

LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS 2002-2003 INSTITUTIONAL REPORT FOR THE PREPARATION OF TEACHERS

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

Message from the Commissioner:

We in the Louisiana education community are pleased to offer the following reports on Louisiana's public and private university teacher education programs. These reports are an integral component of our continuing efforts to inform Louisiana's citizens about the quality of our teacher preparation programs. Last year, the first factor used in our accountability program was released – student passage rates on the teacher certification examination (PRAXIS). This year, as promised, the formula has been expanded to make the scores an even more meaningful catalyst for continued reform. For 2002-2003, the scores have been calculated using a weighted formula that takes into account each institution's regular and alternate certification completer rate (with extra points for completers who meet definitions for identified shortage areas), the PRAXIS examination passage rate, and the score on a survey measuring completer satisfaction. Teacher preparation accountability is just one of the many benefits Louisiana is reaping from partnerships that have been created between universities and school districts to recruit, prepare, and retain teachers. Our goal is to provide every child in Louisiana caring and qualified teachers in every class every year – to ensure that truly no child is left behind.

E. Joseph Savoie Commissioner of Higher Education

Mission of University

Nicholls State University commits itself to offering an excellent comprehensive education, including a majority of nationally accredited programs, that meets the needs of the communities it serves in south central Louisiana and beyond through teaching, research, and service.

Student Characteristics of University

During Fall 2001, Nicholls State University had a total enrollment of 6,453 undergraduate and 663 graduate students. A total of 2,593 students were males and

Student Characteristics of University (Cont'd)

4,613 were females. The majority of the students were from Louisiana with a total of 7,122 in-state students, 147 out-of-state students, and 76 foreign students. Among students enrolled in the undergraduate program, 1,033 were black, 5,143 were white, and 367 were other races. Among students enrolled in the graduate program, 94 were black, 545 were white, and 24 were other races.

Accreditation and Approval of Teacher Preparation Program

Nicholls State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). In addition, Nicholls State University is accredited with probation by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). All of the university's teacher preparation programs are approved by the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Department of Education.

Notable Features and Accomplishments of Teacher Preparation Program

- Nicholls State University prepares the majority of teachers in Region III.
- In the Spring of 2002, 61 K-12 schools in Region III achieved Exemplary Academic Ratings and 29 were recognized for Academic Growth.
- Nicholls State University, the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education, and Assumption Parish School Board are in the second year of an \$800,000 federal grant to improve teaching of American History in all the schools in four parishes in Region III.
- Nicholls State University and the College of Education are in the final year of a \$1.3 million grant from the US Department of Education (PT3) to train university faculty and K-12 teachers in the integration of technology in academic instruction.

Notable Features and Accomplishments of Teacher Preparation Program (Cont'd)

- Nicholls State University and the College of Education graduated its first class in Educational Technology Leadership, which is a concentration in its Master's Degree Program in Educational Administration and Supervision.
- Nicholls State University and the College of Education in collaboration with the Region III schools consortium partnered to develop an educational technology-training laboratory on the university site. This laboratory trains K-12 teachers, university faculty, and teacher education candidates in the integration of technology into their instruction.
- Nicholls State University was one of three state universities selected to pilot an innovative plan to attract teacher candidates into its Practitioner Teacher Program (implemented as Teach Bayou Region.)
- Nicholls State University has developed Professional Development Schools with Maitland Elementary School in St. Mary Parish and West Thibodaux Junior High School in Lafourche Parish.
- Nicholls State University was awarded \$7,500 for exemplary performance by teacher candidates on the Praxis examination.
- Nicholls State University had all undergraduate Programs approved or provisionally approved for redesign and submitted rejoinders for General Science, Elementary Education, and Social Studies.

Teacher Preparation Program Data

The following data have been provided about the teacher preparation program.

1. Total number of students formally admitted to the regular teacher 506 preparation program and enrolled in one or more courses during academic year 2001-2002 including all areas of teaching specialization.

Teacher Preparation Program Data (Cont'd)

2.	pro tea stu	tal number of students enrolled in the regular teacher preparation ogram and alternate certification program including all areas of ching specialization who participated in programs of supervised dent teaching or supervised internships during Summer 2001, Fall 01, and/or Spring 2002.	224
3.		pervising faculty for supervised student teaching and internship periences.	
	a.	Number of appointed full time faculty in professional education	19
	b.	Number of appointed part-time faculty in professional education who supervised student teaching/internship experiences during Summer 2001, Fall 2001, and Spring 2002.	23
	c.	Number of appointed part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution, who supervised student teaching/internship experiences during Summer 2001, Fall 2001, and Spring 2002.	18
	d.	Total number of supervising faculty for the teacher preparation program during 2001-2002.	60
4.	Stu	dent/faculty ratio for student teaching and internship experiences.	3:1
5.	Stu	dent participation in student teaching.	
	a.	Average number of hours per week required of student participation in supervised student teaching during academic year 2001-2002.	36
	b.	Total number of weeks per semester of supervised student teaching required for student teaching during academic year 2001-2002.	15
	c.	Total number of hours required during academic year 2001-2002 for student teaching.	540

LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS 2002-2003 TEACHER PREPARATION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

In compliance with the Higher Education Act of 1998, Louisiana created a Teacher Preparation Accountability System to assess the performance of teacher preparation programs within the state. During the first phase (2001-2002) of the accountability system, the performance of regular and alternate certification students on the state teachers' examination (PRAXIS) was assessed. During the second phase (2002-2003), the quantity of program completers at each institution and the performance of each institution (e.g., performance of regular and alternate certification students on the state teachers' examination (PRAXIS) and ratings by teachers of their satisfaction of their teacher preparation programs) are being assessed. In the future, additional factors will be assessed to examine such areas as: ratings of programs by first year teachers' mentors; retention of teachers after three years of teaching; and university-district partnerships. The purpose of this accountability system is to clearly demonstrate to the public that all universities and colleges in the state are working diligently to produce quality teachers who work effectively with PK-12 students.

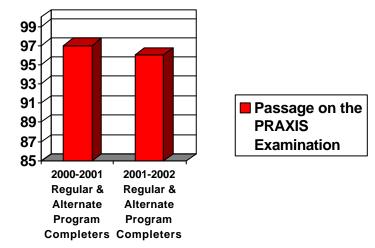
I. INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE INDEX

A. Grade Performance of 2001-2002 Regular and Alternate Certification Program Completers on Certification Index (Percentage of students who passed the PRAXIS Examination)

Grade:	Α
PRAXIS Passage Rate:	96%
Scaled Score:	120

This is a difference of **-1%** when compared to the **97%** passage rate of 2000-2001 regular and alternate certification program completers on the PRAXIS examinations.

The following scale was used to determine passage rate grades: A+ = 98-100% Passage Rate; A = 92-97% Passage Rate; B = 86-91% Passage Rate; C = 80-85% Passage Rate; Below C = Below 80% Passage Rate. See Appendix A for a breakdown of scores.



I. INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE INDEX (continued)

B. Grade for Ratings of 2001-2002 Program Completers on Graduate Satisfaction Survey

Grade:	В
Mean Score of Survey	
Respondents:	116.2
Total number of Survey	
Respondents:	72
Scaled Score:	99

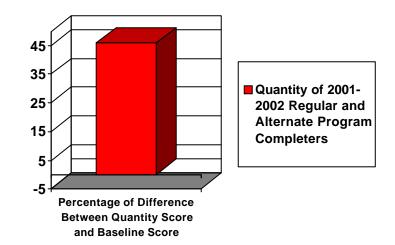
The following scale was used to determine grades for mean responses on surveys: A + = Mean 128 & above; A = Mean 117.0 – 127.9; B = 107.0 - 116.9; C = Mean 93.0 – 106.9; Below C = Mean Below 93.0. See Appendix B for a breakdown of scores. Scaled scores are not assigned for institutions with fewer than 10 survey respondents.

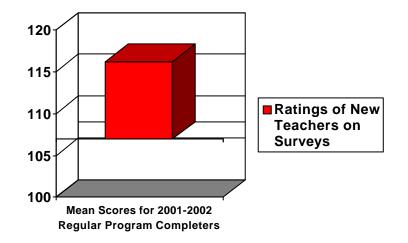
II. QUANTITY INDEX

Grade for Quantity Score

Grade:	A+
Quantity Score:	249.5
Baseline Score:	171
Percentage of Difference:	45.9%
Scaled Score:	140

The following scale was used to determine quantity grades based upon percentage of difference between the 2001-2002 Quantity Score and Baseline Score: A + = +15% and above difference; A = +5% to +14% difference; B = -3% to +4%difference; C = -4 to -15% difference; and Below C = -16%and greater difference. See Appendix C for a breakdown of scores.





III. TEACHER PREPARATION PERFORMANCE SCORE AND LABEL

А.	Teacher Preparation Performance Score	=	Institutional Performance Index + Quantity Index / 2
			{([Certification Scaled Score * .875] + [Graduate Satisfactory Scaled Score * .125]) + Quantity Scale Score} / 2
			{([120 * .875] + [99 * .125]) + 140} / 2
			([105 + 14.5225] + 140) / 2
			(119.5225 + 140) / 2
			259.52/2
			129.76

- *Note:* The Graduate Satisfaction Survey has been given a weight of .125 instead of .25 due to the fact that only the regular program completers were surveyed. During the 2003-2004 accountability cycle, it will have a weight of .25 once it is administered to both regular and alternate program completers.
- Note: The Institutional Performance Index is computed using only PRAXIS passage rate data for institutions with fewer than 10 survey respondents.
- Note: Formula A was used to calculate the Teacher Preparation Performance Score.
- B. Teacher Preparation Performance Label = *Exemplary Teacher Preparation Program*

APPENDIX A

PRAXIS EXAMINATION PASSAGE RATE REPORTS FOR INDIVIDUAL SUBTESTS 2001-2002 PROGRAM COMPLETERS

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

	NUMBER PASSED	TOTAL NUMBER	PERCENTAGE PASSED
2001-2002 Regular Program Completers	146	154	95%
2001-2002 Alternate Program Completers	53	53	100%
Total	199	207	96%

A passage rate percentage of 96% converts to a standard score of 120. The grade is A.



APPENDIX A (CONT'D)

PRAXIS EXAMINATION PASSAGE RATE REPORTS FOR INDIVIDUAL SUBTESTS 2001-2002 REGULAR PROGRAM COMPLETERS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS

All regular and alternate certification students must pass the following PRAXIS subtests to be formally admitted to a teacher preparation program at a college or university in Louisiana. Regular students are those who are completing a program of study to graduate with a baccalaureate degree in education. Alternate certification students are those who already possess a baccalaureate degree outside of education and are completing an alternate certification program to become certified to teach.

Type of Assessment: Basic Skills

- (1) Communications Skills and General Knowledge **OR**
- (2) Reading, Writing, and Mathematics

State law requires all students to take all required PRAXIS subtests prior to graduation, but it does not require students to pass the subtests. Individual institutions have developed their own policies that require students to pass the PRAXIS subtests to graduate.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS IN LOUISIANA

To be certified to teach in Louisiana, individuals must complete an approved teacher preparation program, possess a 2.5 grade point average, pass the Basic Skills subtests, and pass PRAXIS subtests in the following areas:

Type of Assessment: Professional Knowledge

- (1) Professional Knowledge **OR**
- (2) Principles of Learning & Teaching K-6 **OR**
- (3) Principles of Learning & Teaching 7-12

AND

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Type of Assessment: Academic Content Areas
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The subtests vary according to the areas of certification.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1998

The Higher Education Act of 1998 requires all institutions in the United States with teacher preparation programs to issue institutional reports on a yearly basis which contain information specified by the U.S. Department of Education. In addition, the Act requires institutions to provide the public with specific information pertaining to the passage rates of regular program completers on individual subtests. The following pages contain a report developed by the Educational Testing Service to provide a breakdown of program completer performance on individual subtests. A similar report is currently being developed by the Educational Testing Service regarding the performance of 2001-2002 alternate certification program completers on individual subtests. Once the report is received, it will be placed on the Board of Regents web site (http://www.regents.state.la.us).

OF LOUISLAND		EA - Title)2 Acadei					
Institution Name	NICHOLI	S STATE UNIV	'ERSITY				
Institution Code		6221					
State		Louisiana					
Number of Program Completers Submitted		162					
Number of Program Completers found, matched, and used in passing rate Calculations		154					March 18, 2003
						Statewide	,
Type of Assessment	Assessment Code Number	Number Taking Assessment	Number Passing Assessment	Institutional Pass Rate	Number Taking Assessment	Number Passing Assessment	Statewide Pass Rate
Basic Skills							
COMMUNICATION SKILLS	500	35	35	100%	619	619	100%
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE	510	36	36	100%	555	554	100%
PPST READING	710	56	56	100%	422	421	100%
CBT READING	711	55	55	100%	620	619	100%
PPST WRITING	720	63	63	100%	457	457	100%
CBT WRITING	721	48	48	100%	582	578	99%
PPST MATHEMATICS	730	60	60	100%	455	453	99%
CBT MATHEMATICS	731	49	49	100%	651	649	100%
COMPUTERIZED PPST READING	5710				11	10	91%
COMPUTERIZED PPST WRITING	5720				13	12	92%
COMPUTERIZED PPST MATHEMATICS	5730				16	13	81%
Professional Knowledge							
PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE	520	1			89	87	98%
PRINCIPLES LEARNING & TEACHING K-6	522	107	105	98%	1124	1101	98%
PRINCIPLES LEARNING & TEACHING 7-12	524	45	42	93%	544	516	95%
Academic Content Areas							
EDUCATION IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	010				16	15	94%
ELEM ED CURR INSTRUC ASSESSMENT	011	72	71	99%	997	978	98%
ELEM ED CONTENT AREA EXERCISES	012	72	72	100%	995	995	100%

The second secon		EA - Title)2 Acadei					
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					Statewide		
Type of Assessment	Assessment Code Number	Number Taking Assessment	Number Passing Assessment	Institutional Pass Rate	Number Taking Assessment	Number Passing Assessment	Statewide Pass Rate
Academic Content Areas (Cont'd)							
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	020				80	80	100%
BIOLOGY AND GENERAL SCIENCE	030	2			30	30	100%
ENG LANG LIT COMP CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	041	8			104	99	95%
ENG LANG LIT COMP PEDAGOGY	043	8			99	94	95%
MATHEMATICS	060	4			45	45	100%
CHEM PHYSICS AND GENERAL SCIENCE	070				8		
SOCIAL STUDIES: CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	081	8			109	102	94%
SOCIAL STUDIES: INTERPRET MATERIALS	083	8			107	103	96%
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	090	17	15	88%	148	146	99%
BUSINESS EDUCATION	100	2			13	13	100%
MUSIC EDUCATION	110	1			69	66	96%
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES	120	6			15	15	100%
FRENCH	170				2		

THE OF LOUIS AND		EA - Title 02 Acaden				
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					Statewide	,
Type of Assessment	Number Taking Assessment	Number Passing Assessment	Institutional Pass Rate	Number Taking Assessment	Number Passing Assessment	Statewide Pass Rate
Aggregate - Basic Skills	146	146	100%	1681	1672	99%
Aggregate - Professional Knowledge	153	148	97%	1757	1703	97%
Aggregate - Academic Content Areas (Math, English, Biology, etc.)	120	115	96%	1637	1589	97%
Aggregate - Other Content Areas (Career/Technical Education, Health Educations, etc.)						
Aggregate - Teaching Special Populations (Special Education, ELS, etc.)						
Aggregate - Performance Assessments						
Summary Totals and Pass Rates	154	146	95%	1776	1687	95%

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APPENDIX B

2002-2003 GRADUATE SATISFACTION SURVEY

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

INTRODUCTION

To assist the State in collecting data from first year teachers about their preparation for teaching, the Louisiana Department of Education sent surveys to the 807 regular program completers of the 2001-2002 academic year who began teaching during fall 2002. One thousand seven hundred and seventy-six individuals completed regular teacher preparation programs in public and private universities in Louisiana between July 1, 2001 and June 30, 2002. Of those 1,776 individuals, it was determined that 592 were not teaching in public schools in Louisiana, 377 began teaching in Louisiana's public schools during fall 2002. The survey instrument was sent to all of these 807 teachers. Ninety-two percent (n = 741) of the 807 teachers responded to the survey. Additional follow-up is currently in progress to obtain responses from the remaining 8% (n = 66).

The survey was developed by a committee composed of university, district, Louisiana Department of Education, and Board of Regents personnel. It was the committee's decision to align all survey questions with state standards for teachers (e.g., Louisiana's Components of Effective Teaching). Teachers were required to respond to 35 statements using a 4-point scale (i.e., Strongly Disagree = 1, Disagree = 2, Agree = 3, and Strongly Agree = 4). Each item is scored on this 1 to 4 scale, and the scores for the 35 items are added together for a total survey score. If a respondent answers each question, the minimum possible score is 35, and the maximum possible score is 140. A deadline for responding was provided to teachers. A second survey was sent to teachers who did not respond by the deadline.

The Board of Regents approved a policy during March 2003 to use survey scores during a given year as part of the Teacher Preparation Accountability System only if 10 or more individuals from a university or college responded to the survey. For institutions with fewer than 10 survey responses, data from consecutive years will be combined until a total of 10 or more surveys are available.

GRADUATE SATISFACTION GRADES

Grades were assigned to institutions for the Teacher Preparation Accountability System based upon overall mean scores. The following scale was used to assign grades:

A+	128 and above
А	117.0-127.9
В	107.0-116.9
С	93.0 - 106.9
Below C	Below 93.0

OVERALL SURVEY RESULTS

The overall results for the survey were the following:

Ν	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
741	115.8	38	140	16.2

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY SURVEY RESULTS

Ν	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
72	116.2	38	140	17.2

APPENDIX B

2002-2003 GRADUATE SATISFACTION SURVEY (CONT'D)

	Mean		Number of Responses			
	By Item	SD	Strongly	Disagree	Agree	Strongly
Questions			Disagree			Agree
PLANNING	r	1	T	T	1	1
1. Specify learning objectives in terms of clear,	3.60	.57	1	0	26	45
concise student outcomes.	2.00	,	-	Ŭ		
2. Plan a series of activities that help my students	3.46	.69	2	2	29	39
achieve those objectives.			_	_		
3. Successfully identify individual student differences	3.14	.68	1	9	41	21
in the context of a whole class.						
4. Implement accommodations for individual student	3.07	.78	2	13	35	22
differences.	2107					
INSTRUCTION		1	T	T		
5. Consistently stimulate and encourage higher order	3.31	.64	1	4	39	28
thinking at the appropriate developmental levels.						_
6. Identify a variety of lesson materials, in addition to	3.51	.65	1	3	26	42
traditional classroom materials.						
7. Integrate a variety of materials to achieve lesson	3.56	.60	1	1	27	43
objectives.	0.00		-	-		
8. Change or adjust a lesson to respond to my	3.26	.69	1	7	36	28
students' outcomes.			_			
9. Use both short-term and long-term evaluation	3.26	.63	1	4	42	25
methods to measure my student outcomes.						
10. Implement teacher-directed or student-centered	3.36	.66	2	1	38	31
activities that result in student learning.			_	-		
11. Successfully plan for individual student	3.08	.71	1	12	39	20
differences in the context of a whole class.						
12. Open, develop, and close a lesson effectively.	3.56	.63	1	2	25	44
13. Integrate technology into my lessons.	3.14	.72	2	8	40	22
14. Successfully present content at a developmentally	3.36	.59	1	1	41	29
appropriate level.						
15. Effectively use appropriate formal and informal	3.29	.59	1	2	44	25
assessment techniques.			_			
16. Provide timely feedback to my students.	3.42	.62	1	2	35	34
17. Produce evidence of student academic growth.	3.28	.64	1	4	40	26
18. Employ effective teaching practices as modeled	3.27	.68	2	3	39	26
by faculty.	0.27	.00	_	5		
19. Relate examples, real-life situations, or current	3.36	.66	1	4	35	32
events to the content being taught.						_
20. Teach in one or more subject areas.	3.35	.70	2	3	35	32
21. Communicate effectively with students.	3.38	.62	1	2	38	31
22. Encourage participation from all students.	3.43	.60	1	1	36	34
23. Monitor the ongoing performance of students.	3.40	.60	1	1	38	32

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

APPENDIX B

2002-2003 GRADUATE SATISFACTION SURVEY (CONT'D)

	Mean	SD	Number of Responses				
Questions	By Item		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	
MANAGEMENT							
24. Facilitate learning by organizing available	3.38	.68	1	5	32	34	
space, materials, and equipment.			_	-		54	
25. Maintain a positive learning environment.	3.49	.63	1	2	30	39	
26. Create a routine and manage transitions in a	2.44	<i></i>	1	2	21	27	
way that maximizes the time available for	3.44	.65	1	3	31	37	
learning.							
27. Manage and adjust my time to ensure that learning objectives are met.	3.36	.59	1	1	41	29	
28. Clearly communicate my expectations for							
appropriate behavior to my students.	3.35	.65	1	4	36	31	
29. Monitor and respond to appropriate student	3.36	.68	1	5	33	33	
behavior in an effective way.	5.50	.08	1	5			
30. Monitor and respond to inappropriate student	3.26	.73	2	6	35	29	
behavior in an effective way.	5.20	.15	2	0	55	2)	
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT			1	T	r		
31. Encourage parents/caregivers to become							
active partners in their children's education and	2.96	.72	2	14	41	15	
become involved in school/classroom activities.							
32. Provide clear and timely information to parents/caregivers regarding classroom							
expectations, student progress, and ways they	3.14	.70	2	7	42	21	
can assist learning.							
33. Collaboratively and effectively work with							
colleagues.	3.21	.71	2	6	39	25	
34. Understand the importance of and plan for	2.20	70			25	20	
professional development.	3.29	.72	2	5	35	30	
OVERALL							
Overall, how would you rate the effectiveness of							
your teacher preparation program in preparing	3.24	.59	0	6	43	23	
you to improve student learning?							
TOTAL	Mean Items 1 to 34	SD	Number of Responses				
			Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	
Sum of items 1 to 34			0			0	
The last question (overall, see above) was							
answered using a different scale from the rest of	112.94	16.92	45	147	1219	1034	
the items; consequently, this 35 th item was							
included in the overall survey score results							
above, but not in the totals in this row.							

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

APPENDIX C

2002-2003 CALCULATION OF QUANTITY INDEX

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

BASELINE SCORE

A Baseline Score has been established for each individual teacher preparation program in Louisiana. The Baseline Score is the total number of regular and alternate program completers that completed teacher preparation programs between the dates of July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001. The Baseline Score for this university is: **171**.

QUANTITY SCORE

A. 2001-2002 PROGRAM COMPLETERS

One-point is assigned to every regular and alternate program completer that completed teacher preparation programs between the dates of July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2002. The total number of regular and alternate program completers for this university is: 207.

B. BONUS POINTS

In addition, one-half a point is assigned to every 2001-2002 regular and alternate program completer that met the criteria for each of the following teacher shortage areas. The bonus points for this institution are: 42.5.

	Teacher Shortage Areas	# Regular Program Completers	# Alternate Program Completers	Bonus Points
MINORITIES		11	10	21
MATHEMATICS		4	1	5
SCIENCE MIDDLE SCHOO	General Biology Chemistry Physics Earth Environmental	2 1 0 0 0 0 0	1 2 1 0 0 0 1	3 3 1 0 0 0 1
SPECIAL EDUCA	TION	34	8	42
MALE	Early Childhood Elementary	0 2	0 0	0 2
	ISHES – TEACHER PLACEMENT (Parishes: Feliciana, Madison, St. Helena, & Red River)	7	0	7
TOTAL		61	24	85* .5 = 42.5

C. QUANTITY

Quantity Score = 207 (Program Completers) + 42.5 (Bonus Points) = 249.5.

The **45.9%** difference between the Quantity Score (**249.5**) and Baseline Score (**171**) converts to a scaled score of **140**. The grade is **A+.**