

**LOUISIANA EARLY START\* PROGRAM FRAMEWORK**  
*(Effective for Fall 2008, criteria marked with "\*\*\*" are Optional for Fall/Winter 2008 and Mandatory beginning Spring 2009.)*

**STUDENT/HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION**

I. General criteria

1. Student must be at least 15 years of age and currently enrolled in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade at a public Louisiana high school.
2. Student must have taken either the PLAN or ACT (or SAT) assessment and those scores are on file at the high school.
3. Student must be in good standing as defined by the high school.
4. Student must have permission from the high school and their parent/guardian to participate.
5. Student must be eligible to enroll at the postsecondary institution and enrolled in a college course for which dual credit (both college and high school credit) is attempted and recorded on both the student's secondary and postsecondary academic record.
6. To continue enrollment in subsequent semesters/terms through this funding opportunity, student must have successfully completed (earned credit in) prior dual credit courses. If the student resigns or withdraws from a course or enrollment is cancelled, the student must receive permission from both the high school and college to continue enrollment in subsequent semesters/terms.

II. Eligibility criteria to enroll in a **College Level, Degree Credit Course**

1. College Level, Degree Credit Course: A course in an academic subject that generates postsecondary institutional credit and (a) appears on the current Board of Regents' Statewide General Education Course Articulation Matrix (for public institutions) or (b) appears on a list of general education courses approved by the Board of Regents (for LAICU institutions).
2. Student must be on track for completing (a) the Regents/TOPS high school core (for students graduating in 2009, 2010 and 2011) or (b) the Louisiana Core 4 Curriculum (for students graduating in 2012 and beyond).
3. Student must have a PLAN or an ACT Composite score of at least 17 (or SAT equivalent). *\*\*\*Beginning Spring semester or term 2009, student must have a PLAN Composite score of at least 17 or an ACT Composite score of at least 18 (or SAT equivalent).*
4. To enroll in an entry level, college level English course, student must (a) have a PLAN or ACT English sub-score of at least 18 (or SAT equivalent) or (b) meet the postsecondary institution's pre-requisite requirements.
5. To enroll in an entry level, college level mathematics course, and student must (a) have a PLAN or ACT mathematics sub-score of at least 18 (or SAT equivalent) or (b) meet the postsecondary institution's pre-requisite requirements.

III. Eligibility criteria to enroll in an **Enrichment/Developmental Course**

1. Enrichment/Developmental Course: An English or mathematics course that generates postsecondary institutional credit, but not degree credit, and is designed to prepare the student for college-level instruction.
2. Student must be on track for completing (a) the Regents/TOPS high school core (for students graduating in 2009, 2010 and 2011) or (b) the Louisiana Core 4 Curriculum (for students graduating in 2012 and beyond).
3. Student must have a PLAN or ACT Composite score of at least 12 (or SAT equivalent). *\*\*\*Beginning Spring semester or term 2009, student must have a PLAN Composite score of at least 14 or an ACT Composite score of at least 15 (or SAT equivalent).*

IV. Eligibility criteria to enroll in a **Work Skills Course**

1. Work Skills Course: A course in a skill or occupational training area that contributes to a declared Career Area of Concentration and leads to a recognized industry based certification.
2. Student must be on track (a) for completing the Regents/TOPS high school core (for students graduating in 2009, 2010 and 2011) or (b) for completing the Louisiana Core 4 Curriculum (for students graduating in 2012 and beyond) or (c) to graduate from high school (having earned at least 11 Carnegie units if a Junior, or 16 if a Senior) and have declared a Career Area of Concentration.
3. Student must have a PLAN or ACT Composite score of at least 12 (or SAT equivalent) or a WorkKeys Bronze Certificate. *\*\*\*Beginning Spring, 2009 semester or term, student must have a PLAN Composite score of at least 14 or an ACT Composite score of at least 15 (or SAT equivalent) or a WorkKeys Bronze Certificate.*

**POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION INFORMATION**

1. Participating colleges and universities enrolling eligible students in eligible dual credit courses through the Early Start Program will be paid at a rate of \$100 per college credit hour, not to exceed \$300 per course. Non-public high school students are eligible to enroll in dual credit courses, but institutions will not be paid for these students under this program.
2. The Program payment shall cover all costs to the student enrolling in a college course, excluding the costs for textbooks, parking, laboratory fees, etc.
3. Postsecondary institutions shall bill LOSFA for Program payment during the period the billing portal is open for each semester/term for which the student is enrolled. Payment requests received outside of these timeframes will not be paid unless approved by the Louisiana Board of Regents.

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*\*formerly known as Dual Enrollment*