

Louisiana Believes



Informational Webinar
January 11, 2021

What is Fast Forward?

[Fast Forward](#) was developed to blur the lines between high school, higher education and the workforce as part of a redesigned high school experience. **The initiative creates opportunities for students to earn an associate's degree or gain meaningful work experience through a high-demand apprenticeship program.**

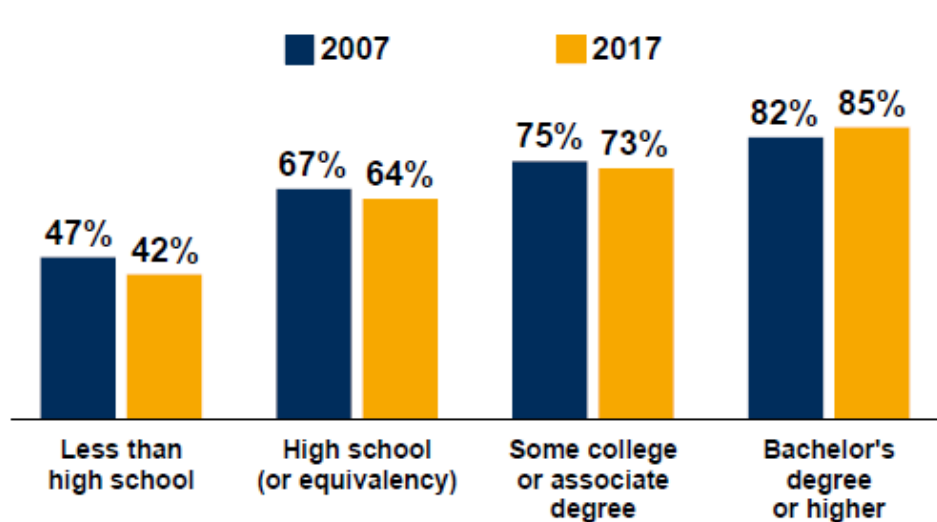
Students on this pathway would spend grades 9 and 10 on their high school campus earning required diploma coursework in core academic areas. Students would then have the opportunity to spend grades 11 and 12 on a postsecondary campus, a high school postsecondary satellite campus or fully immersed in a state-recognized pre-apprentice or apprentice program.

Louisiana Workforce

The entry point for work has shifted. Postsecondary degree attainment greatly impacts employment rates and improves the ability to earn a livable wage.

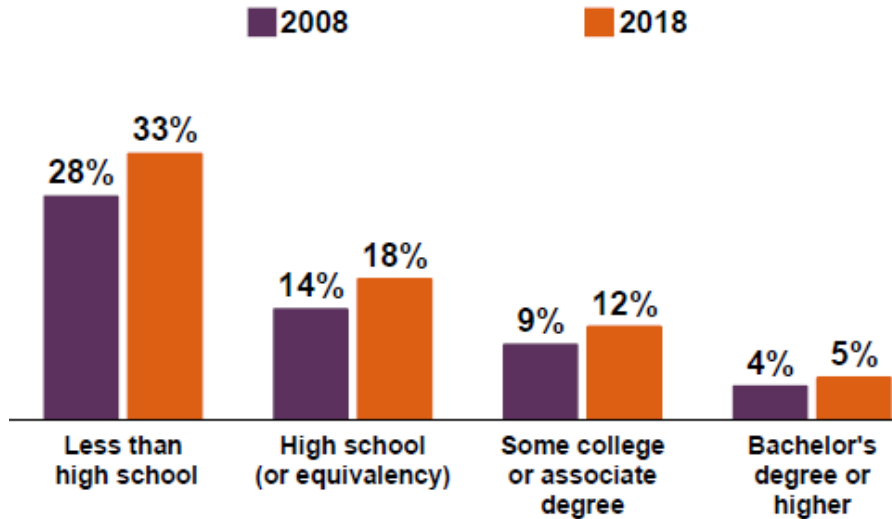
Employment Rates by Education Level

Percentage of All Adults 25-64 in Louisiana



Percentage of Adults in Poverty by Attainment

Adults 25 and Older in Louisiana



College Credit Goals and Recommendations

The **Board of Regents and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education** have a joint goal that beginning with the freshman class of 2025 all Louisiana public high school graduates will complete high school with college credit (academic and/or career-technical), a postsecondary credential of value or both.

The **Dual Enrollment Task Force** recommended each high school student have the opportunity to enroll in at least four dual enrollment courses before graduation, and that the accountability system provide corresponding incentives that reflect the need for career and college readiness.

The **Louisiana Legislature** stressed through ACT 204 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session that *“the availability of dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate courses, or any combination thereof, in core academic areas in all high schools is critical.”*

Dual Diploma Attainment

Associate's degree opportunities for high school students have been underutilized in Louisiana. While the number of school systems offering an associate's degree program in high school has increased, the number of students taking advantage of this opportunity remains small. Graduation cohort data from 2019 shows that only 159 out of 42,650 graduates earned both a high school diploma and an associate's degree upon graduation from high school.

With the appropriate collaboration, structures, incentives and frameworks in place, we believe there is room to increase this opportunity for all Louisiana students.

Fast Forward Pathway Options

Three Pathways

Jump Start 2.0
Associate's Degree

TOPS University
Associate's Degree

High-Demand
Apprenticeship

Jump Start 2.0

Associate Degree Pathway

This pathway encompasses a vast array of careers or postsecondary pathways students may enter after earning a technical associate degree on a postsecondary campus or Board of Regents approved satellite campus and dually earning a Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma. Students will spend grades 9 and 10 on the high school campus earning required diploma coursework.

During grades 11 and 12 the majority of time will be spent on the postsecondary campus or Board of Regents approved satellite campus earning the 9 courses required to earn a Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma in addition to finishing the required coursework and electives to earn an associate degree.

TOPS University Associate Degree Pathway

This pathway allows students to earn a universal [transfer degree](#) from a postsecondary campus while dually earning a TOPS University Diploma. These associate degree curriculums are consistent at all LCTCS campuses and allow students to seamlessly transfer to a four year institution upon earning the degree. Students will spend grades 9 and 10 on the high school campus earning required diploma coursework.

During grades 11 and 12 the majority of time will be spent on the postsecondary campus or a Board of Regents approved satellite campus earning the equivalent dual enrollment courses required to earn a TOPS University Diploma in addition to finishing required dual enrollment coursework and electives to earn a transfer associate degree.

High-Demand Apprenticeship Pathway

This pathway encompasses a vast array of careers or postsecondary pathways students may enter after participating in a Louisiana Workforce Commission approved [pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship](#) program and dually earning a Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma. Students will spend grades 9 and 10 on the high school campus earning required diploma coursework.

During grades 11 and 12 the majority of time will be spent in a state approved [pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship](#) earning the 9 courses required to earn a Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma in addition to finishing the required coursework and electives to complete a full [pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship](#) experience.

Fast Forward Planning Grant

The Fast Forward grant opportunity is intended to fund a lead regional secondary school system in each Regional Labor Market Area (RMLA) to serve as the fiscal agent for a \$50,000 planning grant (\$25,000 Louisiana Department of Education/\$25,000 Board of Regents)

The grant awardee would facilitate the design of a regional Associate Degree and/or fully immersed internship program framework for universal adoption.

These programs will allow students to earn either a Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma or a TOPS University Diploma while dually earning an associate degree or participating in a Louisiana Workforce Commission recognized [pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship](#) that either prepares graduates for career or continuing postsecondary education.

Fast Forward Planning Grant

One grant will be awarded in each RLMA region to a lead school system that will serve as the fiscal agent to dispense the funds to all collaborating schools/school systems and planning partners in the region.

The grant funding may be spent on planning/program design costs to include, but not exclusive of, meeting space, teacher/counselor stipends, travel, intermediary consulting support, equipment, apprenticeship stipends, teacher training, etc.

Key Elements of the Planning Grant

- Lead school system in the region applies for the grant (**school systems are encouraged to collaborate and identify one lead system that would serve as the point of contact and fiscal agent for all schools within the RLMA**)
- Partnership with postsecondary institution(s) and/or apprenticeship organization(s) in the region
- Partnership with labor market organization in the region
- Partnership with high-wage/high-demand business and industry partners in the region

Key Elements of the Planning Grant

- Each applicant is expected to complete an application to **describe the relationships/partnerships with regional school systems aligned to RLMAs, higher education institutions and business and industry, possible Fast Forward Pathways to be developed and piloted, a plan of action for creating pathways (and using the funding) as well as the number of students by school system possibly participating over the next 5 years.**
- The lead regional school systems will be selected based on the **strength/knowledge of regional job market data, potential for partnerships, quality/relevance of the possible Fast Forward Pathways, the ability to serve students and the willingness to create innovative scheduling** allowing for a fully immersed experience.
- Each regional applicant will turn in an application and participate in an interview, as applications are received, with LDOE staff.

SAMPLE Jump Start 2.0 Associate Degree Pathway

Associate of Applied Science in Machine Tool Technology

Sample Student Schedule on High School Campus

Grade 9		Grade 10	
English I	Physical Education I	English II	½ Health ½ Physical Education II
Algebra I	Quest for Success	Geometry	Algebra II
Physical/Environmental Science	Civics	Biology I	Elective of choice
Elective of choice	Elective of choice	Elective of choice	Elective of choice

Student elects a regionally relevant Jump Start 2.0 Pathway and continues Dual Enrollment coursework at the postsecondary campus for grades 11 and 12.

SAMPLE Jump Start 2.0 Associate Degree Pathway

Associate of Applied Science in Machine Tool Technology

Sample Student Schedule on Postsecondary Campus

Grade 11		Grade 12	
DE English Composition	DE Humanities Elective English	DE Machinist II	DE Advanced Millwright
DE Machine Shop Math	DE College Algebra	DE Millwright II	DE Advanced Machinist
DE Orientation to Safety	DE Machinist I	DE U.S. History	DE Natural Science Elective
DE Introduction to Machinist	DE Millwright I	DE Milling Operations	DE Computer Numerical Control
DE Introduction to Millwright			

The student meets the requirements to earn a Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma and an Associate of Applied Science in Machine Tool Technology.

SAMPLE TOPS University Associate Degree Pathway

Regional Associate of Science

Sample Student Schedule on High School Campus

Grade 9		Grade 10	
English I	Physical Education I	English II	½ Health ½ Physical Education II
Algebra I	Quest for Success	Geometry	Algebra II
Physical/Environmental Science	Foreign Language I	Biology I	Foreign Language II
Civics	Elective of Choice	Elective of choice	Elective of Choice

Student elects a regionally relevant TOPS University Pathway and continues Dual Enrollment coursework at the postsecondary campus for grades 11 and 12.

SAMPLE TOPS University Associate Degree Pathway

Associate of Science

Sample Student Schedule on Postsecondary Campus

Grade 11		Grade 12	
DE English Composition I	DE English Composition II	DE Humanities Elective	DE Natural Science
DE College Algebra	DE Math choice	DE Natural Science	DE Literature Elective
DE Biology I for Science Majors	DE Biology II for Science Majors	DE Natural Sc., Humanities or Math	DE Natural Sc., Humanities or Math
DE Biology I Lab for Science Majors	DE Biology II Lab for Science Majors	DE Chemistry I	DE Natural Sc., Humanities or Math
DE Humanities U.S. History	DE Elective Western Civilizations	DE Chemistry I Lab	DE Social Science
		DE Elective Economics	DE Arts Elective

The student meets the requirements to earn a TOPS University Diploma and an Associate of Science Degree.

SAMPLE High-Demand Apprenticeship Pathway

Pre-Apprenticeship Carpentry

Sample Student Schedule on High School Campus

Grade 9		Grade 10	
English I	Physical Education I	English II	½ Health ½ Physical Education II
Algebra I	Quest for Success	Geometry	U.S History
Physical/Environmental Science	Civics	Biology I	Elective of choice
Elective of choice	Elective of choice	Elective of choice	Elective of choice

Student elects a regionally relevant Jump Start 2.0 Apprenticeship Pathway and continues pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship at the training facility or on the jobsite for grades 11 and 12.

SAMPLE High-Demand Apprenticeship Pathway

Pre-Apprenticeship Carpentry

Sample Student Schedule at Pre-Apprenticeship Facility

Grade 11		Grade 12	
SCA Technical Writing	SCA Business English	Carpenter Level 2 - Advanced (2 credits)	Carpenter Level 3 - Residential and Commercial (2 credits)
SCA Financial Literacy	SCA Business Math	CDF-Qualifying CTE Internship I (2 credits)	CDF-Qualifying CTE Internship II (2 credits)
Core - One Trade, Many Careers	Carpenter Level 1 - Basic (2 credits)		
Math for the Trades			

The student meets the requirements to earn a Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma and completes the carpenter pre-apprenticeship.

Grant Timeline

Timeline	
RFA Planning Grant Release	January 6, 2021
Informational Webinar	January 11, 2021
Program Informational Session	Jump Start Convention January 28, 2021
Final Date to Submit Regional Summaries of Planning Grants	February 10, 2021
8 Planning Grant Awards Approved at BESE	March 10, 2021
Regional Program Planning/Design	March/April/May 2021
Final Scholar Pathways Due	May 10, 2021
Pathways Approved by Graduation Review Panel	May/June 2021
BESE Adoption of Pathways	June 16, 2021

Fast Forward Resources

Interested school systems should read the [Fast Forward Planning Grant Request for Applications](#), which includes sample schedules for each pathway, and complete the [Fast Forward Planning Grant Application](#) by February 10.

The RFA, sample pathways, the planning template, the link to the grant application and presentation are available online. Please visit [Fast Forward](#) on the LDOE website.

Technical Assistance

Technical assistance can be obtained by contacting stephanie.marcum@la.gov or attending the Office of Career and College Readiness Office hours each Thursday at 3 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94130675139>

Meeting ID: 941 3067 5139

Passcode: 92FS2D

Dial In: 1-346-248-7799