

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 935

BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER

TOPS: Provides for TOPS awards to students enrolled in graduate medical sciences at certain institutions

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5002(E)(3)(a), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for
3 Students; to provide relative to Opportunity, Performance, Honors, and Excellence
4 Awards; to provide for eligibility requirements; to provide for effectiveness; and to
5 provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:5002(E)(3)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as
8 follows:

9 §5002. Awards and amounts

10 * * *

11 E.

12 * * *

13 (3)(a) Any student receiving an Opportunity, Performance, Honors, or
14 Excellence Award who successfully completes an academic undergraduate degree
15 in less than the eight semesters or its equivalent of award benefits provided by this
16 Subsection shall be eligible to continue to receive all applicable award benefits, in
17 accordance with the limitations as specified in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph,
18 for any remaining semester or semesters or the equivalent thereof of eligibility not
19 used to obtain the undergraduate degree if the student pursues a postgraduate
20 academic degree at an eligible institution and the student continues to meet all

a post-graduate degree program of study. Such award may be administered until it is exhausted.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law authorizes such a student to apply his award to a program at an institution that meets all of the following criteria:

- (1) The institution is not a member of the La. Assoc. of Independent Colleges and Universities.
- (2) The institution offers a graduate program in medical sciences.
- (3) The institution has been physically collocated with a public postsecondary education institution in the state since 2020.
- (4) The institution bills tuition and fees through the public postsecondary education institution with which it is physically collocated.

Effective upon signature by the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:5002(E)(3)(a))