CURRICULA: Adds Geometry as a required course for high school students in the career major program

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b) and 5026(A)(2) and to enact R.S. 17:5026(D), relative to curricula; to revise the courses required in the high school career major program; to add Geometry as a required course; to provide for alignment with the core curriculum required for qualification for a TOPS-Tech award; and to provide for related matters.

3 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

4 Section 1. R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b) and 5026(A)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:5026(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

5 §183.3. Career major; description; curriculum and graduation requirements

6 * * *

7 B.

8 * * *

9 (2) The course requirements for the career major shall consist of the following:

10 * * *

11 (b) At least four mathematics credits, including Algebra I, Algebra I Part One and Algebra I Part Two, or an applied or hybrid Algebra course; Geometry or an applied Geometry course; and three two additional mathematics courses from among the following: Geometry, Math Essentials, Financial Literacy,
Business Math, Algebra II, Algebra III, Advanced Math - Functions and Statistics,
Advanced Math - Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus, or comparable Louisiana Technical
College courses offered by Jump Start regional teams as approved by the State Board
of Elementary and Secondary Education. Integrated Mathematics I, II, and III may
be substituted for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II, and shall equal three
mathematics credits.

§5026. High school core curriculum requirements; TOPS-Tech

A. To be eligible for a TOPS-Tech Award pursuant to this Chapter, the
student shall have successfully completed the core curriculum requirements of R.S.
17:5025 or the core curriculum defined as follows:

(2) Math - Four Units

(a) Algebra I (one unit); or both Algebra I, Part 1 and Algebra I, Part 2; or an applied or hybrid algebra course: (one unit) and Geometry or an applied
Geometry course (one unit).

(b) Three Two or more units from the following: Geometry, Algebra II,
Math Essentials, Financial Literacy, Business Math, Algebra III, Advanced Math -
Functions and Statistics, Advanced Math - Pre-Calculus, Pre-calculus, or comparable
Louisiana Technical College courses offered by Jump Start regional teams as
approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Integrated
Mathematics I, II, and III may be substituted for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra
II, and shall equal three mathematics credits.

D. For a student graduating during or after the 2017-2018 school year but
prior to the 2026-2027 school year, to be eligible for a TOPS-Tech Award pursuant
to this Chapter, the student shall have successfully completed the core curriculum
requirements of R.S. 17:5025 or the core curriculum defined as follows:

(1) English - Four Units
(a) English I.

(b) English II.

(c) Two or more units from the following: English III, English IV, AP or IB English courses, Business English, Technical Writing, or comparable Louisiana Technical College courses offered by Jump Start regional teams as approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

(2) Math - Four Units

(a) Algebra I (one unit); or both Algebra I, Part 1 and Algebra I, Part 2; or an applied or hybrid algebra course.

(b) Three or more units from the following: Geometry, Algebra II, Math Essentials, Financial Literacy, Business Math, Algebra III, Advanced Math - Functions and Statistics, Advanced Math - Pre-Calculus, Pre-calculus, or comparable Louisiana Technical College courses offered by Jump Start regional teams as approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Integrated Mathematics I, II, and III may be substituted for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II, and shall equal three mathematics credits.

(3) Science - Two Units

(a) Biology.

(b) One unit from the following: Chemistry I, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Agriscience I and Agriscience II (both for one unit), Physical Science, Physics, or AP or IB science courses.

(4) Social Studies - Two Units

(a) One unit from the following: U.S. History, AP U.S. History, or IB U.S. History.

(b) One unit from the following: Civics, Government, AP U.S. Government and Politics: Comparative, or AP U.S. Government and Politics: United States.

(5) At least nine credits in Jump Start course sequences, workplace experiences, and credentials. A student shall complete a regionally designed series of Career and Technical Education Jump Start coursework and workplace-based
learning experiences leading to a statewide or regional Jump Start credential. This
shall include courses and workplace experiences specific to the credential, courses
related to foundational career skills requirements in Jump Start, and other courses,
including career electives, that the Jump Start regional team determines are
appropriate for the career major.

Section 2. R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b) as amended by this Act shall be applicable to
students entering high school during or after the 2023-2024 school year. R.S. 17:5026(A)(2)
as amended by this Act shall be applicable to students graduating from high school during
or after the 2026-2027 school year.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute
part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 207 Engrossed 2022 Regular Session Hughes

Abstract: Requires Geometry for high school students in the career major program.

Present law provides for the career major program, through which high school students
complete an academic core of courses and a career and technical sequence of courses or
approved training programs that lead to an approved industry-based credential.

Present law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS), including
providing for award amounts, initial eligibility requirements, and continuation requirements.
Further provides for the TOPS-Tech Award for students pursuing certain skill or
occupational training.

Present law provides a specific curriculum for the career major and for TOPS-Tech initial
eligibility, including at least four units of math, one of which must be Algebra I or some
variation thereof. Provides a list of courses from which students can choose to fulfill the
remaining three math credits, one of which is Geometry. Proposed law requires Geometry
(or an applied course in Geometry) rather than including it in the list of course options and
otherwise retains present law.

Proposed law is applicable to students entering high school during or after the 2023-2024
school year.

(Amends R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(b) and 5026(A)(2); Adds R.S. 17:5026(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the
original bill:

1. Relative to TOPS-Tech, add Geometry as a required course for initial eligibility.

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored
are additions.