denial of further licensure.
3. After submittal of an application for TRACS candidacy, the University shall provide evidence of successful TRACS candidacy status continuation. If granted, the Regents will consider extending licensure to allow for final, full accreditation review. If not accomplished, the Regents will consider denial of further licensure.
4. Upon termination of the allotted time for final accreditation review, the University shall report its TRACS membership status. If TRACS accreditation has been granted, the Regents shall consider issuing a regular 2-year operating license. If not granted, the Regents shall consider denial of further licensure.

STATUS

In accordance with the first stipulation, JMU submitted annual reports in 2024 and 2025 outlining activities related to the establishment and development of the institution, as well as the necessary steps to pursue and gain accreditation with TRACS. In June of 2026, JMU submitted a license renewal application and documentation of their successful submission of an application for TRACS candidacy.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the institution's progress in seeking accreditation and the fact that the Application for Accreditation with TRACS was submitted as required, Senior Staff recommends that the Board of Regents extend the conditional operating license for John Melvin University until March 1, 2028.

Agenda Item III.A.2.b

Robert Cavalier University Gretna, Louisiana

BACKGROUND

Revised Statute 17:1808 requires the Board of Regents to register and license academic degree-granting, postsecondary institutions in Louisiana. Regents' rules and regulations reflect the revised statutes with particular emphasis placed on the attainment of appropriate accreditation. During the initial licensure process, Robert Cavalier University (RCU) identified the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) as its desired accreditation agency.

RCU's stated mission is *"to provide high quality, accessible and affordable distance education offerings that consider prior learning, while providing the skills and knowledge needed to achieve personal and professional goals."* The university's primary aim is to make quality education affordable and accessible to all those on a quest for knowledge.

RCU's initial application materials were reviewed by staff and by an external consultant. Following this process, staff determined that the university merited a limited period of state licensure to allow it sufficient time to seek DEAC candidacy and accreditation. At its meeting in August 2021, the Board of Regents approved a three-year conditional license for Robert Cavalier University with the following stipulations:

1. Beginning September 1 of the first year of institutional operation and on that date every year thereafter during the term of initial licensure, the University shall report the status of its progress toward preparation and submittal of an application for accreditation candidacy through DEAC. This report shall at a minimum evidence attendance and participation of appropriate University officials at periodic DEAC workshops for pre-applicant institutions and general membership meetings.
2. At the end of this period of initial licensure, the University shall provide evidence of submittal of an application for DEAC candidacy. If accomplished, the Regents will consider another eighteen to twenty-four months of licensure. If not accomplished, the Regents will consider denial of further licensure.
3. After submittal of an application for DEAC candidacy, the University shall provide evidence of successful DEAC candidacy status continuation. If granted, the Regents will consider extending licensure to allow for final, full accreditation review. If not accomplished, the Regents will consider denial of further licensure.
4. Upon termination of the allotted time for final accreditation review, the University shall report its DEAC membership status. If DEAC accreditation has been granted, the Regents shall consider issuing a regular 2-year operating license. If not granted, the Regents shall consider denial of further licensure.

STATUS

In accordance with the first stipulation, RCU submitted annual reports in 2022 and 2023 outlining activities related to the establishment and development of the institution, as well as the necessary steps to pursue and gain accreditation with DEAC. At its meeting in September of 2024, the Board of Regents approved an extension and renewal of the conditional license through September 1, 2026 in accordance with the second stipulation.

RCU submitted confirmation of their Self-evaluation Report and Readiness assessment in February 2026. In July, staff received notice of a site visit evaluation, scheduled for August 11, 2026. BOR staff member, Ms. Courtney Britton attended the site visit as an observer. As the DEAC evaluation team's report and RCU's response will not be heard until DEAC's January 2027 meeting, the school is requesting the extension of the license to allow for final, full accreditation review.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the institution's progress in seeking accreditation and the date of the DEAC meeting at which its application will be considered, Senior Staff recommends that the Board of Regents extend the conditional operating license for Robert Cavalier University until March 1, 2027.

Agenda Item III.A.2.c

American University of Technology New Orleans, Louisiana

BACKGROUND

Revised Statute 17:1808 requires the Board of Regents to register and license academic degree-granting, postsecondary institutions in Louisiana. Regents' rules and regulations reflect the revised statutes with particular emphasis placed on the attainment of appropriate accreditation. During the initial licensure process, American University of Technology (AUT) identified the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) as its desired accreditation agency.

At its meeting in August 2021, the Board of Regents approved a three-year conditional license for AUT. At its meeting in September of 2024, the Board of Regents approved an extension and renewal of the conditional license, contingent on AUT submitting documentation of its submission of an application for Accreditation to staff by February 1, 2025. The renewal was to run through September 1, 2026.

While working through the accreditation process, AUT received a license for an international sister institution under the name American Open University. Based on the recommendation from DEAC, due to the impact of a possible name change, AUT paused enrollment of students in September of 2025 and no longer has any enrolled students. After continued discussions with DEAC, the AUT is closing and withdrawing its conditional license.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the institution's communications, the completed teach-out of any students, and the accreditor's recommendation, Senior Staff recommends that the Board of Regents recognize the withdrawal of the conditional operating license for American University of Technology (AUT).

Proposed 2027 Board of Regents Calendar of Meetings

	Time	Room	Reason
January 2027			
Thursday, January 28	10:00 am	Purchase ¹	Oaths, Committee and Board Meetings
February 2027 – no meeting			
March 2027			
Wednesday, March 24	9:00 am	Iowa Purchase	Board Development Committee and Board Meetings
April 2027			
Wednesday, April 28	9:00 am	Iowa Purchase	Board Development Committee and Board Meetings
May 2027 – no meeting			
June 2027			
Wednesday, June 23	9:00 am 10:30 am	Iowa Purchase	Board Development, Committee and Board Meetings
July 2027 – no meeting			
August 2027			
Wednesday, August 18 (joint meeting)	9:00 am	Purchase TJ A&B	Joint BOR/BESE, Committee and Board Meetings
September 2027			
Tuesday, September 21	9:00 am- 4:30 pm	BCR ²	Budget Hearings
Wednesday, September 22	9:00 am	Purchase	Committee and Board Meetings
October 2027			
Tuesday, October 19	Noon	Off site	Board Development
Wednesday, October 20	9:00 am	Off site	Committee and Board Meetings
November 2027	No Board Meeting		
December 2027			
Tuesday, December 7	6:00 pm	TBD	Board Holiday Social
Wednesday, December 8	9:00 am 10:30 am	Purchase TJ A&B	Joint BoR/BESE, Committee and Board Meetings

¹ Louisiana Purchase (Purchase) Room (1-100), Claiborne Building, 1201 N. 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

² Board Conference Room (BCR), (6-242), Claiborne Building, 1201 N. 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802