



any public four-year university in this state, in any regionally accredited independent four-year university in the state which is a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, or in an out-of-state four-year university that is specifically designed to accommodate deaf and hard-of-hearing students pursuant to R.S. 17:5027(C) shall be awarded by the state an amount to be determined by the administering agency in the same manner as provided in Subsection (B) of this Section.

\* \* \*

§5024. Academic requirements

A.(1) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, students shall meet the following minimum grade point average requirements, calculated on a 4.00 scale using only the grades obtained by the student in completing the core curriculum requirements established by this Chapter, for the respective awards:

\* \* \*

(e) For a TOPS-Tech 2Plus2 Award or a TOPS Second Chance Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50.

\* \* \*

B.(1) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, a student shall earn the following minimum test scores for the respective awards:

\* \* \*

(d) For a TOPS-Tech Award or a TOPS-Tech 2Plus2 Award, a composite score on the specified ACT of seventeen or higher or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised version of such test or on the SAT. The student may, as an alternative requirement, have attained a silver level score on the assessments of the ACT WorkKeys system.

(e) For a TOPS Second Chance Award, a composite score on the specified ACT of seventeen or higher or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised version of such test or on the SAT.

\* \* \*

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 2, line 8, after "Honors" and before "Awards" insert a comma "," and insert "TOPS Second Chance"

AMENDMENT NO. 9

On page 2, line 9, after "Performance" and before "Honors" delete "or"

AMENDMENT NO. 10

On page 2, line 9, after "Honors" and before "Award" insert a comma "," and insert "or TOPS Second Chance"

AMENDMENT NO. 11

On page 2, line 23, after "TOPS-Tech" insert "or TOPS-Tech 2Plus2"

AMENDMENT NO. 12

On page 2, line 25, after "Tech" and before "Award" insert "or a TOPS-Tech 2Plus2"

AMENDMENT NO. 13

On page 3, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

§5026.1. Initial Postsecondary eligibility requirements; TOPS-Tech 2Plus2 and TOPS Second Chance

1 A. To be eligible for a TOPS-Tech 2Plus2 Award pursuant to this  
2 Chapter, a student who graduated from high school during or after the  
3 2021-2022 school year shall:

4 (1) Have accepted his TOPS-Tech Award.

5 (2) Have earned an academic associate's degree in an eligible TOPS-Tech  
6 program within two academic years of accepting the award and enrolling in an  
7 eligible institution.

8 (3) Have maintained a cumulative grade point average of a 3.20 on a 4.00  
9 scale as evaluated at the end of each academic year.

10 (4) Enroll in a baccalaureate program at an eligible four-year  
11 postsecondary institution not later than the semester, excluding summer  
12 semesters and sessions, immediately following the first anniversary of the date  
13 the student graduated from the eligible academic associate's degree program.

14 B. To be eligible for a TOPS Second Chance Award pursuant to this  
15 Chapter, a student who graduated from high school during or after the  
16 2021-2022 school year shall:

17 (1) Have enrolled in an eligible four-year postsecondary institution not  
18 later than the semester, excluding summer semesters and sessions, immediately  
19 following the first anniversary of the date that the student graduated from high  
20 school.

21 (2) Have remained continuously enrolled in an eligible four-year  
22 postsecondary institution and earned at least sixty hours of academic credit  
23 within two consecutive academic years of enrolling in an eligible institution.

24 (3) Have maintained a cumulative grade point average of a 3.20 on a 4.00  
25 scale as evaluated at the end of each academic year.

26 (4) Remain enrolled in a baccalaureate program at a TOPS eligible  
27 four-year postsecondary institution.

28 \* \* \*

29 §5042.1. Maintaining eligibility; TOPS-Tech 2Plus2, TOPS Second Chance

30 (A) To maintain continued state payment of any amount pursuant to a  
31 TOPS-Tech 2Plus2 or TOPS Second Chance Award, a student shall meet all of  
32 the following:

33 (1) Make steady academic progress toward a degree as defined by the  
34 administering agency, earning not less than the minimum number of hours of  
35 credit required for full-time standing in each academic year or the required  
36 number of hours needed to complete the undergraduate degree during that  
37 semester or quarter.

38 (2) Maintain continuous enrollment for not less than two semesters or  
39 three quarters in each successive academic year, unless granted an exception for  
40 cause by the administering agency.

41 (3) Maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50 on a 4.00  
42 scale as evaluated at the end of each academic year.

43 (4) Have no criminal conviction, except for misdemeanor traffic  
44 violations.

45 (5) If the student has been in the United States Armed Forces and has  
46 separated from such service, has received an honorable discharge or general  
47 discharge under honorable conditions.

48 B. If at any time a student fails to maintain the requirements provided  
49 in Subsection (A) of this Section, the student is ineligible for further payments.

50 \* \* \*"