

Existing law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) as a program of merit scholarships for students attending certain postsecondary education institutions who meet specific grade point average, ACT/SAT score, and core curriculum requirements and certain other qualifications. Provides that certain students who graduate from high schools outside La. or outside the U.S. are eligible for TOPS awards under alternative academic guidelines if the student graduated from a high school which meets specified approval or accreditation criteria or the student completed an approved home study program outside of the U.S.

New law additionally provides eligibility for TOPS awards under alternative academic guidelines if the student graduated during the 2009-2010 school year or thereafter with an International Baccalaureate Diploma from a high school located outside La. or the U.S. and approved by the International Baccalaureate Organization to issue such a diploma.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 7, 2013).

(Amends R.S. 17:3048.1(P)(1)(a) and (V)(1)(a))