



LOSFA

LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

— A PROGRAM OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS —

Minutes Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) Advisory Board Meeting February 21, 2024

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) Advisory Board met on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 11:04 a.m. in the Oliver Pollock Room of the Galvez Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Vice Chair Hooper called the meeting to order and the roll was called.

LOSFA Advisory Board Members Present

Dr. Amy Cable*
Lindsay Carlino
Preston Castille
MaryAnn Coleman
Mary Katherine Hooper
Kristi Lawson
Bradley Meyers
Aimee Thibodeaux

Staff Members Present

Dr. Sujuan Boutté
Rhonda Bridevaux
Alice Brown
Anna Breaux
Danielle Deshields
Connor Ducote
Shanna Estay
Tonya Evans
Ebony Holmes
Brett Hunt
Robyn Lively
LaVonya Malveaux
Jennifer Miller
Robyn Lively
Deborah Paul
Hailey Pellegrin
Tarrandon Pool
Kyleigh Quiroga
April Smith
Terri Underwood

LOSFA Advisory Board Members Absent

Maple Gaines
David Payne

Virtual Attendees

Shayne Creppel
Andrew Granger

**Joined during Program Updates*



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Seven members were present, which represented a quorum.

On motion of Ms. Carlino, seconded by Ms. Coleman, the LOSFA Advisory Board approved the minutes from the January 10, 2024, meeting of the LOSFA Advisory Board.

Staff provided the Advisory Board members with updates on the following LOSFA programs: Louisiana's Saving Programs; College Access, Success, and Communications; Student Engagement; GO Grant; John R. Justice Program; GO Youth Challenge Program; MJ Foster Promise Program; and the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS). The Executive Director Update showcased the TOPS Mid-Year Update along with the LOSFA 2.0 Spotlight Feature, which focused on a webinar for students identifying additional sources of student aid and support. The project involved internal collaboration from Student Engagement, Scholarships and Grants, and College Access, Success, and Communications. Dr. Cable joined during Program Updates.

Under New Business, it was proposed that the LOSFA Advisory Board consider rulemaking to amend Section 315 to add the applicable interest rates for the START Saving Program for the 2023 calendar year.

On motion of Mr. Meyers, seconded by Ms. Hooper, the LOSFA Advisory Board recommended that the Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority approve the rulemaking to amend Section 315 to add the applicable interest rates for the START Saving Program for the 2023 calendar year and authorize the Executive Director of LOSFA to publish a Notice of Intent to make these rules permanent.

Under New Business, it was proposed that the Advisory Board consider the request for exception to the TOPS statutory provision that requires a student to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth grade.

On motion of Ms. Thibodeaux, seconded by Ms. Coleman, the LOSFA Advisory Board recommended that the Louisiana Board of Regents approve the request for Nicolette.

It was proposed that the Advisory Board consider the 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.

On motion of Ms. Carlino, and seconded by Ms. Lawson, the LOSFA Advisory Board recommended that the Louisiana Board of Regents approve the requests for Laniyah (1108832), Zachariah (940051), Priscilla (1076088), Kimora (1028972), Courtney (980812), Akira (1037853), Sarah (882658), Dezirae (1032596), Ashton (990951), Donavan (989249), and Xaia (1040698),

There being no further business, Mr. Meyers made a motion to adjourn at 12:58 p.m., which was seconded by Ms. Thibodeaux.