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Creating Futures

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TO: Dr. Monty Sullivan
LCTCS President

FROM: Dr. René Cintrón
Interim Chief Academic Affairs Officer

SUBJECT: Revisions to LCTCS Policy #1.118, "High School Equivalency Attainment"

DATE: August 28, 2017

FOR BOARD ACTION:

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Board approve the attached revisions to LCTCS Policy #1.118, "High School Equivalency Attainment".

Background: Act #732 of the 2010 Regular Legislative Session designated the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System to adopt such rules and regulations as necessary to establish, operate, and maintain a statewide program of adult education to eliminate adult illiteracy and provide opportunities to adults to pursue a course or courses of student with upon completion will entitle them to be issued a Louisiana high school equivalency.

The Board of Supervisors of the LCTCS is the sole granter of high school equivalencies in Louisiana. LCTCS Policy #1.118 outlines the options Louisiana adults have in obtaining their high school equivalency. LCTCS Policy #1.118 has been revised to provide more equivalency options to best serve Louisiana's undereducated adult population and to provide more direct pathways between earning a high school equivalency and enrolling in an LCTCS college.

System staff have coordinated these revisions with the Louisiana Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Education.

History of Prior Actions: The Board last revised LCTCS Policy #1.118 in 2013.

Fiscal Impact: Any costs associated with these revisions will be minimal.

Benefits to the System: Louisiana is home to over 600,000 working aged adults who did not graduate high school. Without a high school degree, these adults are unable to meaningfully participate in the Louisiana economy. Providing more opportunities for these adults to earn an equivalency will better the State of Louisiana and help build a pipeline of new LCTCS students.

Approved for Recommendation to the Board
Dr. Monty Sullivan, President

Date

LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

Policy # 1.118

Title: High School Equivalency Attainment

Authority: Board Action

Original Adoption: February 9, 2011

Effective Date: February 9, 2011

Last Revision: November 13, 2013

- ~~A. To complete the High School Equivalency Test successfully, a student must earn the minimum standard score approved by the governing body of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System and the High School Equivalency Test provider.~~
- ~~B. Students may also earn a Louisiana High School Equivalency Diploma upon completion and satisfactory review of a portfolio encompassing both college-level career courses and basic skills courses.~~

Act #732 of the 2010 Regular Legislative Session designated the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) to adopt such rules and regulations as necessary to establish, operate, and maintain a statewide program of adult education to eliminate adult illiteracy and provide opportunities to adults to pursue a course or courses of study which upon completion will entitle them to be issued a Louisiana high school equivalency. The Board of Supervisors of the LCTCS is the sole granter of high school equivalency degrees in Louisiana.

The LCTCS Board of Supervisors authorizes the following options as means of attainment of the high school equivalency in Louisiana:

- A. Completion of College Preparation Coursework:** A student can demonstrate college readiness by completing developmental coursework in Mathematics, English and Reading at an LCTCS college. Courses need not be taken at the same LCTCS college.

Student Eligibility: Must be at least 18 years of age and not enrolled in high school.

- B. Completion of a College Placement Assessment.** A student can earn the minimum standard score on an approved placement test that is based on established placement scores of recognized college readiness assessments in Mathematics, English, and Reading. A performance level congruency alignment will be reviewed annually by the LCTCS.

Student Eligibility: Must be at least 18 years of age and not enrolled in high school.

- C. Completion of the High School Equivalency Test:** A student can earn the minimum standard score that is based on the standard score recommendations from the High School Equivalency Test provider.

Student Eligibility: Eligibility for those under 18 years of age will be governed by policies established by the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Those over 18 years of age who hold no high school diploma and are not enrolled in high school are eligible without conditions.

- D. Completion of an Integrated Career Pathway:** A student can successfully complete an integrated career pathway coursework portfolio encompassing completion of 12 credit hours of technical education course work, earned recognized Industry Based Certificate (IBC), in combination with basic skills knowledge reflected by minimum standard scores on a recognized adult education assessment that is based on the standard score recommendations from the assessment provider in conjunction with Louisiana high school graduate performance level congruence alignment.

Student Eligibility: Must be at least 18 years of age and not enrolled in high school.

- E. Combination of Attainment Methods:** As appropriate, a student may combine attainment methods detailed in this policy for options **A and B** to reflect mastery of basic skills necessary to earn a Louisiana High School Equivalency.

Student Eligibility: Must be at least 18 years of age and not enrolled in high school.

The LCTCS Board of Supervisors will make no distinction on the method used to attain the high school equivalency when granting the equivalency. The System President is responsible for implementing this policy.

LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM
Policy # 1.118

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