STRATEGIC PLAN
(2010-11-2014-15)
In compliance with Act 1465 of 1997
June, 2011
Revised to Align with GRAD ACT
Introduction:

Louisiana Community and Technical College System is one of the newest community college systems in the United States. Because of the high quality programs and services offered by Louisiana’s community and technical colleges, thousands of students graduate each year with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to improve their lives, careers, families, and communities.

Our legacy is to provide programs that will prepare students to transfer to Louisiana’s outstanding four-year colleges and universities. We also strive to provide the skills needed to ensure that our state has a skilled workforce that will ensure both job and economic growth. We do this while committing to provide high quality programs at affordable prices.

Whether you plan to enter one of the important health fields, enter the growing construction industry, or prepare for any of the thousands of career opportunities in the state, the Louisiana Community and Technical Colleges System has the locations and programs to meet your needs.

Vision Statement:

To bring educational opportunities to all citizens of Louisiana.

Mission Statement:

To prepare Louisiana's citizens for an improved quality of life, workforce success, and continued learning.

Philosophy Statement:

Education is a key to a diversified growing Louisiana economy, safe and thriving children and family, better health and the state’s future success. LCTCS play a significant role in the state’s ability to achieve its goal through optimum utilization of the system and its colleges human, intellectual and fiscal resources; to subscribe to proactive, consistent, sound decision-making practices; and to maintain relevance and accountability in all processes and procedures thus building and sustaining public confidence.
Goals and Objectives:

I. Goal: Increase Opportunities for Student Access and Success.

**Objective 1.1:** Increase fall 14th class day headcount enrollment in the Louisiana Community and Technical College System 17.4% from the baseline level of 70,142 in fall, 2009 to 82,336 by fall, 2014.

*State Outcome Goals Link:* Youth Education; Diversified Economic Growth; Safe and Thriving Children and Families; Better Health: Extensive research indicates a strong correlation between a citizen’s education and the citizen’s health, economic well-being, and positive contributions to the state and society.

*Other Link:* Closely linked to objective in Master Plan for Postsecondary Education

**Strategy 1.1.1:** Improve one- and two-year services in each region of the state.
**Strategy 1.1.2:** Promote electronic (distance) learning activities in each region of the state.
**Strategy 1.1.3:** Promote transfers between and among campuses at all levels.
**Strategy 1.1.4:** Ensure access to programs and services to citizens with disabilities.
**Strategy 1.1.5:** Promote dual and cross enrollment agreements with public school districts and among postsecondary institutions.
**Strategy 1.1.6:** Promote and expand college attendance by adult and nontraditional students.

**Performance Indicators:**
Output: Number of students enrolled (as of the l4 class day) in public postsecondary education.
Outcome: Percent change in the number of students enrolled (as of the 14th class day) in public postsecondary education.

II. Goal: Ensure Quality and Accountability.

**Objective 11.1:** Increase the percentage of first-time in college, full-time, degree-seeking students retained to the second fall at the same institution of initial enrollment by 5 percentage points from the fall, 2008 cohort (to fall 2009) baseline level of 52% to 57% by fall, 2014 (retention of fall 2013 cohort).

*State Outcome Goals Link:* Youth Education; Diversified Economic Growth; Safe and Thriving Children and Families; Better Health: Extensive research indicates a strong correlation between a citizens education and the citizens health, economic well-be ing, and positive contributions to the state and society.

*Other Link:* Closely linked to objective in Master Plan for Postsecondary Education and LA GRAD Act.

**Strategy 11.1.1:** Assess admissions criteria at four-year institutions to promote better student-to-institution match.
**Strategy 11.1.2:** Expand systemwide and colleges-specific retention programming.
**Strategy 11.1.3:** Expand availability of first-time student seminars and first-year experience courses.

**Strategy 11.1.4:** Expand academic and training support and resource centers.

**Performance Indicators:**

*Output:* Percentage of first-time, full-time, degree-seeking freshmen retained to the second year at the same institution.

*Outcome:* Percentage point change in the percentage of first-time, full-time, degree-seeking freshmen retained to the second year at the same institution.

**Objective 11.2:** Increase the percentage of first-time in college, full-time, degree-seeking students retained to the Spring semester at the same institution of initial enrollment by 3 percentage points from the Fall 2008 cohort (to the Spring AY 2008-09) baseline level of 67.8% to 70.8% by Fall 2014 (retention of Fall 2013 cohort).

*State Outcome Goals Link:* Youth Education; Diversified Economic Growth; Safe and Thriving Children and Families; Better Health: Extensive research indicates a strong correlation between a citizen’s education and the citizen’s health, economic well-being, and positive contributions to the state and society.

*Other Link:* Closely linked to objective in Master Plan for Postsecondary Education and LA GRAD Act.

**Strategy 11.2.1:** Expand systemwide and campus-specific retention programming.

**Strategy 11.2.2:** Expand availability of first-time student seminars and first-year experience courses.

**Strategy 11.2.3:** Expand academic and training support and resource centers.

**Performance Indicators:**

*Output:* Percentage of first-time, full-time, associate degree-seeking freshmen retained to the second year at the same institution.

*Outcome:* Percentage point change in the percentage of first-time, full-time, associate degree-seeking freshmen retained to the second year at the same institution.

**Objective 11.3:** Increase the percentage of first-time in college, full-time, degree-seeking students retained to the spring semester at the same Louisiana Technical College campus of initial enrollment by 1.8 percentage points from the fall, 2009 cohort (to spring AY 2009-10) baseline level of 66.0% to 67.8% by spring, 2014 (retention of fall 2013 cohort).

*State Outcome Goals Link:* Youth Education; Diversified Economic Growth; Safe and Thriving Children and Families; Better Health: Extensive research indicates a strong correlation between a citizen’s education and the citizen’s health, economic well-being, and positive contributions to the state and society.
Other Link: Closely linked to objective in Master Plan for Postsecondary Education and LA GRAD Act.

Strategy 11.3.1: Expand systemwide and campus-specific retention programming.
Strategy 11.3.2: Expand availability of first-time student seminars and first-year experience courses.
Strategy 11.3.3: Expand academic and training support and resource centers.

Performance Indicators:
Output: Percentage of first-time, full-time, degree-seeking freshmen retained to the second year at the same Louisiana Community and Technical College.
Outcome: Percentage point change in the percentage of first-time, degree-seeking freshmen retained to the second year at the same Louisiana Technical College campus.

Objective 11.4: Increase the Graduation Rate (defined and reported in the National Center of Education Statistics (NCES) Graduation Rate Survey (GRS)) - baseline year rate (Fall 2005 Cohort) of 7.2% to 12.2% by 2014-15 (Fall 2010 cohort).

State Outcome Goals Link: Youth Education; Diversified Economic Growth; Safe and Thriving Children and Families; Better Health: Extensive research indicates a strong correlation between a citizen’s education and the citizen’s health, economic well-being, and positive contributions to the state and society.
Other Link: Closely linked to objective in Master Plan for Postsecondary Education and LA GRAD Act.

Strategy 11.4.1: Assess admissions criteria at four-year institutions to promote better student-to-institution match.
Strategy 11.4.2: Expand systemwide and campus-specific retention programming.
Strategy 11.4.3: Expand availability of first-time student seminars and first-year experience courses.
Strategy 11.4.4: Expand academic and training support and resource centers.

Performance Indicators:
Output: Percentage of first-time, full-time, degree-seeking freshmen retained to the third year at the same 4-year institution.
Outcome: Percentage point change in the percentage of first-time, full-time, degree-seeking freshmen retained to the third year at the same 4-year institution.

Objective 11.5: Increase the total number of completers for all award levels in a given academic year from the baseline year number of 7,047 in 2008-09 academic year to 9,899 in academic year 2013-14. Students may only be counted once per award level.

State Outcome Goals Link: Youth Education; Diversified Economic Growth; Safe and Thriving Children and Families; Better Health: Extensive research indicates a strong correlation between a citizen’s education and the citizen’s health, economic well-being, and positive contributions to the state and society.
Other Link: Closely linked to objective in Master Plan for Postsecondary Education and LA GRAD Act.

**Strategy 11.5.1:** Assess admissions criteria at four-year institutions to promote better student-to-institution match.

**Strategy 11.5.2:** Expand systemwide and campus-specific retention programming.

**Strategy 11.5.3:** Expand efforts to encourage transfer from two-year colleges to four-year universities.

**Performance Indicators:**

*Output:* Percentage of students identified in a first-time, full-time, degree-seeking cohort, graduating within three/six years from public postsecondary education.

*Outcome:* Number of students identified in a first-time, full-time, degree-seeking cohort, graduating within three/six years from public postsecondary education.
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

Program: Louisiana Community and Technical College System

Objective: 1.1. Increase the fall 14th class day headcount enrollment in public postsecondary education by 17.4% from the baseline level of 70,142 in Fall 2009 to 82,336 by Fall 2014.

1. What is the type of the indicator?
Outcome

2. What is the rationale for the indicator?
Recognition of importance of Louisiana having an educated citizenry.

3. What is the source of the indicator?
Data will be retrieved from the Board of Regents’ Statewide Student Profile System (SSPS). This system has been in existence for over 10 years. The change will be calculated using Fall, 2009 enrollment figures as the baseline year and measuring the change to the year being examined.

4. What is the frequency and timing of collection or reporting?
The data are gathered two times annually, at the end of the fall, and spring semesters. For this indicator, fall data (the national standard) will be used. The indicator will be reported at the end of the third quarter. This will allow time for collection, aggregation, and editing of the data. The change will be measured from the baseline year to the year being examined.

5. How is the indicator calculated? Is this a standard calculation?
The change will be calculated using a standard mathematical approach, subtracting the baseline year from the year being examined and dividing the difference by the baseline year, resulting in a percentage change. \([(Y2-Yb)/Yb]\).

6. Does the indicator contain jargon, acronyms, or unclear terms?
Headcount enrollment refers to the actual number of students enrolled (as opposed to fulltime equivalent enrollment (FTE) which is calculated from the number of student credit hours enrolled divided by a fixed number).

7. Is the indicator an aggregate or disaggregate figure?
This indicator is the aggregate of all enrolled students in the Louisiana Community and Technical College System 16 colleges.

8. Who is responsible for data collection, analysis, and quality?
Each institution (either on its own or via help from the System office) submits the SSPS data electronically to the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents performs numerous edits and works with the colleges and systems to correct errors. When all campus submissions are complete, the Regents’ staff builds a master file for SSPS.

9. Does the indicator have limitations or weaknesses? Is the indicator a proxy or surrogate? Does the source of the data have a bias or agenda?
No real weaknesses. The reader must understand that this indicator reflects headcount enrollment and changes in headcount enrollment, and are not the enrollment calculations used for funding or reimbursement calculations.

10. How will the indicator be used in management decision making and other agency processes? Enrollment drives many management decisions. The size of an institution’s enrollment and any changes in enrollment impact scheduling, hiring, future planning, program demands, facilities management, etc.. Any significant changes in enrollment can impact all the areas listed above.
Objective II.1. Increase the percentage of first-time in college, full-time, associate degree-seeking students retained to the second Fall at the same institution of initial enrollment by 5 percentage points from the Fall 2008 cohort (to Fall 2009) baseline level of 52% to 57% by Fall 2014 (retention of Fall 2013 cohort).

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PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DOCUMENTATION

Program: Louisiana Community and Technical College System

Objective 11.2. Increase the percentage of first-time in college, full-time, degree-seeking students retained to the Spring semester at the same institution of initial enrollment by 3 percentage points from the Fall 2008 cohort (to the Spring AY2008-09) baseline level of 67.8% to 70.8% by Fall 2014 (retention of Fall 2013 cohort).

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The change will be calculated using a standard mathematical approach, subtracting the baseline year from the year being examined and dividing the difference by the baseline year, resulting in a percentage change. \[(Y_2 - Y_b)/Y_b\].

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Objective 11.3. : Increase the percentage of first-time in college, full-time, degree-seeking students retained to the Spring semester at the same institution of initial enrollment by 3 percentage points from the Fall 2008 cohort (to the Spring AY2008-09) baseline level of 67.8% to 70.8% by Fall 2014 (retention of Fall 2013 cohort).

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Program: Louisiana Community and Technical College System

Objective 11.4. Increase the Graduation Rate (defined and reported in the National Center of Education Statistics (NCES) Graduation Rate Survey (GRS)) - baseline year rate (Fall 2005 Cohort) of 7.2% to 12.2% by 2014-15 (Fall 2010 cohort).

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PROGRAM: Louisiana Community and Technical College System

Objective 11.5. Increase the total number of completers for all award levels in a given academic year from the baseline year number of 7,047 in 2008-09 academic year to 9,899 in academic year 2013-14. Students may only be counted once per award level.

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