LOSFA

LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A PROGRAM OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

LOSFA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

February 10, 2026

ROLL **CALL**

INTRODUCTIONS AND **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

APPROVAL OF **MINUTES**

DECEMBER 16, 2025

PUBLIC **COMMENT**

PROGRAM **UPDATES**

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LOUISIANA SAVING PROGRAMS UPDATE

Porsche Harris

Director of Louisiana Saving Programs

LOUISIANA SAVING **PROGRAMS UPDATE**

Account Type	Active Accounts	Account Balances
START SAVING	83,075	$1,855,023,310.86
START K12	5,009	$46,592,491.43
LA ABLE	1,595	$12,568,522.94
TOTAL 529 PLANS	**89,679**	**$1,914,184,325.23**

As of 12/31/2025

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COLLEGE ACCESS, SUCCESS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Ebony Holmes
CASC Director of Public Information and Advising

Shayne Creppel, Ph.D.
CASC Director of Collegiate and Community Outreach

AGENCY **EVENTS AND ASSISTANCE**



EVENTS *(SINCE JULY 1, 2025)*

TOTAL EVENTS: 437

FACE-TO-FACE EVENTS: **393**
VIRTUAL EVENTS: **44**
Data as of 1/23/25

ASSISTANCE *(SINCE JULY 1, 2025)*

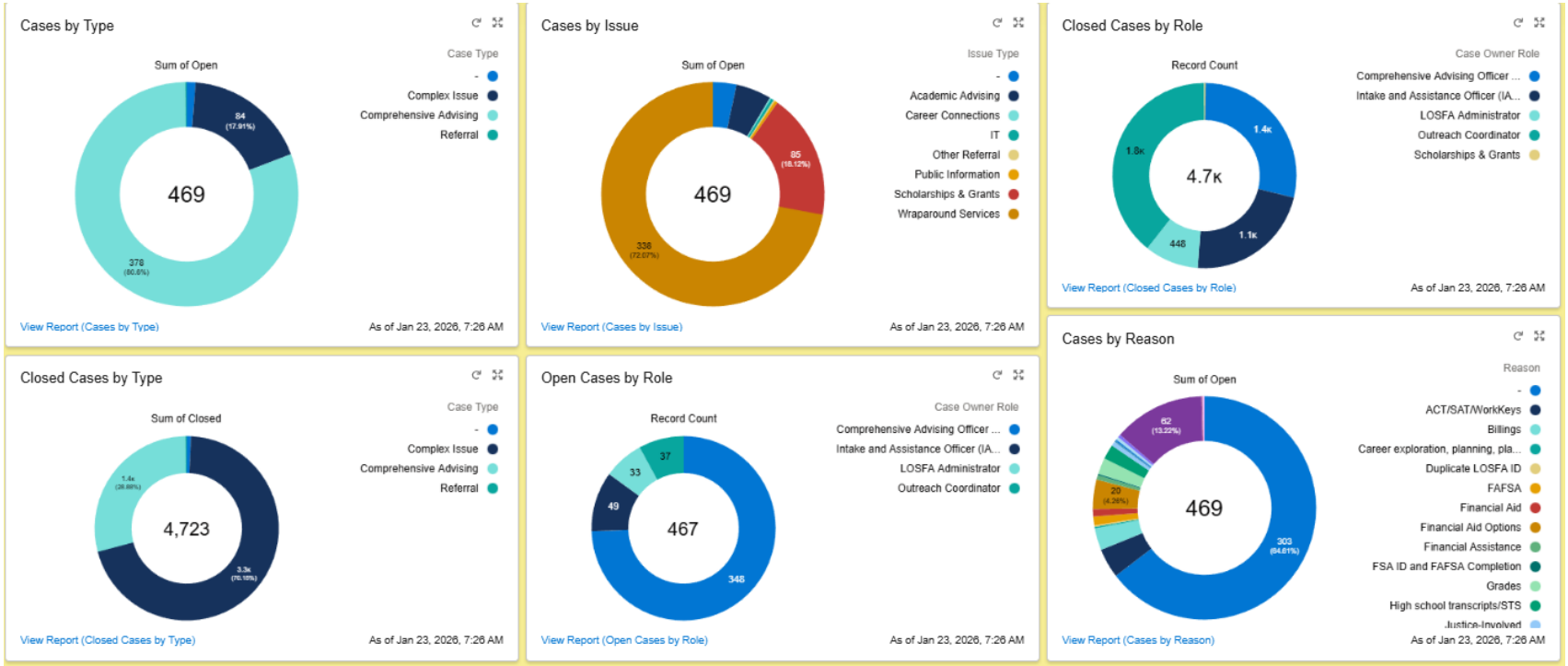
TOTAL VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS: 162

TOPS INITIAL ELIGIBILITY: **30**
TOPS RETENTION: **51**
STUDENT HUB: **15**
FAFSA ASSISTANCE: **22**
M.J. FOSTER PROMISE: **42**
COUNSELOR: **2**
Data as of 1/22/25

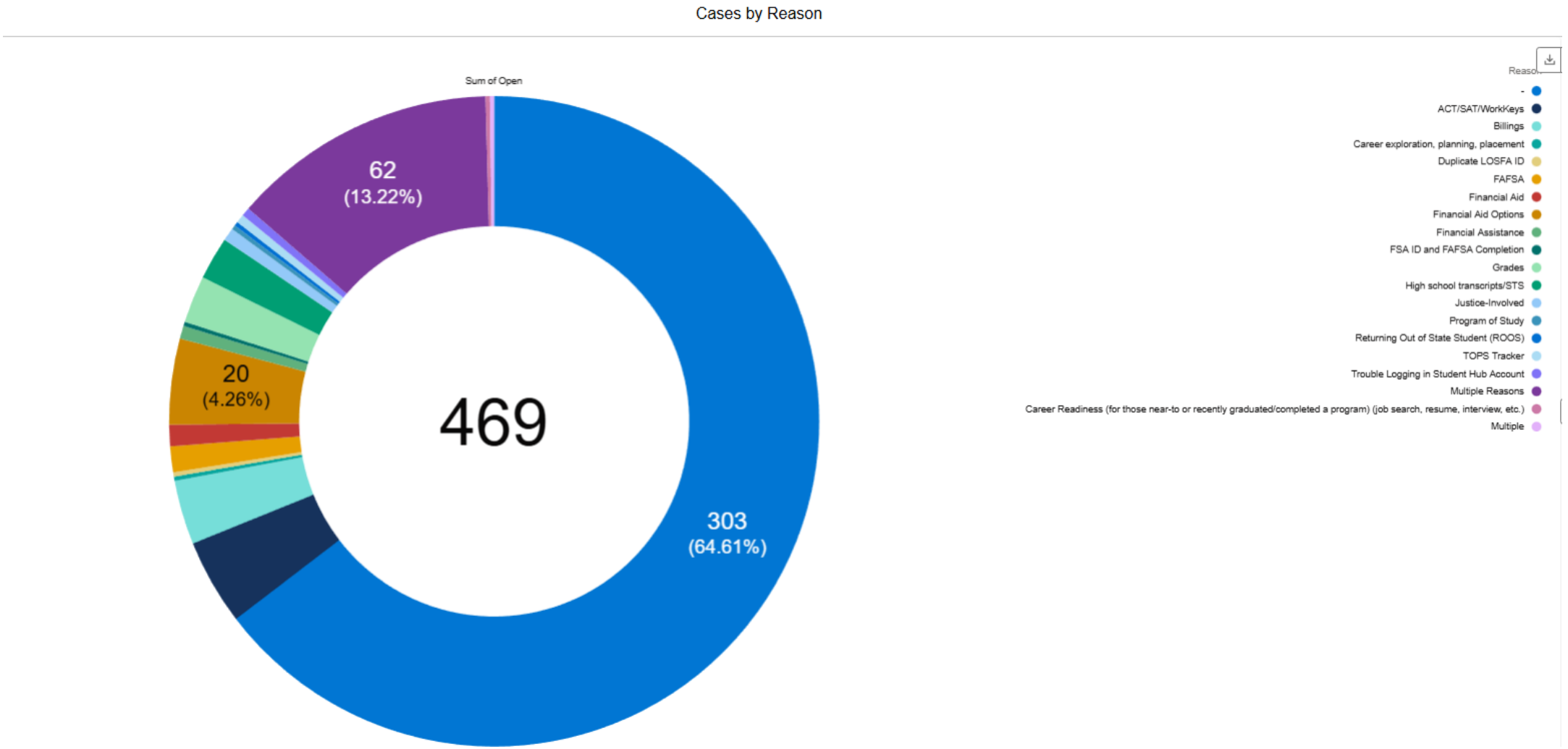
SALESFORCE CASE **ACTIVITY**

Over 4,700 cases resolving complex issues or providing comprehensive advising have been closed to date. The IAOs and OCs continue to work on the 91 remaining open cases with lingering issues that prevent the determination of award eligibility or the renewal of an existing award.

CAOs, who offer long-term advising and support to their students, have 378 open cases as of 1/23/26. This brings the total number of open cases to 469.



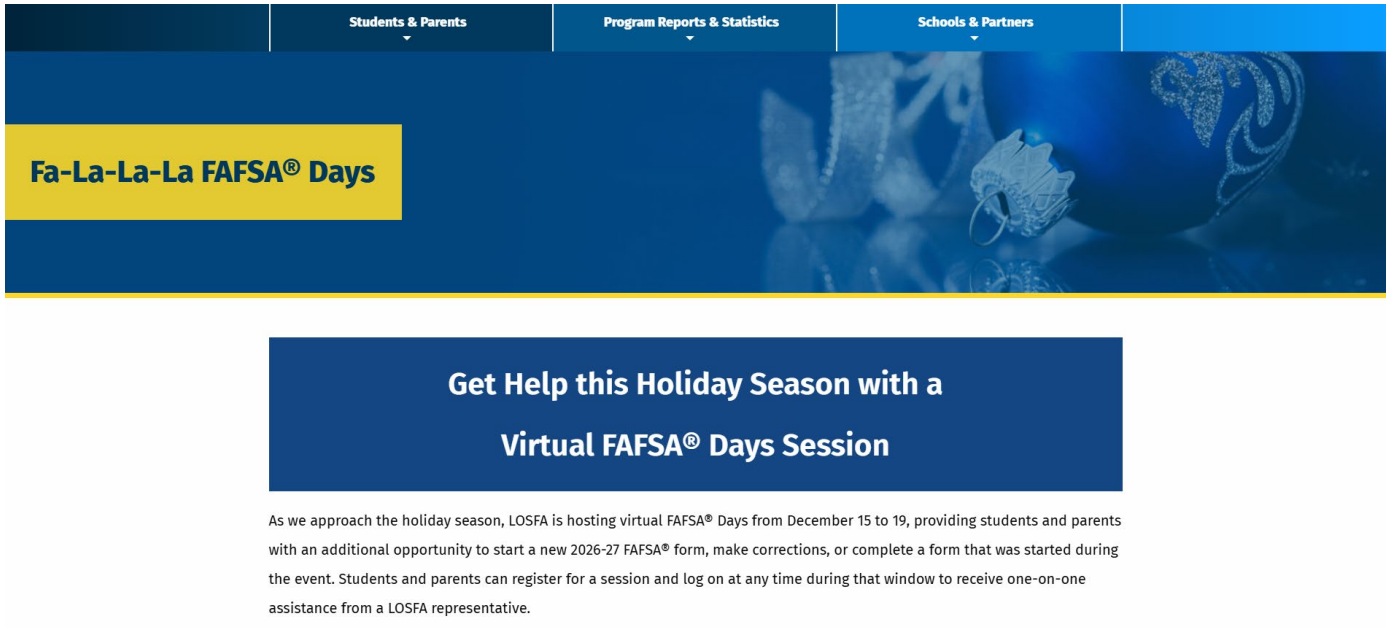
SALESFORCE CASE **ACTIVITY**



OUTREACH

FA-LA-LA-LA FAFSA® DAYS

LOSFA hosted virtual FAFSA® Days from December 15 to 19. Students and parents could register for a session and log on at any time during the specified window to receive one-on-one assistance. Schools that hosted FSA ID/FAFSA® completion workshops were also encouraged to use this event as a follow-up to provide students and parents with an additional opportunity to start a new 2026-27 FAFSA® form, make corrections, or complete a form that was started during the event.



OUTREACH

CLASS OF 2026: PANCAKES WITH PARENTS

Comprehensive Advising Officer LaConga Scott facilitated a TOPS & FAFSA® Seminar during West St. John High School's "*Class of 2026: Pancakes with Parents*". Forty-nine parents celebrated the halfway point to graduation with 52 future graduates. Attendees received valuable information about LOSFA programs, along with key guidance to support students as they wrap up their high school careers. There was also a delicious pancake bar with a variety of toppings, a juice bar, and a hot cocoa bar.





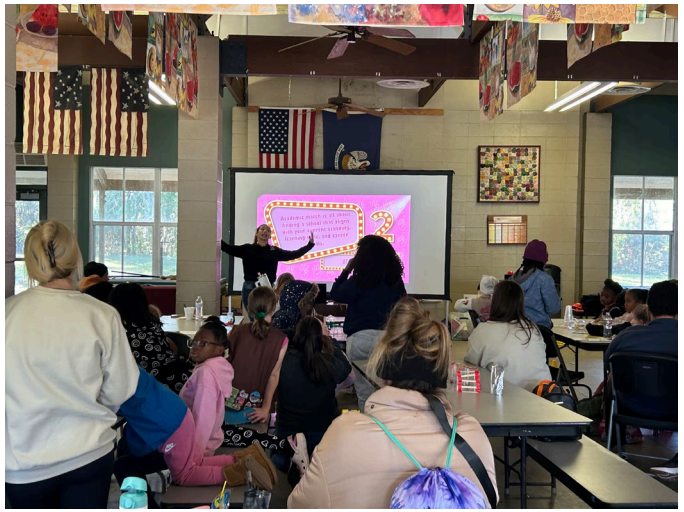


OUTREACH

GIRL SCOUTS LOUISIANA EAST

On Saturday, December 6, Girl Scouts Louisiana East welcomed the My LOSFA College Advocates to their Marydale Camp in St. Francisville. During the two-hour session, the advocates engaged the Girl Scouts in fun, interactive games designed to teach valuable college-readiness skills. The Girl Scouts have become an important partner for LOSFA, and invite us annually to participate in these educational events.







OUTREACH

SOLACC MOBILE LAB

South Louisiana Community College (SoLAcc) partnered with the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) to co-facilitate an initiative that meets students where they are by deploying the SoLAcc Mobile Lab to high school campuses. These events provided services to students across St. Landry, Evangeline, and Acadia parishes.

Participating students received on-site assistance with submitting applications to South Louisiana Community College, creating FSA IDs, completing the FAFSA®, and setting up their Student Hub accounts. The events were co-facilitated by Comprehensive Advising Officers Damien Papillion and Chelsey Hopkins, in collaboration with Carleen Sylvester, Community Engagement and Outreach Liaison at South Louisiana Community College.

These collaborative efforts served as pilot initiatives, with plans to expand to all parishes where South Louisiana Community College maintains campus locations.





OUTREACH

BASTROP HIGH SCHOOL

On January 15, 2026, Comprehensive Advising Officer Summer Clark presented to 129 students and parents at Bastrop High School about TOPS requirements and provided FAFSA® completion tips. Bastrop High School hosted this event to help seniors prepare for graduation and life after high school.



OUTREACH

2026 NCAN CERTIFIED ADVISOR BADGE

Congratulations to Comprehensive Advising Officers LaConga Scott, Dellarisha Ventress, Daniel Loving, and Kelly Steed-Merricks, and Outreach Coordinator Hailey Pellegrin on completing their 2026 NCAN Certified Advisor Badge, demonstrating mastery of college attainment advising skills.



OUTREACH

WASHINGTON-MARION MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL

On Monday, December 8, 2026, Outreach Coordinator Trudy Tietje assisted students and parents at Washington-Marion Magnet High School during a FAFSA® Completion Workshop. More than 27 attendees received support with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), creating and retrieving FSA IDs, and discussing federal loan repayment options. Parents also expressed interest in the M.J. Foster Promise Program, and additional guidance was provided regarding program details and eligibility.

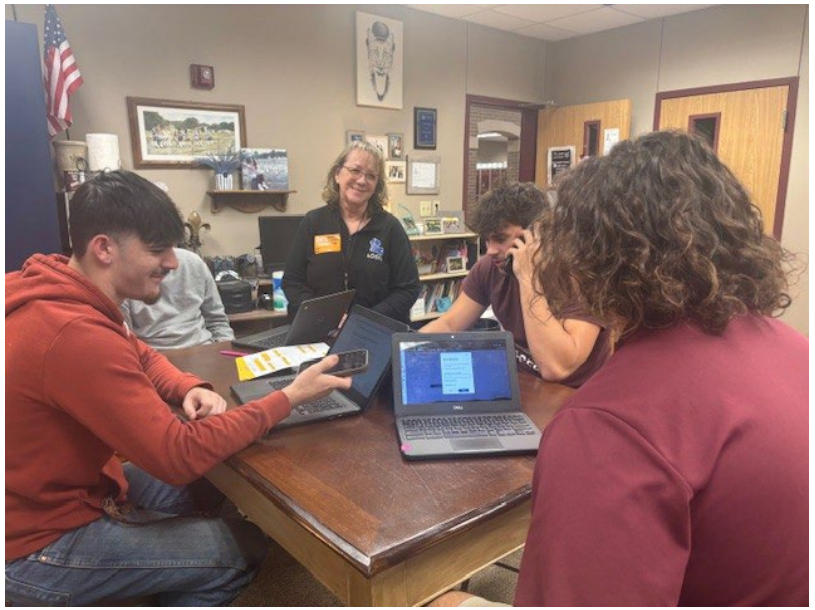


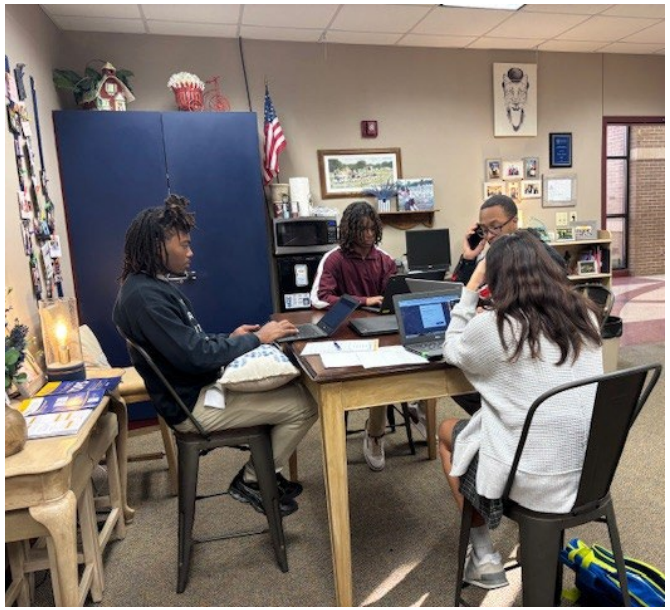


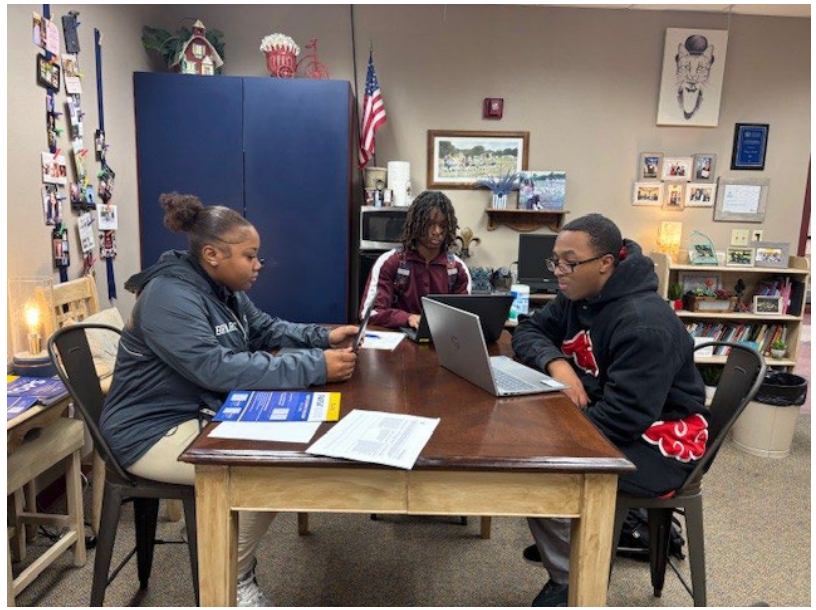
OUTREACH

JENNINGS HIGH SCHOOL

On Tuesday, December 9, 2026, Outreach Coordinator Trudy Tietje provided comprehensive support to students and families at Jennings High School during a scheduled FAFSA® Completion Event. More than 20 students and parents participated, receiving individualized assistance with completing the FAFSA® form and guidance on FSA ID creation and account recovery.







OUTREACH

KICKOFF LSU

On January 24, Isabel Reyes represented LOSFA at Kickoff LSU, an event hosted by LSU to allow prospective and committed students to explore what the university offers. The event allowed students who have committed to LSU to ask questions about various clubs and campus services. During the event, LOSFA provided students and parents with important financial aid information, including details about TOPS and the FAFSA® form.



WEBINAR

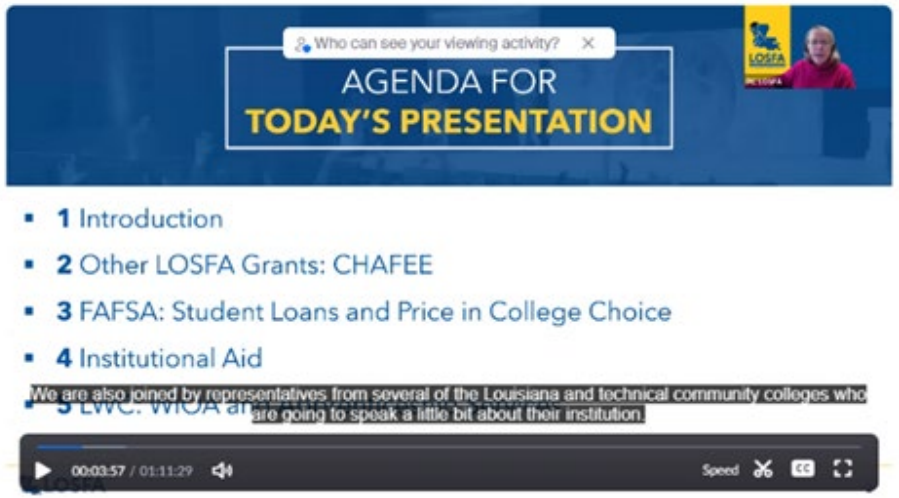
BEYOND LOSFA WEBINAR

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) recently hosted its "Beyond LOSFA" webinar—an event designed to connect students with educational and career resources that go beyond LOSFA's traditional offerings.

Outreach Coordinator for Adult Learners and Nontraditional Students, Trudy Tietje, facilitated the webinar with the assistance of several team members, who provided support by sharing resources, monitoring the chat and Q&A, and offering technical assistance.

The webinar featured expert panelists from DCFS, LA Works, WIOA, Apprenticeship LA, and representatives from several institutions within the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS). These panelists shared valuable information on programs and opportunities available to students, including workforce development initiatives and apprenticeship pathways.

The event brought together more than 120 participants, including students, presenters, and panelists from across Louisiana, representing a diverse range of interests and backgrounds. According to the post-event survey, 98.28% of respondents indicated that they would recommend this webinar to others.





PARTNERSHIP

UNTAPPED TALENT WORK GROUP KICKOFF

On January 12, April Bergens, Darius Spurlock, Tonya Evans, and Connor Doucet attended BOR's Untapped Talent 2026 Work Group Kickoff, themed “From Convening to Action.” The event focused on advancing access to education and gainful employment for justice-involved individuals through strategies in Data, Workforce Development, Adult Education, Postsecondary and Adult Education, and Policy. LOSFA will remain actively involved in these workgroups throughout the year, contributing to statewide initiatives and bringing back resources and best practices to integrate into its justice-involved work.



MEDIA **MENTIONS**

GREATER BATON ROUGE BusinessReport

GOV. LANDRY PROPOSES A MAJOR FUNDING BOOST FOR THE M.J. FOSTER PROMISE PROGRAM

Click here to access the article.

AMERICAN PRESS – SCHOOL COUNSELORS HELP STUDENTS NAVIGATE COMPLEX COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

Click here to access the article.

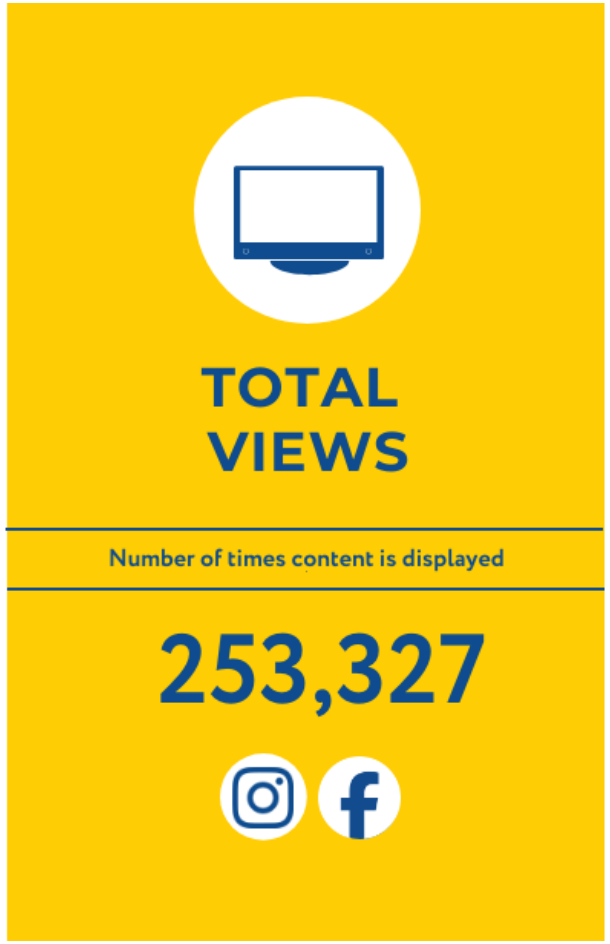
School counselors help students navigate complex college application process

Published 7:59 am Wednesday, December 17, 2025

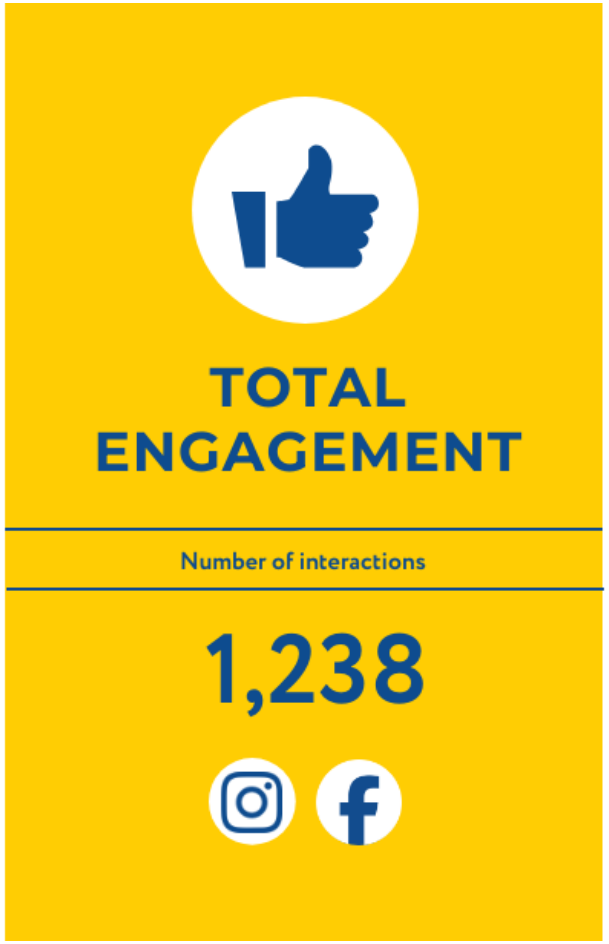
By Doris Maricle



SOCIAL MEDIA **METRICS**







TOP-PERFORMING **POSTS**



START EOY Deposits

LOSFA posted information about how START, START K12 and ABLE account holders can take advantage of the tax incentives by submitting their end-of-the-year deposits.

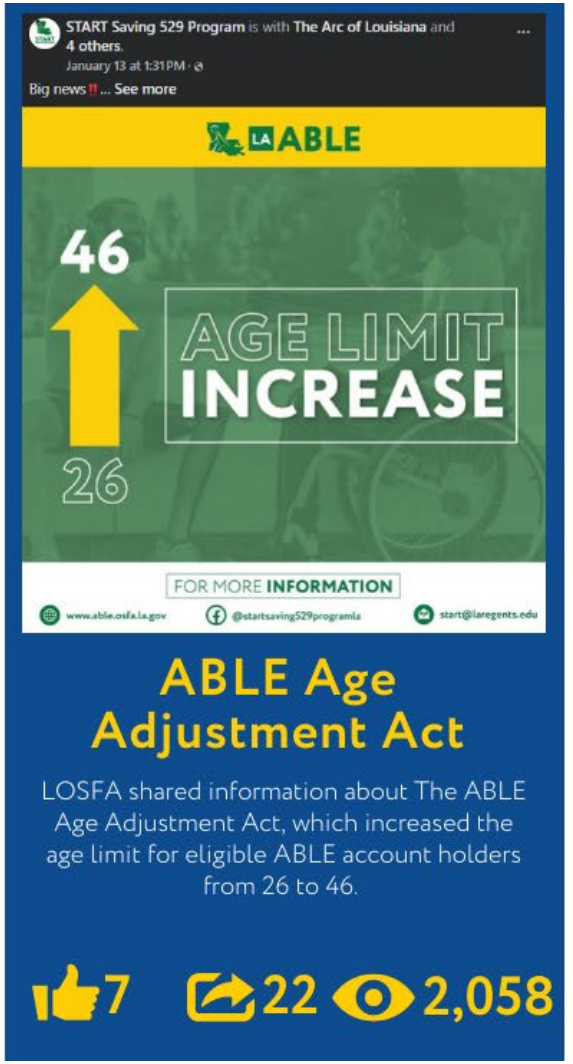
4 5 1,271



FaLaLaLa FAFSA® Days

In December, LOSFA hosted Fa-La-La-La FAFSA® Days to help students and parents out giving them one-on-one FAFSA® assistance with a LOSFA representative.

11 20 2,856



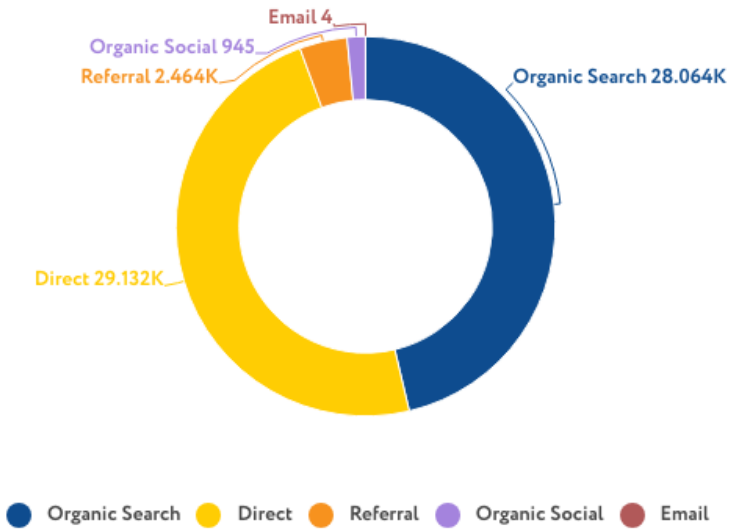
ABLE Age Adjustment Act

LOSFA shared information about The ABLE Age Adjustment Act, which increased the age limit for eligible ABLE account holders from 26 to 46.

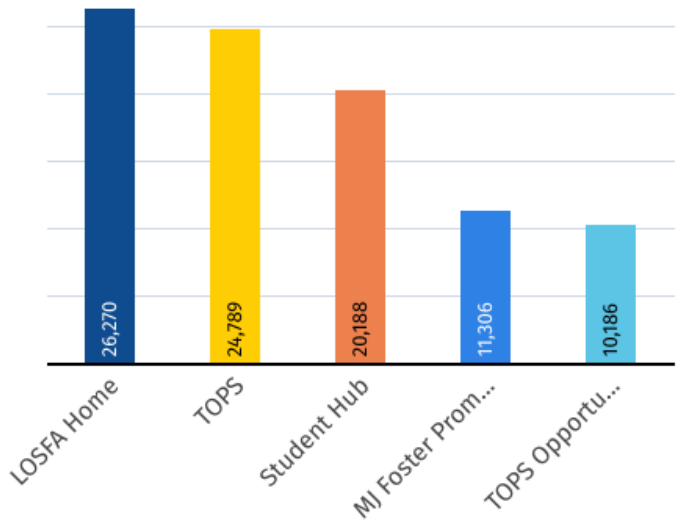
7 22 2,058

WEBSITE **TRAFFIC**

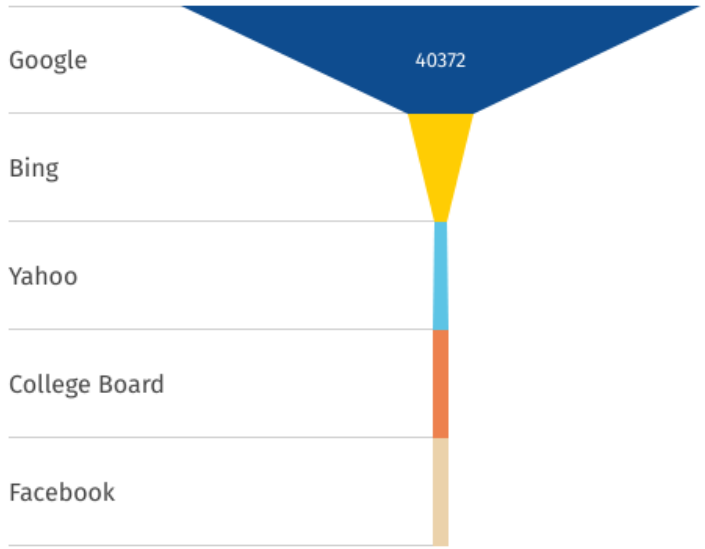
Top Traffic Channels



Top Page Traffic



Top Referrals



Total Pageviews	Total Sessions	Total Users
188,072	88,721	144,433

Data from 11/22/25 - 1/27/26

EMPLOYEE **ENGAGEMENT**

WELCOME, LOUIS!

The Galvez Office kicked off the new year with a big welcome for the LOUIS team! LOUIS is the statewide library consortium recognized as a model for cost-effective collaboration among Louisiana's academic libraries. We look forward to collaborating and having them be part of the sixth floor!



EMPLOYEE **ENGAGEMENT**

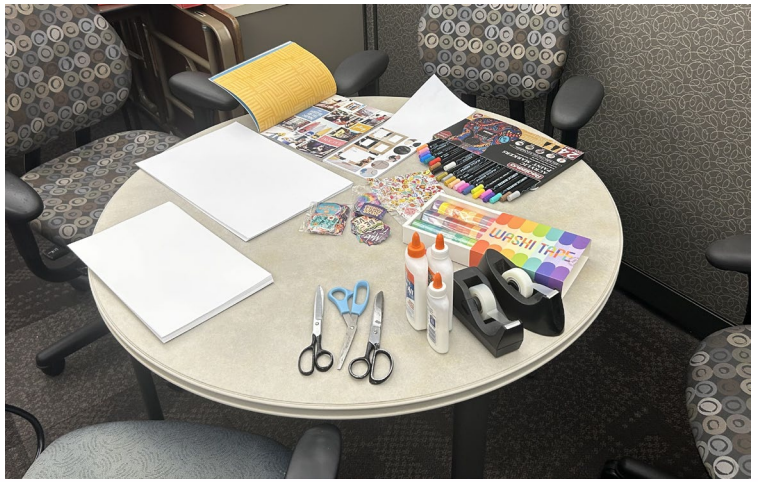
MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

For December's Mental Health activity, the conference room was turned into a Reading Oasis. Staff members had a relaxing lunch break by reading a good book while sipping some tea.

For January's activity, staff created vision boards to represent their 2026 goals, clarify their intentions, and stay focused on achieving them.







EMPLOYEE **ENGAGEMENT**

CONGRATULATIONS!
Staff gathered on January 20th to celebrate Isabel Reyes (CASC) on the occasion of her upcoming nuptials and wish her all the best in this next chapter.





EMPLOYEE **ENGAGEMENT**

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

The LOSFA team wrapped up the year in true holiday spirit, celebrating with a week full of joy, laughter, and delicious food. From festive meals to engaging activities, the staff came together to make the season bright.

One of the highlights of the week was the Reindeer Games, where team members competed in fun challenges that tested their creativity. After an exciting showdown, the winners proudly walked away with a certificate and a small trophy—a perfect way to cap off the festivities!





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SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Devynn Alexander

Special Programs Supervisor

SCHOLARSHIPS AND **GRANTS UPDATE**



GO Grant 2025-2026 Academic Year (As of 01/27/2026)

- 2025-26 Total Allocation: $70,480,716.00
- Total Billed: $33,790,366.97
- Remaining Balance: $36,690,349.03

- **John R. Justice Update (As of 01/22/2026)**
- 2025-26 Total Allocation: $66,000.00
- Applications Received:
  - Public Defenders: 5
  - Prosecutors: 23
- Service Agreements Completed:
  - Public Defenders: 3
  - Prosecutors: 7
- Amounts Approved for Disbursement: $42,900
  - Pending: $23,100

SCHOLARSHIPS AND **GRANTS UPDATE**



MJ Foster Update (As of 01/27/2026)

- 2025-26 Initial Allocation: $9,975,000.00
- Total Pre-Billings Submitted: $10,587,647.32
- Subtotal Verified Billings Current Phase: $612,677.75
- Subtotal Verified Billings Scheduled for Payment on 01/29/2026: $46,312.75
- Total Payments: $9,928,656.82
- Remaining Funds After 01/29/2026: $30.43

GO Youth ChalleNGe Program

- 2025-26 Total Allocation: $50,000.00
- Fall 2025 Recipients: 12
  - Award Amounts: $24,481.84
- Spring 2026 Recipients: 3
  - Award Amounts: $7,697.46

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TOPS UPDATE

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INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Dr. Susannah Craig

LOSFA Interim Executive Director

Board of Regents in 2026

- ✅ **People Centered**
- ✅ **Data Informed**
- ✅ **Mission Driven**

Developing Talent So Louisiana Prospers

Round One Office Moves

- LOUIS ➡️ Galvez
- Proprietary Schools ➡️ Galvez
- IT Programmers ➡️ Galvez
- AAI/IR Data Analysts ➡️ Claiborne
- START Team ➡️ Galvez/Claiborne

2026 BOR Reorganization

LOSFA

- **Dr. Susannah Craig, Interim Executive Director**

LOSFA Core Mission

Scholarships and Grants

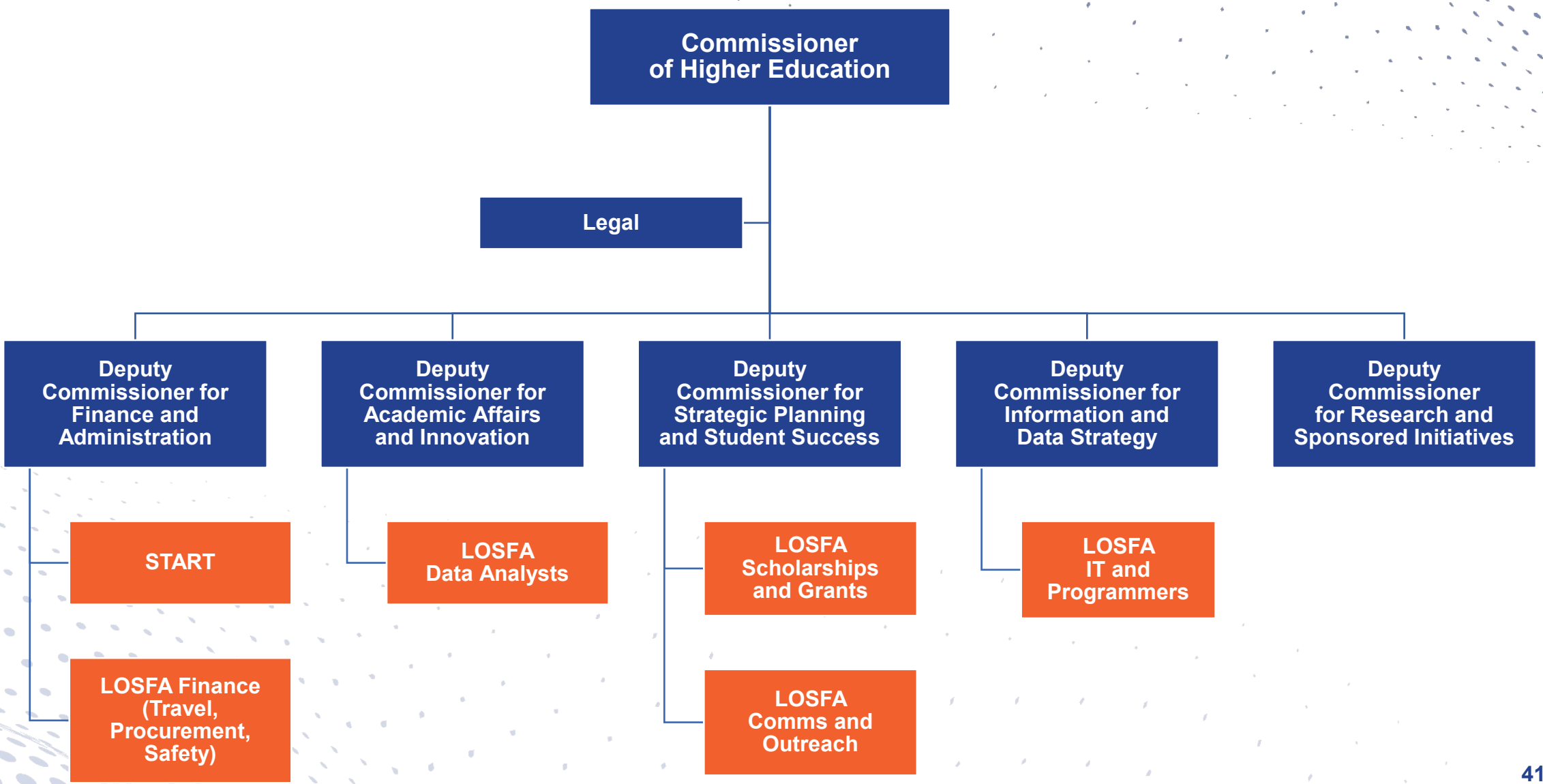
Outreach and Communication

2026 BOR Reorganization

Mission Aligned Offices

- Finance
- Data
- IT
- Legal

Reorganization Structure



NEW **BUSINESS**

NEW **BUSINESS**

TOPS HOME STUDY EXCEPTIONS

- Consider the attached request for exception to the TOPS statutory provision that requires a student to begin a home study program no later than the conclusion of the tenth grade.
- Motion to approve

NEW **BUSINESS**

TOPS EXCEPTIONS

- Consider the attached requests for exception to the TOPS regulatory provisions that require students to remain continuously enrolled and to earn the annual credit hours required during the academic year.
- Motion to approve

NEXT MEETING **DATE**

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

ADJOURNMENT