
SENATE FLOOR AMENDMENTS

2018 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senator Morrish to Reengrossed Senate Bill No. 452 by Senator Morrish

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Delete the set of five Senate Floor Amendments (SFLBSB452 ELLISB 3447) proposed by Senator Martiny on behalf of the Legislative Bureau and adopted by the Senate on May 2, 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, delete lines 2 through 5, and insert the following:

"To amend and reenact R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(c), 5002, 5024, 5025(3)(c), the introductory paragraph of 5026(A) and (A)(3)(b), 5027(C), 5029(B)(3)(b)(iii) and the introductory paragraph of (D)(1), the introductory paragraph of 5041 and (1)(c) and (4), 5043(1), 5061, the introductory paragraph of 5062(C), (C)(1), R.S. 39:98.3(D), and R.S. 47:1508(B)(17), and to enact R.S. 17:5002.1, 5024.1, and 5062(C)(5), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to provide for a new award, to provide relative to the monetary amounts and eligibility for awards; to provide"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, delete lines 10 through 12, and insert the following:

" Section 1. R.S. 17:183.3(B)(2)(c), 5002, 5024, 5025(3)(c), the introductory paragraph of 5026(A) and (A)(3)(b), 5027(C), 5029(B)(3)(b)(iii) and the introductory paragraph of (D)(1), the introductory paragraph of 5041 and (1)(c) and (4), 5043(1), 5061, the introductory paragraph of 5062(C), (C)(1), R.S. 39:98.3(D), and R.S. 47:1508(B)(17) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:5002.1, 5024.1, and 5062(C)(5) are hereby enacted to read as follows:"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

"§5002. Awards and amounts

A.(1) A student shall be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, Honors, or TOPS-Tech Award based on his academic achievement.

(2) The award amount shall be as provided in Subsection B or D of this Section unless the legislature, by law, increases the award amount.

B.(1) Any student who is eligible for an Opportunity, ~~Performance, or Honors~~ Award pursuant to this Chapter and who has enrolled:

~~(1)(a)~~ **(a)** In any public college or university in this state, **any regionally accredited independent college or university in the state which is a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, or in an out-of-state college or university that is specifically designed to accommodate deaf and hard-of-hearing students under R.S. 17:5027(C)** shall be awarded by the state an amount determined by the administering agency to equal the tuition charged by the public college or university during the 2016-2017 academic year **receive the sum of two thousand two hundred fifty dollars per semester, or four thousand five hundred dollars per academic year.**

~~(2) At any regionally accredited independent college or university in the state which is a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities to pursue an academic undergraduate degree, shall be awarded by the state an amount to be determined by the administering agency to equal the weighted average of the tuition amounts charged to students attending public colleges and~~

1 universities that offer academic undergraduate degrees at the baccalaureate level
2 during the 2016-2017 academic year.

3 ~~(3)(b)~~ In a school that has a valid and current certificate of registration issued
4 by the Louisiana State Board of Cosmetology in accordance with law and that is
5 accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the United States Department
6 of Education or in any proprietary school that has a valid and current license issued
7 by the Board of Regents in accordance with law and that is accredited by an
8 accrediting organization recognized by the United States Department of Education,
9 shall be awarded by the state **the lesser of** an amount determined by the administering
10 agency to equal the weighted average of the tuition amounts charged to students
11 attending public colleges and universities during the 2016-2017 academic year, **or**
12 **two thousand two hundred fifty dollars per semester, or four thousand five**
13 **hundred dollars per academic year**, and who are enrolled in the permitted skill or
14 occupational training, as may be applicable.

15 ~~(4)~~ In an out-of-state college or university that is specifically designed to
16 accommodate deaf and hard-of-hearing students under R.S. 17:5027(C), shall be
17 awarded an amount determined by the administering agency to equal the weighted
18 average of the tuition amounts charged to students attending Louisiana public colleges
19 and universities that offer academic undergraduate degrees during the 2016-2017
20 academic year.

21 C.(1) A student who is eligible for the Performance Award shall receive the
22 sum of two hundred dollars per semester or four hundred dollars per academic year
23 in addition to the amount provided for in Subsection B of this Section.

24 (2) A student who is eligible for the Honors Award shall receive the sum of
25 four hundred dollars per semester or eight hundred dollars per academic year in
26 addition to the amount provided for in Subsection B of this Section.

27 **(2) Any student who is eligible for the Performance, Honors, or Honors**
28 **Plus Award and who has enrolled:**

29 **(a) In any public college or university in this state shall be awarded by the**
30 **state an amount determined by the administering agency to equal the tuition**
31 **charged by the public college or university during the 2016-2017 academic year.**

32 **(b) At any regionally accredited independent college or university in the**
33 **state which is a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges**
34 **and Universities to pursue an academic undergraduate degree shall be awarded**
35 **by the state an amount to be determined by the administering agency to equal**
36 **the weighted average of the tuition amounts charged to students attending public**
37 **colleges and universities that offer academic undergraduate degrees at the**
38 **baccalaureate level during the 2016-2017 academic year.**

39 **(c) In a school that has a valid and current certificate of registration**
40 **issued by the Louisiana State Board of Cosmetology in accordance with law and**
41 **that is accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the United States**
42 **Department of Education or in any proprietary school that has a valid and**
43 **current license issued by the Board of Regents in accordance with law and that**
44 **is accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the United States**
45 **Department of Education shall be awarded by the state an amount determined**
46 **by the administering agency to equal the weighted average of the tuition amounts**
47 **charged to students attending public colleges and universities during the 2016-**
48 **2017 academic year and who are enrolled in the permitted skill or occupational**
49 **training, as may be applicable.**

50 **(d) In an out-of-state college or university that is specifically designed to**
51 **accommodate deaf and hard-of-hearing students under R.S. 17:5027(C), shall be**
52 **awarded an amount determined by the administering agency to equal the**
53 **weighted average of the tuition amounts charged to students attending Louisiana**
54 **public colleges and universities that offer academic undergraduate degrees**
55 **during the 2016-2017 academic year.**

56 **(3) Any student who is eligible for the Performance Award shall receive**
57 **the amount provided for in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection plus a stipend in the**
58 **sum of two hundred fifty dollars per semester or five hundred dollars per**
59 **academic year.**

60 **(4) Any student who is eligible for the Honors Award shall receive the**
61 **amount provided for in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection plus a stipend in the**

1 sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per semester or one thousand five hundred
 2 dollars per academic year.

3 (5) Any student who is eligible for the Honors Plus Award shall receive
 4 the amount provided for in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection plus a stipend in the
 5 sum of one thousand two hundred fifty dollars per semester or two thousand five
 6 hundred dollars per academic year.

7 ~~D.(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Subsection, a C. A~~ student who is
 8 eligible for a TOPS-Tech Award pursuant to this Chapter and who is enrolled:

9 ~~(a)(1) In an eligible public college or university that does not offer an~~
 10 ~~academic undergraduate degree at the baccalaureate level in those associate's degree~~
 11 ~~or other shorter-term training and education programs that are aligned to state~~
 12 ~~workforce priorities as determined by the Board of Regents and the Louisiana~~
 13 ~~Workforce Investment Council shall be awarded by the state an amount determined~~
 14 ~~by the administering agency to equal the tuition charged by the college or university~~
 15 ~~during the 2016-2017 academic year. If the Board of Regents and the Louisiana~~
 16 ~~Workforce Investment Council determine that a program is no longer aligned with~~
 17 ~~those priorities, an otherwise eligible student who had previously received an award~~
 18 ~~and enrolled in that program may continue to use the award.~~

19 ~~(b)(2) In an eligible college or university other than as provided for in~~
 20 ~~Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph in those associate's degree or other shorter-term~~
 21 ~~training education programs that are aligned to state workforce priorities as~~
 22 ~~determined by the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Workforce Investment~~
 23 ~~Council, shall be awarded by the state an amount determined by the administering~~
 24 ~~agency to equal the weighted average of the tuition amounts charged to students~~
 25 ~~attending an eligible public college or university that does not offer an academic~~
 26 ~~undergraduate degree at the baccalaureate level during the 2016-2017 academic year.~~
 27 ~~If the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council determine~~
 28 ~~that a program is no longer aligned with those priorities, an otherwise eligible student~~
 29 ~~who had previously received an award and enrolled in that program may continue to~~
 30 ~~use the award.~~

31 ~~(2) A student who graduated prior to the 2016-2017 school year, who is~~
 32 ~~eligible for a TOPS-Tech Award pursuant to this Chapter, and who is enrolled:~~

33 ~~(a) In an eligible college or university that does not offer an academic~~
 34 ~~undergraduate degree at the baccalaureate level, shall be awarded by the state an~~
 35 ~~amount determined by the administering agency to equal the tuition charged by the~~
 36 ~~college or university during the 2016-2017 academic year.~~

37 ~~(b) In an eligible college or university other than as provided for in~~
 38 ~~Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph shall be awarded by the state an amount~~
 39 ~~determined by the administering agency to equal the weighted average of the tuition~~
 40 ~~amounts charged to students attending an eligible public college or university that~~
 41 ~~does not offer an academic undergraduate degree at the baccalaureate level during the~~
 42 ~~2016-2017 academic year.~~

43 ~~E.D.~~(1) No student shall be eligible for tuition payment pursuant to this
 44 Section for the Opportunity Award, the Performance Award, ~~or~~ the Honors Award,
 45 **or the Honors Plus Award** for more than eight semesters or an equivalent number
 46 of units in an eligible institution which operates on a schedule based on units other
 47 than semesters, unless an extension is granted by the administering agency in
 48 accordance with its rules.

49 (2) No student shall be eligible for tuition payment pursuant to this Section for
 50 the TOPS-Tech Award for more than two years unless an extension is granted by the
 51 administering agency in accordance with its rules.

52 (3)(a) Any student receiving an Opportunity, Performance, ~~or~~ Honors, **or**
 53 **Honors Plus Award** who successfully completes an academic undergraduate degree
 54 in less than the eight semesters or its equivalent of award benefits provided by this
 55 Subsection shall be eligible to continue to receive all applicable award benefits, in
 56 accordance with the limitations as specified in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, for
 57 any remaining semester or semesters or the equivalent thereof of eligibility not used
 58 to obtain the undergraduate degree if the student pursues a postgraduate academic
 59 degree at an eligible institution and the student continues to meet all academic and
 60 other requirements provided by this Section and by rule of the administering agency
 61 for continued receipt of the award as an undergraduate except as such requirements,

1 including requirements provided by this Section for undergraduate students, may be
 2 modified by the administering agency as necessary to apply such requirements to
 3 postgraduate study.

4 (b) In developing rules to implement this Paragraph, the administering agency
 5 shall establish reasonable time lines and deadlines for receipt of any information
 6 required to implement this Paragraph both for current and subsequent students
 7 receiving Opportunity, Performance, ~~or Honors~~, **or Honors Plus** awards and for any
 8 student previously receiving such an award who successfully completed an academic
 9 undergraduate degree in less than eight semesters. Such rules shall also provide for
 10 appropriate notice to all such students of the time lines, deadlines, and rules governing
 11 implementation of this Paragraph.

12 (c) The amount of the award benefits as provided for in Subparagraph (a) of
 13 this Paragraph shall not exceed the amounts determined by the administering agency
 14 to equal the tuition charged for the postgraduate study or for undergraduate full-time
 15 enrollment charged by the highest cost public college university in the state,
 16 whichever amount is less.

17 ~~F. E.~~ No student shall receive a grant pursuant to this Section in an amount
 18 greater than the tuition charged by the institution attended or, if the student is the
 19 recipient of a Performance, ~~or an Honors~~ **or Honors Plus** Award as provided for in
 20 Subsection ~~E~~ **B** of this Section, the amount stipulated therein. The institution shall
 21 credit any amount in excess of the cost of tuition to the student's account to pay room
 22 and board or other cost of attendance.

23 ~~G. F.~~ In lieu of the payment of tuition as provided in this Section, any student
 24 participating in the program provided by R.S. 29:36.1 for persons serving in the
 25 Louisiana National Guard shall receive the tuition exemption as provided therein. In
 26 addition to any other payments provided for by R.S. 29:36.1:

27 (1) For any student who also meets the qualifications provided in this Section
 28 for receipt of an Opportunity Award or a TOPS-Tech Award, the state shall pay on
 29 behalf of such student a sum of three hundred dollars per semester or six hundred
 30 dollars per academic year to be applied toward the cost of books and other
 31 instructional materials.

32 (2) For any student who also meets the qualifications provided in this Section
 33 for receipt of a Performance Award, the state shall pay on behalf of the student a sum
 34 of three hundred dollars per semester or six hundred dollars per academic year to be
 35 applied toward the cost of books and other instructional materials plus the sum of four
 36 hundred dollars per semester or eight hundred dollars per academic year for other
 37 educational expenses as defined by the administering agency.

38 (3) For any student who also meets the qualifications provided in this Section
 39 for receipt of an Honors Award, the state shall pay on behalf of the student a sum of
 40 three hundred dollars per semester or six hundred dollars per academic year to be
 41 applied toward the cost of books and other instructional materials plus the sum of
 42 eight hundred dollars per semester or one thousand six hundred dollars per academic
 43 year for other educational expenses as defined by the administering agency.

44 **(4) For any student who also meets the qualifications provided in this**
 45 **Section for receipt of an Honors Plus Award, the state shall pay on behalf of the**
 46 **student a sum of three hundred dollars per semester or six hundred dollars per**
 47 **academic year to be applied toward the cost of books and other instructional**
 48 **materials plus the sum of one thousand two hundred fifty dollars per semester**
 49 **or two thousand five hundred dollars per academic year for other educational**
 50 **expenses as defined by the administering agency.**

51 **§5002.1. Awards and amounts; exceptions**

52 **A. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 17:5002(B), a student who**
 53 **graduates prior to the 2021-2022 school year and who is eligible for an**
 54 **Opportunity Award pursuant to this chapter and who has enrolled:**

55 **(1) In any public college or university in this state shall be awarded by the**
 56 **state an amount determined by the administering agency to equal the tuition**
 57 **charged by the public college or university during the 2016-2017 academic year.**

58 **(2) At any regionally accredited independent college or university in the**
 59 **state which is a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges**
 60 **and Universities to pursue an academic undergraduate degree shall be awarded**
 61 **by the state an amount to be determined by the administering agency to equal**

1 the weighted average of the tuition amounts charged to students attending public
 2 colleges and universities that offer academic undergraduate degrees at the
 3 baccalaureate level during the 2016-2017 academic year.

4 (3) In a school that has a valid and current certificate of registration
 5 issued by the Louisiana State Board of Cosmetology in accordance with law and
 6 that is accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the United States
 7 Department of Education or in any proprietary school that has a valid and
 8 current license issued by the Board of Regents in accordance with law and that
 9 is accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the United States
 10 Department of Education shall be awarded by the state an amount determined
 11 by the administering agency to equal the weighted average of the tuition amounts
 12 charged to students attending public colleges and universities during the 2016-
 13 2017 academic year and who are enrolled in the permitted skill or occupational
 14 training, as may be applicable.

15 (4) In an out-of-state college or university that is specifically designed to
 16 accommodate deaf and hard-of-hearing students under R.S. 17:5027(C) shall be
 17 awarded an amount determined by the administering agency to equal the
 18 weighted average of the tuition amounts charged to students attending Louisiana
 19 public colleges and universities that offer academic undergraduate degrees
 20 during the 2016-2017 academic year.

21 B. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 17:5002(C), a student who
 22 graduated prior to the 2016-2017 school year is eligible for a TOPS-Tech Award
 23 pursuant to this Chapter, and who is enrolled:

24 (1) In an eligible public college or university that does not offer an
 25 academic undergraduate degree at the baccalaureate level, shall be awarded by
 26 the state an amount determined by the administering agency to equal the tuition
 27 charged by the college or university during the 2016-2017 academic year.

28 (2) In an eligible college or university other than as provided for in
 29 Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, shall be awarded by the state an amount
 30 determined by the administering agency to equal the weighted average of the
 31 tuition amounts charged to students attending an eligible public college or
 32 university that does not offer an academic undergraduate degree at the
 33 baccalaureate level during the 2016-2017 academic year.

34 C.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 17:5002(B), a student who
 35 graduates from high school prior to the 2021-2022 school year and who is
 36 eligible:

37 (1) For the Performance Award shall receive the sum of two hundred
 38 dollars per semester or four hundred dollars per academic year in addition to the
 39 amount provided for in Subsection A of this Section.

40 (2) For the Honors Award shall receive the sum of four hundred dollars
 41 per semester or eight hundred dollars per academic year in addition to the
 42 amount provided for in Subsection A of this Section.

43 D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Chapter, a student who
 44 graduates prior to the 2021-2022 school year shall not be eligible for an Honors
 45 Plus Award.

46 * * *

47 §5024. Academic requirements

48 ~~A.(1) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, students~~ **Students**
 49 shall meet the following minimum grade point average requirements, calculated on
 50 a 4.00 scale using only the grades obtained by the student in completing the core
 51 curriculum requirements established by this Chapter, for the respective awards:

52 (a) For an Opportunity Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of
 53 2.50.

54 (b) For a Performance Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of
 55 ~~3.25~~ **3.0**.

56 (c) For an Honors Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50.

57 **(d) For an Honors Plus Award, a minimum cumulative grade point**
 58 **average of 3.75.**

59 ~~(d)(e)~~ (e) For a TOPS-Tech Award, a minimum cumulative grade point average
 60 of 2.50.

1 ~~(2)(a) For a student who graduated prior to the 2002-2003 school year, the~~
 2 ~~minimum cumulative grade point average shall be calculated by using the grades~~
 3 ~~obtained by the student in completing all classes taken.~~

4 ~~(b) For a student who graduated prior to the 2007-2008 school year, the~~
 5 ~~minimum cumulative high school grade point average necessary for such student to~~
 6 ~~be eligible for a Performance Award or Honors Award shall be 3.50 on a 4.00 scale.~~

7 ~~(c)(i) For a student who graduated during or after the 2007-2008 school year~~
 8 ~~but prior to the 2020-2021 school year, the minimum cumulative high school grade~~
 9 ~~point average necessary for such student to be eligible for an Opportunity Award shall~~
 10 ~~be 2.50 on a 4.00 scale.~~

11 ~~(ii) For a student who graduated during or after the 2007-2008 school year but~~
 12 ~~prior to the 2020-2021 school year, the minimum cumulative high school grade point~~
 13 ~~average necessary for such student to be eligible for a Performance Award shall be~~
 14 ~~3.00 on a 4.00 scale.~~

15 ~~(iii) For a student who graduated during or after the 2007-2008 school year but~~
 16 ~~prior to the 2020-2021 school year, the minimum cumulative high school grade point~~
 17 ~~average necessary for such student to be eligible for an Honors Award shall be 3.00~~
 18 ~~on a 4.00 scale.~~

19 ~~(3)(a) The calculation of the minimum cumulative grade point average~~
 20 ~~specified in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall use a five-point scale for grades~~
 21 ~~earned in certain Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses,~~
 22 ~~gifted and talented courses, honors courses, articulated courses for college credit, and~~
 23 ~~dual enrollment courses as approved by the Board of Regents and the State Board of~~
 24 ~~Elementary and Secondary Education, which may result in a student earning a~~
 25 ~~cumulative grade point average that exceeds 4.00. For such courses, five quality~~
 26 ~~points shall be assigned to a letter grade of "A", four quality points shall be assigned~~
 27 ~~to a letter grade of "B", three quality points shall be assigned to a letter grade of "C",~~
 28 ~~two quality points shall be assigned to a letter grade of "D", and zero quality points~~
 29 ~~shall be assigned to a letter grade of "F".~~

30 ~~(b) The provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph do not apply to~~
 31 ~~students who graduated prior to the 2017-2018 school year.~~

32 ~~B.(1) Except as otherwise provided by this Subsection, a A student shall earn~~
 33 ~~the following minimum test scores for the respective awards:~~

34 ~~(a)(1) For an Opportunity Award, a composite score on the 1990 version of~~
 35 ~~the ACT which is at least equal to or higher than the state's average composite score,~~
 36 ~~truncated to a whole number, reported for the prior year but never less than twenty or~~
 37 ~~an equivalent concordant value on an enhanced or revised version of such test or on~~
 38 ~~the SAT.~~

39 ~~(b)(2) For a Performance Award, a composite score on the 1990 version of the~~
 40 ~~ACT of twenty-three or higher or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or~~
 41 ~~revised version of such test or on the SAT.~~

42 ~~(c)(3) For an Honors Award, a score of twenty-seven or higher on the 1990~~
 43 ~~version of the ACT or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised~~
 44 ~~version of such test or on the SAT.~~

45 ~~**(d)(4) For an Honors Plus Award, a score of thirty or higher on the 1990**~~
 46 ~~**version of the ACT or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or**~~
 47 ~~**revised version of such test or on the SAT.**~~

48 ~~**(5) For a TOPS-Tech Award, a composite score on the specified ACT of**~~
 49 ~~**seventeen or higher or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised**~~
 50 ~~**version of such test or on the SAT. The student may, as an alternative requirement,**~~
 51 ~~**have attained a silver level score on the assessments of the ACT WorkKeys system.**~~

52 ~~(2)(a) For a student who graduated prior to the 2010-2011 school year, the~~
 53 ~~ACT WorkKeys system is not an alternative assessment for establishing eligibility for~~
 54 ~~a TOPS-Tech Award.~~

55 ~~(b) For a student who graduated prior to the 2000-2001 school year, the~~
 56 ~~minimum ACT score for a TOPS-Tech Award is nineteen.~~

57 ~~C. A student who graduated after the 2002-2003 school year but prior to the~~
 58 ~~2006-2007 school year is eligible to receive a Performance Award pursuant to this~~
 59 ~~Chapter if he meets the other requirements of this Chapter and each of the following~~
 60 ~~conditions is met:~~

(1) ~~The student has a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT of twenty-four or higher or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised version of such test or on the SAT.~~

(2) ~~The student achieved a minimum cumulative high school grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale when calculated in accordance with applicable rules adopted by the administering agency and such calculation is based on ten or more of the grades being grades for completion of honors curriculum courses, gifted curriculum courses, or advanced placement courses, or any combination of such courses, and the high school awards grades for such courses on a 4.0 scale or higher.~~

§5024.1. Academic requirements; exceptions

A. Exceptions to the academic eligibility requirements established in R.S. 17:5024(A) pertaining to a student's grade point average, are as follows:

(1) A student shall meet the following minimum grade point average requirements, calculated on a 4.00 scale using only the grades obtained by the student in completing the core curriculum requirements established by this Chapter, for the respective awards as follows:

(a) For a student graduating during or after the 2007-2008 school year but prior to the 2020-2021 school year, the minimum cumulative high school grade point average necessary for such student to be eligible for a Performance or Honors Award shall be 3.00 on a 4.0 scale.

(b) For a student who graduated during or after the 2007-2008 school year but prior to the 2020-2021 school year, the minimum cumulative high school grade point average necessary for such student to be eligible for an Opportunity Award shall be 2.50 on a 4.00 scale.

(c) For a student who graduated prior to the 2007-2008 school year, the minimum cumulative high school grade point average necessary for such student to be eligible for a Performance Award or Honors Award shall be 3.50 on a 4.00 scale.

(d) For a student who graduated prior to the 2002-2003 school year, the minimum high school cumulative grade point average shall be calculated by using the grades obtained by the student in completing all classes taken.

B. Exceptions to the academic requirements established by R.S. 17:5024(B) pertaining to a student's ACT score, are as follows:

(1) For a student who graduated prior to the 2010-2011 school year, the ACT WorkKeys system is not an alternative assessment for establishing eligibility for a TOPS-Tech Award.

(2) For a student who graduated prior to the 2000-2001 school year, the minimum ACT score for a TOPS-Tech Award is nineteen.

C. Notwithstanding R.S. 17:5024, a student who graduated after the 2002-2003 school year but prior to the 2006-2007 school year is eligible to receive a Performance Award pursuant to this Chapter if he meets the other requirements of this Chapter and each of the following conditions:

(1) The student has a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT of twenty-four or higher or an equivalent concordant value on any enhanced or revised version of such test or on the SAT.

(2) The student achieved a minimum cumulative high school grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale when calculated in accordance with applicable rules adopted by the administering agency and such calculation is based on ten or more of the grades being for completion of honors curriculum courses, gifted curriculum courses, or advanced placement courses, or any combination of such courses, and the high school awards grades for such courses on a 4.0 scale or higher.

D. Notwithstanding any provision of this Chapter, a student who graduates prior to the 2021-2022 school year shall not be eligible for an Honors Plus Award.

* * *

57 AMENDMENT NO. 5

58 On page 3, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

"§5027. Postsecondary institution enrollment

* * *

C. Notwithstanding any provision of Subsection B of this Section, any student who meets all applicable initial and continuing program eligibility requirements of this Chapter for an Opportunity, Performance, ~~or~~ **Honors, or Honors Plus** Award may use such award at an out-of-state nonpublic college or university when each of the following conditions is met:

* * *

§5029. Alternative initial eligibility requirements

* * *

B. * * *

(3)(b)(iii) For a student qualifying for an initial Performance, ~~or~~ **Honors, or Honors Plus** Award for the 2008-2009 award year or thereafter pursuant to this Subsection, the student shall have a composite score on the 1990 version of the ACT which is at least one point higher than that required by R.S. 17:5024(B) for the particular award or an equivalent concordant value on an enhanced or revised version of such test or on the SAT.

* * *

D.(1) Beginning with the 2004-2005 award year, a student who does not graduate from high school or complete a home study program shall be eligible to receive an Opportunity, Performance, ~~or~~ **Honors, or Honors Plus** Award pursuant to this Chapter if each of the following conditions is met:

* * *

§5041. Maintaining eligibility; Honors, Performance, Opportunity

To maintain continued state payment of any amount pursuant to an Opportunity, Performance, ~~or~~ **Honors, or Honors Plus** Award once enrolled in college a student shall meet all of the following:

(1) * * *

(c) If at any time a student fails to maintain the cumulative grade point average required for continuation in the program or, as of the end of any semester or term during the academic year, fails to make steady academic progress as defined by the administering agency, such student shall become ineligible for further payments. Payments limited to those provided in R.S. 17:5002(B), regardless of whether the originally granted award was an Opportunity, Performance, ~~or~~ **Honors, or Honors Plus** Award, may be reinstated upon attainment of the grade point average required by this Section for a student to maintain continued state payments once enrolled in college and the standards for steady academic progress as defined by the administering agency, provided that the student has maintained other continuation requirements and the period of ineligibility did not persist for more than two years from the date of loss of eligibility. If this two-year period is interrupted due to a student's active duty service in the United States Armed Forces, the two-year period shall be extended for a length of time equal to the student's active duty service, not to exceed four years, unless the student reenlists in the United States Armed Forces and maintains continuous active duty, in which case the period shall be extended for a length of time equal to the student's active duty service; or unless the student is granted an exception for cause by the administering agency.

* * *

(4)(a) For students qualifying to receive a Performance, ~~or an~~ **Honors, or Honors Plus** Award, have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 on a 4.00 scale at the end of each academic year.

(b) However, if at any time an otherwise eligible student receiving a Performance Award or an Honors Award in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter fails to have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 on a 4.00 scale at the end of any academic year but has and continues to maintain a cumulative grade point average at least equal to that required by Paragraph (3) of this Subsection for continued participation by a recipient of an Opportunity Award, the student receiving a Performance Award or an Honors Award shall remain eligible for state payments but only in the amount provided for in R.S. 17:5002(B) for a recipient of an Opportunity Award. The provisions of this Subparagraph shall apply to all students who receive state payments pursuant to a Performance Award, ~~or an~~ Honors Award,

1 or Honors Plus Award including all such students from the beginning of the
2 program.

3 * * *

4 §5043. Returning students

5 Notwithstanding any provision of this Chapter to the contrary, any otherwise
6 qualified student who meets each of the following conditions and who enrolls as a
7 first-time freshman in an out-of-state college or university, or beginning with the
8 2009-2010 academic year, first enrolls as a first-time freshman in an eligible college
9 or university in Louisiana and subsequently enrolls in an out-of-state college or
10 university, may use the program award provided for by this Section at an eligible
11 college or university in Louisiana in accordance with this Subsection and other
12 applicable provisions of this Chapter; however, the time period of award eligibility
13 set forth in R.S. 17:5002(E) shall be reduced by an equivalent number of units as may
14 be applicable for each semester or equivalent time period that the student is enrolled
15 in an out-of-state college or university:

16 (1) The student has been determined by the administering agency to meet the
17 initial eligibility requirements established by this Section for an Opportunity,
18 Performance, ~~or Honors,~~ or Honors Plus Award.

19 * * *