



**Fast Forward Planning Grant  
 Request for Applications (RFA)**

<b>Timeline</b>	
<b>RFA Planning Grant Release</b>	January 6, 2021
<b>Informational Webinar</b>	January 11, 2021
<b>Program Informational Session</b>	Jump Start Convention, January 26, 2021
<b>Final Date to Submit Regional Summaries of Planning Grants</b>	February 10, 2021
<b>8 Planning Grant Awards Approved at BESE</b>	March 10, 2021
<b>Regional Program Planning/Design</b>	March/April/May 2021
<b>Final Fast Forward Pathways Due</b>	May 10, 2021
<b>Pathways Approved by Graduation Review Panel</b>	May/June 2021
<b>BESE Adoption of Pathways</b>	June 16, 2021

**Purpose**

A lead regional secondary school system in each Regional Labor Market Area (RMLA) has the opportunity to apply for a \$50,000 (\$25,000 Louisiana Department of Education \$25,000 Board of Regents) planning grant to develop and pilot dual degree programs. 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.

These grants have the goals of expanding student access to meaningful dual enrollment opportunities culminating in an associate degree, enabling students to leave high school prepared for career or continuing advanced postsecondary pursuits and allowing students to receive funded college experiences or employment in high wage/high demand occupations.

**Background**

There are relatively few students in the state graduating with both a diploma and an associate degree. While the limited number of traditional school systems with this option has increased, the numbers of students remain small (0.37 percent). With the appropriate collaboration, structures, incentives and blueprint frameworks in place, we believe there is room to increase this opportunity for all Louisiana students.

**Objective**

This program will prepare students for current and emerging professions that expose students to high-skill, high-wage and in-demand occupations. It will assist with establishing statewide industry or sector partnerships among local educational agencies and institutions of higher education, and facilitate the establishment, expansion and integration of opportunities for students to successfully complete coursework that integrates rigorous and challenging technical and academic instruction.

**Potential Award**

LDOE/BoR will award up to eight \$50,000 planning grants to plan and design Fast Forward Jump Start 2.0 and/or TOPS University Pathways. 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.

**Application and Selection Process**

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 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 and scheduling allowing for a fully immersed experience.

A lead regional team designee, whom will also serve as the grant fiscal agent, can request grant funds to strategically plan, design and begin piloting new Fast Forward Pathways that allow students to attend high school on campus in grades 9 and 10 and transition to a postsecondary institution, Board of Regents recognized satellite campus or a state approved [pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship](#) program for the majority of grades 11 and 12. Students that graduate with both the high school diploma and an associate degree or approved comparable credential will have the opportunity to earn enhanced points in the accountability matrix. Proposed Fast Forward Pathways must be aligned to the Jump Start 2.0 Pathways or articulated Dual Enrollment TOPS University Diploma Pathways.

School systems must partner with postsecondary institutions and business and industry partners that align with high wage/high demand occupations in the RLMA to plan, create and pilot these programs. Partnership responsibilities include a job market analysis in the RLMA, decisions on postsecondary programs that match analysis forecasts, non-traditional scheduling to ensure both high school and postsecondary diploma requirements are achieved and course loads are realistic for high school students each semester, intermediary support for completing students to enter the workforce or continue on in postsecondary pursuits and transportation and food service options, if needed.

A webinar for interested partners will be held on January 11, 2021 at 2 p.m.

**Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93645380002?>

**Webinar Phone Number:** 1-470-381-2552

**Meeting ID:** 936 4538 0002

Each regional applicant(s) will turn in an application and participate in an interview, as applications are received, with LDOE staff to discuss the RLMA job market forecasts, relationships/partnerships with higher education institutions and business and industry, and possible Fast Forward Pathways to be developed, piloted, and scaled as well as the number of students possibly participating. A lead regional school system will be selected based on the strength/knowledge of job market data, potential for partnerships, quality/relevance of the possible Fast Forward Pathways, scheduling potential and percentage of students possibly participating.

**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.**

The lead school systems in each RMLA should develop plans that address one or any of the below tracks.

### **Fast Forward Jump Start 2.0 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.

### **Fast Forward TOPS University Pathway**

The Fast Forward TOPS University 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 and the majority of grades 11 and 12 on a 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.

### **Fast Forward 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.

**View the sample Fast Forward Pathways. If awarded a grant, each pathway developed should include the following sections.**

- Name of the degree/apprenticeship pathway and RLMA region
- Overview of the pathway
- Name of the partner institution(s) and potential degree description(s)
- Chart of capstone credentials earned in the program
- Chart of a sample schedule
- Postsecondary or apprenticeship prerequisites
- Funding sources
- Business and industry partners
- Transportation and/or food service plan (if applicable)

Interested school systems should complete the [Fast Forward Planning Grant Application](#).

**SAMPLE Fast Forward Jump Start 2.0 Pathway  
RLMA 7**

**Overview**

The Fast Forward Jump Start 2.0 Pathway encompasses a vast array of careers or postsecondary pathways students may enter after earning an associate degree on a Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) 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 and the majority of grades 11 and 12 on the postsecondary campus earning the 9 courses required to earn a Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma in addition to finishing required coursework and electives to earn an associate degree dually with a diploma.

**Associate of Applied Science in Machine Tool Technology**

The Associate of Applied Science in Machine Tool Technology is designed to prepare students with a combined practical approach to the study of machining and millwright. This program will prepare students to install conveyor systems, connect machinery to power supplies and piping, direct hoisting and setting of machines, and adjust the moving and stationary parts of machines to certain specifications. Students will learn troubleshooting techniques and strategies. They will shape metal parts on lathes, grinders, drill presses, milling machines and computer numerical controlled machines and utilize these parts in the repair of heavy equipment and machinery. The program includes making computations for dimensions and cutting feeds and speeds using precision measuring instruments, laying out of parts, and heat treatment of metals. Students will receive hands-on experience with pumps, gearboxes, and compressors. The NCCER curriculum is used.

**Sample Capstone Credentials**

Regional	Basic	Advanced	Advanced +
Career and Technical Certificate in Machinist/Millwright Helper	Certificate of Technical Studies in Machinist Apprentice	Technical Diploma in Machine Tool Technology	Associate of Applied Science in Machine Tool Technology
	NCCER Millwright Level 1	NCCER Millwright Level 2	NCCER Millwright Level 3 or higher

**Sample Student Schedule**

Grade 9	Grade 10
<b>First Semester</b>	
1 English: English I	1 English: English II
2 Math: Algebra I	2 Math: Geometry
3 Science: Physical or Environmental Science	3 Science: Biology I

4 Elective of choice	4 Elective of choice
<b>Second Semester</b>	
5 Health/PE: Physical Education I	5 Health/PE: ½ Health ½ Physical Education II
6 JS 1: Quest for Success	6 Math: Algebra II
7 Social Studies: Civics	7 Elective of choice
8 Elective of Choice	8 Elective of Choice

*Student elects a regionally relevant Jump Start 2.0 Pathway and continues Dual Enrollment coursework at an LCTCS or Board of Regents approved satellite campus for grades 11 and 12.*

<b>Grade 11</b>	
<b>First Semester</b>	<b>Second Semester</b>
1 English: DE English Composition 3 hrs.	1 English: DE Humanities Elective 3 hrs.
2 Math: DE Machine Shop Math 3 hrs.	2 Math: DE College Algebra 3 hrs.
3 JS 2: DE Orientation to Safety 3 hrs.	3 JS 5: DE Machinist I 4 hrs.
4 JS 3: DE Introduction to Machinist 4 hrs.	4 JS 6: DE Millwright I 4 hrs.
5 JS 4: DE Introduction to Millwright 4 hrs.	

<b>Grade 12</b>	
<b>First Semester</b>	<b>Second Semester</b>
1 JS 7: DE Machinist II 4 hrs.	1 JS 10: DE Advanced Millwright 4 hrs.
2 JS 8: DE Millwright II 4 hrs.	2 JS 11: DE Advanced Machinist 4 hrs.
3 Social Studies: DE US History 3 hrs.	3 Elective: DE Natural Science 3 hrs.
4 JS 9: DE Milling Operations 3 hrs.	4 Elective: DE Computer Numerical Control 4 hrs.

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

**Prerequisites**

Minimum requirements as set by the Board of Regents, LCTCS or satellite campus.

**Funding**

Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) funding  
Supplemental Course Allocation (SCA)/Course Choice funding  
TOPS Tech Early Start funding  
USDOE grant for early access to Pell

**Business and Industry Partners**

W. R. Grace  
Allegis Group  
Entergy Louisiana  
Alcoa  
IMI

**Transportation**

Transportation costs can be paid with Career Development Funds (CDF)

**SAMPLE Fast Forward TOPS University Pathway  
RLMA 2**

**Overview**

The Fast Forward TOPS University Pathway allows students to earn an associate degree on a postsecondary campus while dually earning a TOPS University Diploma. Students will spend grades 9 and 10 on the high school campus earning required diploma coursework and the majority of grades 11 and 12 on a postsecondary campus or accredited satellite school dually enrolling to finishing required coursework and electives to earn an associate degree dually with a diploma.

**Associate of Science**

The Associate in Science (AS), Emphasis in Biological Sciences provides the curriculum for students who wish to specialize in biological sciences and/or are preparing for application to other postsecondary programs in various medical fields.

**Sample Capstone Credentials**

Regional	Basic	Advanced	Advanced +
TBD	TBD	TBD	Associate of Science

**Sample Student Schedule**

Grade 9	Grade 10
<b>First Semester</b>	
1 English: English I	1 English: English II
2 Math: Algebra I	2 Math: Geometry
3 Science: Physical or Environmental Science	3 Science: Biology I
4 Social Studies: Civics	4 Elective of choice
<b>Second Semester</b>	
5 Health/PE: Physical Education I	5 Health/PE: ½ Health ½ Physical Education II
6 Quest for Success	6 Math: Algebra II
7 Foreign Language I	7 Foreign Language II
8 Elective of Choice	8 Elective of Choice

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



<b>Grade 11</b>	
<b>First Semester</b>	<b>Second Semester</b>
1 English: DE English Composition I 3 hrs.	1 English: DE English Composition II 3 hrs.
2 Math: DE College Algebra 3 hrs.	2 Math: DE Math choice of various courses 3 hrs.
3 Science: DE Biology I for Science Majors 3 hrs.	3 Science: DE Biology II for Science Majors 3 hrs.
4 Science: DE Biology I Lab for Science Majors 1 hr.	4 Science: DE Biology II Lab for Science Majors 1 hr.
5 Social Studies: DE Humanities U.S. History 3 hrs.	5 Elective: DE Western Civilizations 3 hrs.

<b>Grade 12</b>	
<b>First Semester</b>	<b>Second Semester</b>
1 Social Studies: DE Humanities Elective 3 hrs.	1 Science: DE Natural Science 3 hrs.
2 Science: DE Natural Science 3 hrs.	2 Elective: DE Literature 3hrs.
3 Elective: DE Natural Sc., Humanities or Math 3 hrs.	3 Elective: DE Natural Sc., Humanities or Math 3 hrs.
4 Science: DE Chemistry I for Science Majors 3 hrs	4 Elective: DE Natural Sc., Humanities or Math 3 hrs.
5 Science: DE Chemistry I Lab for Science Majors 1 hr.	5 Elective: DE Social Science 3 hrs.
6 Elective: DE Economics 3 hrs.	6 Art: DE Arts Elective 3 hrs.

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

**Prerequisites**

Minimum requirements as set by the Board of Regents, LCTCS or satellite campus.

**Funding**

Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) funding  
 Supplemental Course Allocation (SCA)/Course Choice funding  
 USDOE grant for early access to Pell

**Business and Industry Partners**

Ochner  
 Baton Rouge General  
 Pennington

**Transportation**

Transportation costs will be paid with local funds.

**SAMPLE Fast Forward Jump Start 2.0 Pathway Pre-Apprenticeship or Apprenticeship  
RLMA 1**

**Overview**

The Fast Forward Jump Start 2.0 [Louisiana Workforce Commission Recognized Pre-Apprenticeship or Apprenticeship](#) Pathway encompasses a vast array of careers or postsecondary pathways students may enter after participating in a state recognized apprenticeship opportunity 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 and grades 11 and 12 at a state recognized pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship facility earning the 9 courses required to earn a Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma in addition to finishing required coursework and electives to complete a pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship and earn a diploma.

**Carpenter Pre-Apprenticeship**

A pre-apprenticeship is designed to prepare students to enter and succeed in registered apprenticeship. Through pre-apprenticeship, students are able to explore the crafts of our trades. The courses put a focus on improving trade-related literacy, math skills, safety, and work-readiness skills that construction contractors value. Upon completion of pre-apprenticeship, students receive advanced credit when applying to the Registered Apprenticeship Programs. General carpenters provide the crucial foundation for concrete, exteriors, roofs, infrastructure, and scaffolding while also crafting fine trim and finish work. These professionals work with a variety of materials in every kind of structure; they are responsible for bringing blueprints to life.

**Sample Capstone Credentials**

<b>Regional</b>	<b>Basic</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>Advanced +</b>
Carpenter Core	Carpenter Level 1	Carpenter Level 2	Carpenter Level 3

**Sample Student Schedule**

<b>Grade 9</b>	<b>Grade 10</b>
<b>First Semester</b>	
1 English: English I	1 English: English II
2 Math: Algebra I	2 Math: Geometry
3 Science: Physical or Environmental Science	3 Science: Biology I
4 Elective of choice	4 Elective of choice
<b>Second Semester</b>	
5 Health/PE: Physical Education I	5 Health/PE: ½ Health, ½ Physical Education II
6 JS 1: Quest for Success	6 Social Studies: U.S History

7 Social Studies: Civics	7 Elective of Choice
8 Elective of Choice	8 Elective of Choice

*Student elects a regionally relevant Jump Start 2.0 Pathway and continues in a state recognized pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship for grades 11 and 12.*

Grade 11	
First Semester	Second Semester
1 English: SCA Technical Writing	1 English: SCA Business English
2 Math: SCA Financial Literacy	2 Math: Business Math
3 JS 2: Core - One Trade, Many Careers	3 JS 4: Carpenter Level 1 - Basic (2 credits)
4 JS 3: Math for the Trades	

Grade 12	
First Semester	Second Semester
1 JS 6: Carpenter Level 2 - Advanced (2 credits)	1 JS 8: Carpenter Level 3 - Residential and Commercial (2 credits)
2 JS:7 CDF-Qualifying CTE Internship I (2 credits)	2 JS 9: CDF-Qualifying CTE Internship II (2 credits)

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

**Prerequisites**

Each apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship has unique pre-requisites ranging from minimum age to driver’s license to passing a drug screening.

**Funding**

Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) funding  
Supplemental Course Allocation (SCA)/Course Choice funding

**Business and Industry Partners**

United Brotherhood of Carpenters  
City of New Orleans  
PCL Civil Constructors Inc.  
Habitat for Humanity

Bridges Construction  
Cabildo Staffing

**Transportation**

Transportation costs can be paid with Career Development Funds (CDF)