

Class of 2023  
Senior Information

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# Senior Year

## TOPICS WE WILL COVER TODAY:

- Graduation Requirements
- Grades and Attendance
- Senior Exemptions
- Honor Grad and Rank in Class
- College Application Process
- Requesting Transcripts and Test Scores
- Financial Aid
- Scholarships
- TOPS
- Collegiate Athletics



# What's the Difference?

## TOPS Tech

2 Year College

23 Credits

2 Social Studies  
and 2 Science

4 English and 4 Math

9 Career  
Technical Electives  
Industry Based  
Certification  
Required

## Both Options

Diploma  
FHS Senior Handbook

Jump Start  
Career  
Pathways

Industry  
Based  
Certifications

## TOPS University

4 Year College

24 Credits

4 Social Studies  
and 4 Science

4 English and 4  
Math

Industry Based  
Certification  
Optional

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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## ☐ LEAP 2025 Tests

Students must pass 3 tests in the following categories:

English I or English II

Algebra I or Geometry

Biology or American History

## ☐ FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- All seniors must have a FAFSA on file to graduate May 2023
- The FAFSA cannot be completed until October 1<sup>st</sup> and the information is based on your 2021 Federal Tax Information



# Grades and Attendance

- ☐ Self motivation is key!
- ☐ Students are responsible for turning in doctor and parent notes to students services within two days of returning to school.
- ☐ All attendance policies will be followed in accordance with state/local attendance laws.

# Senior Exemptions

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- ❑ **Senior Exemptions**
  - ❑ If a Senior with an “A average” in a course and 5 or fewer unexcused absences in the course for a semester, then exempt from the semester exam.
  - ❑ If a Senior with a “B average” in a course and 3 or fewer unexcused absences in the course for a semester, then exempt from the semester exam.
  - ❑ Senior Semester Exam Exemptions will not apply in dual enrolled courses.
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# FHS HONOR GRADUATES

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- ☐ Determined by cumulative weighted GPA
  - ☐ FHS Honor Graduate:
    - Cumulative GPA ranging between 3.5 and 3.999
    - Recognized at graduation with white cord
  - ☐ FHS Top Honor Graduate:
    - Cumulative GPA of 4.0 and above
    - Recognized at graduation with gold cord
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# RANK IN CLASS

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- ☐ Rank in class is determined upon graduation. It is based on the quality points a student earns in grades 9-12 only.
  - ☐ Rank in class is calculated using a maximum of 28 credits, of which a maximum of 16 credits may be weighted.
  - ☐ The student(s) who earns the most quality points will be ranked number one in the graduating class.
  - ☐ Recognition at graduation.
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# Important To Do List for Seniors

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- ☐ Check your email frequently
- ☐ Check Senior Google classroom Counselor Corner
- ☐ Check the website under the counseling tab
- ☐ Complete a personal brag sheet and turn in to Ms. Francis
  - To assist with letters of recommendation, college forms, etc.
  - A copy is also available to print on Google Classroom

# College Application Process



- ☐ Choose admission decision deadline:
  - Early Decision – binding (Discuss with Ms. Francis)
  - Restrictive Early Action – Non Binding
  - Early Action – not binding and you receive admission decision earlier
  - Regular Decision – deadline varies from college to college

The deadlines for admissions and financial aid/scholarships are frequently not the same, even if there is only one application for both. Check college website for specific deadlines.

Private/selective schools – may require additional paperwork which may include essays, letters of rec, secondary school reports.

- ☐ APPLY NOW – Yes, do not wait for your ACT scores
- ☐ Tour Universities
- ☐ Take Interest Inventories ( ACT, My Options Explored, ASVAB)
- ☐ Attend Lunch and Learns on FHS Campus
- ☐ Request high school transcript
- ☐ Send test scores to colleges(s) ~ ACT/SAT
- ☐ Apply for Housing



# COMMON APP TIPS

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- ☐ Create an account at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org).
- ☐ How does it work?
  - Start by adding colleges
  - Each college you add has its own set of specific requirements and supplements.
  - Answer **ALL** the questions in the Common App tab. For each college you selected you will:
    - ☐ Answer college specific questions
    - ☐ **Invite** and manage **recommenders**
    - ☐ Complete other supplements (if applicable)

**NOTE:** Once you invite Ms. Francis she will complete your secondary school report which includes sending your transcript. Your brag sheet is required to complete this part so send it to her as soon as possible.

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# REQUESTING HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS

- It is not necessary to make a request for your transcript to be sent to Louisiana public 4-year colleges, universities or community colleges. They will retrieve your transcript from the State Transcript System.
- Students using an online platform like the common application, coalition or universal application do not need to request a transcript.
- Mailed transcript – If you need your transcript mailed you will complete a transcript request form. The forms are in the counseling office.  
Student must pay Mrs. Fox before transcript is mailed.



## REQUESTING COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS (Seniors in Dual Enrollment Courses)

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College applications will request your college transcript for Dual Enrollment courses you took in high school. It is your responsibility to make this request.

### ☐ Southeastern Louisiana University

- Access the website below and follow the directions:

[http://www.southeastern.edu/admin/registrar/transcript\\_request/index.html](http://www.southeastern.edu/admin/registrar/transcript_request/index.html)

### ☐ Northshore Technical Community College

- Use link below to order NTCC college transcript:

<https://www.northshorecollege.edu/admissions/transcript-request>

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# SEND YOUR TEST SCORES TO THE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

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- If the student took the ACT/SAT and did not send scores to a college or university, then he/she will need to send them.

- Students create an account on the appropriate website to send their scores.

[www.myact.org](http://www.myact.org) or [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

- Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch can receive up to 4 waivers to take the ACT. See the front office for more information re: a waiver.

# ACT

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## **COSTS:**

- ☐ ACT No Writing: \$63
- ☐ ACT Writing: \$88
- ☐ If you are receiving free / reduced lunch, you are eligible to receive 4 free fee waivers. Stop by the front office for details.

## **REGISTER: [myact.org](https://myact.org)**

- ☐ **Make sure to put FHS code 1595**
- ☐ **FHS will be a testing site for the September, October, and February test.**

## **504/ IEP Testing Accommodations:**

If a student received accommodations for the ACT last year in March, they will continue to receive them. See Mrs. Jackson in the front office if you have additional questions.



# LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

## Protocol

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- ☐ Complete a brag sheet
  - ☐ Make your request in person
  - ☐ Give your teacher/counselor a copy of your brag sheet
  - ☐ Give your recommender a minimum of 3 weeks to submit your request
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## HOW AND WHEN DO I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

How? Complete the FAFSA Form

When? Opens October 1, 2022

This is a 2 step process:

1. Create an FSA ID – [www.fsaaid.ed.gov](http://www.fsaaid.ed.gov)  
Both Student and Parent create their own FSA ID
2. Complete the FAFSA – Use 2021 tax info
  - [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
  - Opens October 1, 2022
  - Provide Ms. Francis with copy of confirmation email for graduation documentation

# FAFSA COMPLETION

## Where do I go for help?

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- ❑ FAFSA Meeting – TBA
  - ❑ Lela's FAFSA Completion guide and workbook ~ located under resource tab <https://lela.org>
  - ❑ FAFSA HELP LINE: 844 GO FAFSA or (844) 463-2372
  - ❑ LOSFA Assistance
    - <https://mylosfa.la.gov>
    - Meet Lex 24/7 help ( bottom right hand side of homepage)
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# HOW DO I FIND SCHOLARSHIPS?

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- Academic – apply through the college/university
  - Based on GPA and ACT scores
  - Admission and scholarship application – check college website
  
- Local Scholarships
  - Scholarship chart in the back of senior handbook
  - Listen to announcements, check email, senior google classroom
  
- Scholarship search engines – websites
  - Example: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  - Create an account



# TOPS & TOPS TECH

## TOPS (4 year award)

Level of award	Minimum core GPA	Minimum ACT composite Subject to change, based on state average	Award pays Actual \$ amount varies, based on college's tuition
Opportunity	2.5	20	Tuition
Performance	3.25	23	Tuition + \$ 400 @ yr
Honors	3.50	27	Tuition + \$ 800 @ yr

TOPS rewards eligible high school graduates with financial awards to be used at public Louisiana Universities and members of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

## TOPS TECH

Minimum core GPA	Minimum ACT composite	Award pays Actual \$ amount varies, based on program addressed
2.5	17	Non-academic programs for vocational or technical education certificates or diplomas

TOPS Tech is a merit-based tuition award for students seeking vocational or occupational certification in a technical post-secondary program in the state of Louisiana.

# HOW DO I APPLY FOR TOPS?

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- ❑ **Complete the FAFSA form on or after October 1.**
- ❑ **Achieve a composite ACT score of at least 20 on or before April 17, 2023 test**
- ❑ **Missing or incorrect information can delay your award**
  - **High School Code - 191659**
  - **Social Security Number**
  - **Month and Year of FHS Graduation**

## **Track TOPS Progress**

- **LOSFA Student Hub~**  
<https://mylosfa.la.gov/applications/student-hub/>

# COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

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## ☐ NCAA

- At the COMPLETION of junior year, register with the NCAA Eligibility Center:  
[www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)
  - ACT/SAT code for NCAA is 9999 (Student must send scores officially)
  - Fee waivers are available for students on free or reduced lunch.
  - Counselor will upload transcript when notified through NCAA
  - Prospective NCAA athletes must have a 2.3 core GPA.
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# COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

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## ☐ NAIA

- Register at [www.playnaia.org](http://www.playnaia.org)
- ACT/SAT code for NAIA is 9876 (Student must send scores officially)
- Fee waivers are available for students on free or reduced lunch
- Final transcript is sent at completion of senior year.
- Visit NAIA site for a list of participating schools
- NAIA offers fewer sports and recruiting restrictions.



# RESOURCES

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- ☐ Senior Handbook
  - ☐ Google Classroom – Counselor Corner
  - ☐ FHS Website –  
<http://fontainebleauhigh.stpsb.org>
  - ☐ LOSFA Student Hub~  
<https://mylosfa.la.gov/applications/student-hub/>
  - ☐ Announcements
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