

**Statewide Programs  
Consent Agenda  
Agenda Item VI.D.1.a.**

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 in the fall and spring semesters of each academic year, to remain enrolled throughout the semester, and to earn the annual credit hours required by the end of the academic year. Section 2103.E authorizes the governing body to grant an exception to these 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.”

Eleven requests for exception were reviewed and approved by the LOSFA Advisory Board at its meeting of October 5, 2017. The students have presented facts and circumstances that the students believe justify the granting of an exception as an exceptional circumstance.

**Agenda Item VI.D.1.b.**

The Board of Regents adopt rulemaking to amend Section 703 of the Scholarship and Grant Program Rules to add Korean as an equivalent to foreign language for the TOPS Core Curriculum for students graduating from high school in 2018 and later.

**BACKGROUND:**

The TOPS statute authorizes the Board of Regents to “establish course equivalencies for any course included in the definition of core curriculum” provided that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) has given prior approval. On August 16, 2017, BESE approved the addition of Korean as an equivalent to foreign language to meet graduation requirements.

The LOSFA Advisory Board recommends that Korean be added as an acceptable course to meet the foreign language requirement for the TOPS core curriculum.