

BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS
Larry Tremblay
Acting Deputy Commissioner

SECTION:

Planning and Research

TITLE OF INITIATIVE:

Student Financial Aid Plan – TOPS

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

ACT 1202 of 2001 House Bill No. 2012 (RS: 17:3048.3) (ACT 1202) (Appendix B) of the 2001 Regular Legislative Session states: "The Board of Regents shall formulate, develop, establish, and implement a uniform Tuition Opportunity Program for Students reporting system for the purposes of policy analysis and program evaluation and for providing accurate data and statistics to the legislature, the governor and appropriate executive branch agencies, and the public relative to the program's impact on the state and on students." The reporting requirements of ACT 1202 include:

- Retention rates of program awards, including percentages of students losing award eligibility due to not meeting academic requirements;
- Persistence rates of students receiving a program award;
- Graduation rates for students receiving a program award, including the length of time required for a student to graduate;
- Number of high school graduates who apply for a program and subsequently enroll in a college or university; and
- Relationship between the courses taken and grades earned by a high school student and the student's score on the American College Test (ACT).

The Initial report was presented in November of 2004 and a follow-up report was presented in November 2007. Regents, in partnership with the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), also responds to ad hoc requests for TOPS data from the Governor's Office, Legislative staff, systems, and the public.

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LINK(S) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Program information and statistics www.osfa.state.la.us
Regents' TOPS Reports <http://www.regents.state.la.us/Reports/topsrptsys.htm>