2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1059

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROUSSARD

TOPS: Provides relative to core curriculum requirements for TOPS and TOPS-Tech awards in the subject of mathematics

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5025(2)(a), 5025.5(2)(a), 5025.6(2)(a), 5025.7(2)(a), and 5026(A)(2)(a) and (c), (D)(2), (E)(2), and (F)(2)(a) and (c), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to revise high school core curricula requirements in the subject of mathematics with respect to initial eligibility for a program award; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:5025(2)(a), 5025.5(2)(a), 5025.6(2)(a), 5025.7(2)(a), and 5026(A)(2)(a) and (c), (D)(2), (E)(2), and (F)(2)(a) and (c) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§5025. High school core curriculum requirements; Opportunity, Performance, Honors, Excellence Awards

To be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, Honors, or Excellence Award pursuant to this Chapter, a student shall have successfully completed a core curriculum which consists of twenty units of high school course work as follows:

* * *

(2) Mathematics - Four Units

(a) Algebra I or Integrated Mathematics I (one unit), Geometry or Integrated Mathematics II (one unit), and Algebra II or Integrated Mathematics III (one unit).

~~Integrated Mathematics I, Integrated Mathematics II, and Integrated Mathematics III may be substituted for the Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II sequence.~~

* * *

§5025.5. High school core curriculum requirements; Opportunity, Performance, and Honors Awards; students graduating 2021-2022 through 2025-2026 school year

To be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award pursuant to this Chapter, a student who graduates during the 2021-2022 through the 2025-2026 school year shall have successfully completed a core curriculum which consists of nineteen units of high school course work as follows:

* * *

(2) Mathematics - Four Units

(a)(i) Algebra I (one unit), Geometry (one unit), and Algebra II (one unit). Integrated Mathematics I, Integrated Mathematics II, and Integrated Mathematics III may be substituted for the Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II sequence. The provisions of this Item apply to students graduating during the 2021-2022 school year through the 2024-2025 school year.

(ii) Algebra I or Integrated Mathematics I (one unit), Geometry or Integrated Mathematics II (one unit), and Algebra II or Integrated Mathematics III (one unit). The provisions of this Item apply to students graduating during the 2025-2026 school year.

* * *

§5025.6. High school core curriculum requirements; Opportunity, Performance, and Honors Awards; students graduating in the 2026-2027 school year

To be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award pursuant to this Chapter, a student who graduated from high school during the 2026-2027 school year shall have successfully completed a core curriculum which consists of nineteen units of high school course work as follows:

* * *

(2) Mathematics - Four Units

(a) Algebra I or Integrated Mathematics I (one unit), Geometry or Integrated Mathematics II (one unit), and Algebra II or Integrated Mathematics III (one unit). ~~Integrated Mathematics I, Integrated Mathematics II, and Integrated Mathematics III may be substituted for the Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II sequence.~~

* * *

§5025.7. High school core curriculum requirements; Opportunity, Performance, and Honors Awards; students graduating 2027-2028 through 2029-2030 school years

To be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award pursuant to this Chapter, a student who graduated during or after the 2027-2028 school year but not later than the 2029-2030 school year shall have successfully completed a core curriculum which consists of twenty units of high school course work as follows:

* * *

(2) Mathematics - Four Units

(a) Algebra I or Integrated Mathematics I (one unit), Geometry or Integrated Mathematics II (one unit), and Algebra II or Integrated Mathematics III (one unit). ~~Integrated Mathematics I, Integrated Mathematics II, and Integrated Mathematics III may be substituted for the Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II sequence.~~

* * *

§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, Algebra I Part One and Algebra I Part Two, Integrated Mathematics I, or an applied or hybrid algebra course (one unit), and Geometry, Integrated Mathematics II, or an applied Geometry course (one unit).

* * *

(c) One or more units from the following: Algebra II~~,~~ or Integrated Mathematics III, Math Essentials, Business Math, Algebra III, Advanced Math - Functions and Statistics, Advanced Math - Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus, Computer Science, 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:

* * *

(2) Math - Four Units

(a)(i) Algebra I ~~(one unit);~~ ~~or both~~ Algebra I~~,~~ Part ~~1~~ One and Algebra I~~,~~ Part ~~2~~; Two, or an applied or hybrid algebra course (one unit). The provisions of this Item apply to students graduating during the 2017-2018 school year through the 2024-2025 school year.

(ii) Algebra I, Algebra I Part One and Algebra I Part Two, Integrated Mathematics I, or an applied or hybrid algebra course (one unit). The provisions of this Item apply to students graduating during the 2025-2026 school year.

(b)(i) 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. The provisions of this Item apply to students graduating during the 2017-2018 school year through the 2024-2025 school year.

(ii) Three or more units from the following: Geometry, Algebra II or Integrated Math III, 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. The provisions of this Item apply to students graduating during the 2025-2026 school year.

* * *

E. For a student graduating during 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:

* * *

(2) Math - Four Units

(a) Algebra I~~;~~, ~~both~~ Algebra I~~,~~ Part One and Algebra I~~,~~ Part Two, Integrated Mathematics I, or an applied or hybrid algebra course (one unit) and Geometry, Integrated Mathematics II, or an applied Geometry course (one unit).

(b) Two or more units from the following: Algebra II~~,~~ or Integrated Mathematics III, 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.~~

* * *

F. For a student graduating during or after the 2027-2028 school year but prior to the 2030-2031 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:

* * *

(2) Math - Four Units

(a) Algebra I, Algebra I Part One and Algebra I Part Two, Integrated Mathematics I, or an applied or hybrid algebra course (one unit), and Geometry, Integrated Mathematics II, or an applied Geometry course (one unit).

* * *

(c) One or more units from the following: Algebra II~~,~~ or Integrated Mathematics III, Math Essentials, 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.~~

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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 1059 Original 2026 Regular Session Broussard

Abstract: Revises TOPS core curricula requirements in math by allowing students to substitute Integrated Math I, II, and III for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II, individually rather than requiring that the substitution be done as a complete three-course sequence.

TOPS generally

Present law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS), a merit scholarship program for students who meet certain academic criteria in high school and other requirements. Provides for different award levels based on the student's high school GPA on a core curriculum and his ACT score. Provides for a specified high school core curriculum for an Opportunity, Performance, Honors, or Excellence award and a specified high school core curriculum for a TOPS-Tech award. Proposed law retains present law except for revising the core curricula in the subject of math, applicable to students graduating from high school during or after the 2025-2026 school year, as provided below.

Opportunity, Performance, Honors, and Excellence

Present law requires four units of math in high school. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires three of the four math units to be Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II and allows a three-unit sequence of Integrated Math I, II, and III as a substitute for the Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II sequence. Proposed law instead allows Integrated Math I as an alternative to Algebra I, Integrated Math II as an alternative to Geometry II, and Integrated Math III as an alternative to Algebra II (regardless of sequence).

TOPS-Tech

Present law requires four units of math in high school. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that Integrated Math I, II, and III may be substituted for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II and shall equal three mathematics credits. Proposed law removes present law and instead allows the substitution of individual courses (regardless of sequence) as follows:

(1) Present law requires that one unit be Algebra I, Algebra I Part One and Algebra I Part Two, or an applied or hybrid algebra course. Proposed law adds Integrated Math I as an option for this unit.

(2) Present law, beginning with students graduating during the 2026-2027 school year, requires that one unit be Geometry or an applied Geometry course. Proposed law adds Integrated Math II as an option for this unit.

(3) Present law provides a list of courses that can be used to satisfy the additional units, one of which is Algebra II. Proposed law adds Integrated Math III to this list as an alternative to Algebra II.

(Amends R.S. 17:5025(2)(a), 5025.5(2)(a), 5025.6(2)(a), 5025.7(2)(a), and 5026(A)(2)(a) and (c), (D)(2), (E)(2), and (F)(2)(a) and (c))