

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 356 (HB 327)

2025 Regular Session

Chassion

Existing law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS), a merit scholarship program. Provides for academic criteria students must meet in high school in order to qualify initially for a program award, including attainment of a minimum GPA on a specified core curriculum.

Existing law generally requires public schools to use a uniform 10-point grading scale. New law requires schools (both public and approved nonpublic schools), beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, to use this grading scale for purposes of assigning grades used in the calculation of the minimum GPA to qualify for a TOPS award regardless of whether the school uses a different grading scale for other purposes.

New law further requires nonpublic schools that did not implement a 10-point grading scale in the 2024-2025 school year and submitted grades for graduates prior to the effective date of new law to recalculate and resubmit recertified grades for any graduate with a cumulative GPA of less than 3.50 to the state Dept. of Education by Aug. 31, 2025. Provides that this recalculation shall apply to existing law core curricula courses taken in the 2024-2025 school year by any graduating student applying for a TOPS award. Requires the same percentage values as originally assigned to be used in such recalculation.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 20, 2025).

(Amends R.S. 17:5024(A)(1))