

# DON'T BLOW YOUR TOPS

## 2023 Graduates You Need to Know This To Qualify for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS)

### Student Information

You are strongly encouraged to register for a Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) Student Hub account prior to high school graduation. The Student Hub allows you and your parents to track your progress towards being eligible for a TOPS Award while you are in high school. To register for a Student Hub account, you will need your LOSFA ID (contact LOSFA) or your Louisiana Secure ID (contact your high school counselor).

In order for LOSFA to receive your high school transcripts and to be able to assist you in tracking your progress towards being eligible for a TOPS Award, your parents must have turned in a LOSFA Consent Form to your school and selected "Yes".

It is very important that your full name, address, and date of birth are correct and that they are exactly the same on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the ACT, and at your high school on your transcript. If your name, address, or date of birth is incorrect, or is different on the FAFSA, the ACT, or in your school records, a determination as to whether you are eligible for TOPS will be delayed.

### Application

**The TOPS priority deadline for 2023 graduates is February 1, 2023.** The final TOPS application deadline is July 1 following the one year anniversary of high school graduation. You **MUST** file your FAFSA so that it is received by the federal processor by July 1, 2024 to receive full TOPS funding. **No payment of a TOPS award will be made until the initial FAFSA or on-line application has been received and you have been determined eligible for a TOPS award.**

Initial application receipt date	Receives TOPS funding for:
Oct. 1, 2022 - July 1, 2024	8 semesters (12 quarters) Beginning with Academic Year 2023-2024
July 2 - Aug. 30, 2024	7 semesters (10 quarters) Beginning with Academic Year 2023-2024
Aug. 31 - Oct. 29, 2024	6 semesters (9 quarters) Beginning with Academic Year 2023-2024
Initial applications received after Oct. 29, 2024	Ineligible for TOPS award

Students who enroll full time before their initial application is received must also have met the TOPS Continuing Eligibility Requirements to be eligible for TOPS funding for semesters, quarters or terms after the semester of first-time, full-time enrollment.

**For Federal Student Aid, TOPS, GO Grant, and other state aid programs: 2023-2024 FAFSA: [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)**  
Federal Student Aid Programs include Pell grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Student Loans (Subsidized and unsubsidized), Parent Loans for undergraduate students (PLUS), and the federal work study program.

## CONTACT LOSFA



Ask LEX  
(LOSFA's virtual response assistant,  
available 24/7 at [www.mylosfa.la.gov](http://www.mylosfa.la.gov))



Visit [mylosfa.la.gov](http://mylosfa.la.gov)



Email [custserv@la.gov](mailto:custserv@la.gov)  
or [GeauxFAFSA@la.gov](mailto:GeauxFAFSA@la.gov)



Schedule Virtual Office Hours  
(Available 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on  
Monday – Friday)



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To Apply for TOPS and all the programs listed above, you must complete all questions on the FAFSA for the school year 2023-2024. **Be sure to PRINT and RETAIN your dated FAFSA confirmation page (with confirmation number) in case verification of timely filing is required.**

## FOR TOPS ONLY:

**TOPS On-line Application:** [mylosfa.la.gov](http://mylosfa.la.gov)

In order to apply for TOPS only using the on-line TOPS application, families must be able to demonstrate that the student does not qualify for federal grant aid. To make that determination, use Finaid's Financial Aid Calculator available on the internet at [www.finaid.org/calculators](http://www.finaid.org/calculators).

Funding for TOPS Awards is contingent upon appropriations.

## Core Curriculum and GPA

Complete ALL courses in the TOPS core curriculum (19 units). Exceptions will not be granted even if a course is not offered at your school.

Upon graduation from high school, you must have attained at least a 2.50 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) on the courses used to complete the TOPS core curriculum, computed in accordance with program rules.

Grades earned for college credit courses taken while in high school through dual enrollment programs are included in the calculation of your cumulative college GPA and will affect your TOPS continuation eligibility.

## ACT and SAT

The ACT score to qualify for the TOPS Opportunity Award is equal to the prior year's state average, but never less than a 20. The minimum ACT score to qualify for the TOPS Tech Award is a 17 (or 920 SAT).

The highest composite score achieved on a single exam of either the ACT or SAT will be used to determine the eligibility. TOPS does not consider the essay portion of the ACT or SAT in calculating the composite score needed to qualify. TOPS does not use a superscore when determining eligibility for a TOPS Award.

For 2023 high school graduates, a qualifying ACT or SAT score must be achieved by the ACT National Test Date: April 15, 2023. A first-time qualifying score earned on the June 10 or July 15, 2023 ACT National Test Date or a first-time qualifying SAT score earned on the May 6 or June 3, 2023 exams will be accepted, but you will be penalized one semester (or two quarters) of eligibility. Initial qualifying scores on special tests taken before July 1, 2023 for students with disabilities will be accepted. A first time qualifying score earned before September 30, 2023, may be accepted if the Board of Regents finds you were prevented from taking the test prior to August 1 of the year of graduation due to circumstances beyond your control and attributable to the administration of the test.

When registering for the ACT or SAT you must enter code 1595 on the ACT registration form or code 9019 on the SAT registration form.

CONNECT WITH **LOSFA**



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LOSFA also uses Signal Vine Text Messaging to connect with students and families.  
To receive important information and updates from LOSFA, sign up for Signal Vine by texting "LOSFA" to 56500.