

Louisiana Believes

Office Hours
April 29, 2020

Student Opportunities Office Hours and Resource Links

Student Opportunities Office Hours will occur each Wednesday from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. through May 31.

Join via Zoom: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/411290309>

Meeting ID: 411 290 309

Meeting Password: 031058

If you join by calling in, use any of the following numbers:

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Senior Course Credit and Graduation Guidance [Click Here](#)

K-11 Course Credit and Promotion Guidance [Click Here](#)

Financial Aid Planning

The financial aid requirement is waived in that there is a hardship waiver option. Schools can maintain a list of those students and complete a [hardship waiver](#).

For any student needing to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), online and phone support can be accessed by sending a request to ldfinancialaid@la.gov.

It should be noted that, although FAFSA has been waived as a graduation requirement, students and parents need to confirm the FAFSA requirements for TOPS as established by the Louisiana Office of Students Financial Assistance (LOSFA). The FAFSA is still a requirement for TOPS, and other state and federal financial aid.

Financial Aid Planning

There are benefits to still completing the FAFSA; the primary reason is to reduce post-secondary expenses. In addition to state financial aid programs, e.g. TOPS and LA Go Grant, there are also Federal Student Aid programs that require FAFSA completion, including:

Pell Grant

Supplemental Education Opportunity Program/SEOG

Federal Work Study

Federal Direct Loans

Many scholarships, like the Bill Gates Scholarship, require FAFSA completion. Several institutions even use the FAFSA as the scholarship application. Additionally, in order to be awarded scholarships at many highly selective institutions, you must complete the FAFSA and College Scholarship Service Profile.

Industry Based Credentials

- The IBC terminal graduation requirement has been waived for seniors who will graduate by August 31, 2020.
- **The regulatory flexibilities for the Jump Start IBC credential requirement are only for the 2020 graduating senior class.** Students whom would have taken an IBC related to their Jump Start pathway will have the opportunity to continue engaging with content and take an on-time exam or have an opportunity to take an exam at later date as part of continuous learning in their Jump Start pathway this spring/summer or in the subsequent school year(s).

Industry Based Credentials

Industry Based Credential (IBC) attainment

School systems are encouraged to maintain efforts to provide student learning opportunities for the remainder of the regularly scheduled academic year, inclusive of Career and Technical Education (CTE). In that light, you will find CTE focused resources for continuous learning and remote testing options in the [Louisiana Continuous Education Toolkit](#).

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions

Dual Enrollment Update

- The Board of Regents has provided an [updated policy](#) for students currently enrolled in Dual Enrollment Classes and for minimum entry requirements for students seeking entry into dual enrollment classes for the 2020-2021 school year
- Students currently enrolled in DE classes have three options:
 - Complete the coursework online during Spring 2020 for a final grade
 - Transition the class to “in progress/incomplete” and finish by August 31, 2020 for a grade
 - Withdraw from the course with an “Administrative withdrawal”- the date for this is set by the partner institute
 - Further guidance allows for seniors to have the option to take Pass/Fail for a grade, if allowable by the partner postsecondary institute

For more information, please reference the [Board of Regents webinar](#) or the [Board of Regents FAQ document](#)

Advanced Placement Exam Updates

- Advanced Placement Exams will be 45 minute, one question exams, given at home between May 11-May 22 with a make up date of June 1-5.
- The College Board is hosting a webinar for AP Coordinators Friday, May 1 at 12 pm and Monday, May 4 at noon to review the Exam Day experience for students.
- Registration is available on the [AP Coordinators page](#) under the “Register and Watch Now” button.
- College Board has released an updated [AP Exam Day Testing Guide](#). Please share this with AP Coordinators, AP teachers and students.
- Please contact meredith.mcgovern@la.gov for more information

Questions?

LDOECOVID19Support@la.gov