

Developing a Postsecondary Education System to Meet the Needs of Louisiana

November 30, 2011



The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems

Introduction

HCR 30 of the 2011 regular session of the Louisiana Legislature requests the Board of Regents (BoR) to:

1. Study the provision of public postsecondary educational opportunities throughout the state
2. Establish the appropriate role, scope, and mission of each public postsecondary education institution
3. Formulate a plan that will make optimal use of academic, fiscal, and physical resources, recognizing the unique nature of each institution, and allow each institution's students to pursue their chosen academic path.

In response to this request BoR contracted with the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) to develop a report that:

- Describes a college and university system that would best meet the needs of the State of Louisiana, an "ideal" system that recognizes the geography, demography, economy, and future needs of the state;
- Identifies those situations where the current structure and capacity are most at odds with this ideal scenario;
- Presents a set of criteria to be applied in developing a system of higher education that responds to state and regional needs;
- Identifies changes in institutions' missions and programs that are achievable and deal with the disjuncture between the preferred and actual sets of conditions; and
- Indicates the additional capacity and policies necessary to help ensure that the educational assets of this realigned system of higher education can be made available in ways that will allow students in all parts of the state to pursue their academic interests.

This document has been prepared in conformance with this obligation.

The Idealized System

If Louisiana (or any other state) were to start from scratch in creating a postsecondary education system, the result would differ from what is currently in place. The existing institutions were created in different times in response to the educational needs (or politics) of those times. While it is not feasible to make wholesale changes, it is possible to take steps that result in a better alignment of capacity and need. As a starting point for assessing what those steps might be, it is useful to establish a template of the "ideal" system as the basis for comparison with the system "that is." That system is briefly described in this section of the report.

A desirable public system of postsecondary education for Louisiana would consist of the following components:

1. A comprehensive research university which

- Serves academically very well prepared undergraduate students from throughout the state and graduate students from throughout the U.S. and the world. The university exhibits an enrollment profile similar to that of competitive research universities elsewhere in the U.S.
- Offers a broad range of baccalaureate and graduate programs, including those in
 - A comprehensive array of arts and sciences fields. This should be the only public institution in the state offering doctoral programs in arts and sciences disciplines; and
 - Applied fields such as agriculture, architecture, communications, engineering, education, business, information sciences, and public administration.
- Offers professional programs in fields such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, and law. As part of the health sciences constellation of programs, this institution should be the primary (if not sole) provider of doctoral programs in nursing and the various allied health fields.
- Provides the array of services associated with being a land, sea, or space grant university.
- Is competitive with other public flagship institutions for basic research funding allocated on a peer-reviewed basis. The flagship university should have four or five research areas recognized as being in the top ten in the country (no public institution can or should aspire to this level of excellence in a broad array of disciplines).
- Provides services designed to meet the needs of statewide economic development
 - continuing professional education, applied research, and problem-solving for employers and communities, as well as support for small businesses and entrepreneurs through technology transfer.

2. A System of Regional Comprehensive Universities which:

- Prepare academically well-prepared students from the geographic regions served by each institution for careers and lifelong learning in a dynamic and increasingly global 21st century economy. Academic preparation for students entering these institutions should be such that they do not require remedial coursework in order to be successful at these universities. The System has a particular obligation to serve underrepresented students.
- Provide regional access in areas in and around
 - New Orleans
 - Baton Rouge
 - Hammond/North Shore
 - Alexandria/Central Louisiana
 - Shreveport

- Monroe
 - Lafayette/Acadiana
 - Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana
 - Houma/Thibodaux/South-central Louisiana
 - Offer programs at the baccalaureate and master’s levels in basic arts and sciences fields and in the professional and technical fields relevant to the needs of the regional economy – typically education, business, nursing and allied health, and computer and information technologies.
 - Offer doctoral programs only in those practice areas where the field/profession requires/expects a doctoral degree for entry into the profession, e.g., pharmacy, nursing, certain allied health specialties, and educational leadership.
 - Provide regional service and engagement (regional stewardship) by
 - Collaborating with each region’s P-12 education system and LCTCS institutions to increase college and career readiness of the region’s high school graduates;
 - Ensuring seamless transfer of two-year college students to baccalaureate degree programs;
 - Increasing access and baccalaureate degree completion for place-bound, low-income and regionally underserved populations;
 - Serving the needs of regional economic development interests; and
 - Responding to the cultural needs of the region
 - Conduct research specifically focused on the integration and application of knowledge directly relevant to the university’s teaching and regional service mission.
3. A System of Comprehensive Community Colleges which
- Are open-access institutions serving a wide variety of clients from within their geographic area
 - High school students seeking an accelerated start in a college program
 - Recent high school graduates
 - Adults who may or may not have completed high school and may or may not have had some prior college experience
 - Employers
 - The System has a particular obligation to serve underrepresented (especially African-American) students
 - Offer programs at the sub-baccalaureate level serving very different purposes
 - Adult Basic Education programs

- Remedial/developmental programs that prepare individuals for successful participation in college or allow them to acquire a work readiness certification. A role to be played by the community colleges is to serve as a “university college” on the campuses of four-year institutions, allowing students who are ineligible for direct admissions to universities to become part of the four-year institution community while becoming prepared for full admission.
- Associate-level arts and sciences programs that allow students to obtain the first two years of a baccalaureate education and transfer to four-year institutions with junior standing
- Vocational programs that prepare students for entry into jobs in the regional economy that pay a living wage
- Workforce development programs that provide job upgrading skills to employees of regional employers
- Serve the economic development needs of the region by providing rapid response workforce training for employers that are new to the region or already located in the region and seeking to expand
- Collaborate with regional P-12 education systems and regional universities to increase college and career readiness of the region’s high school graduates.

This system should

- Be organized in such a way that there is a single administrative entity within each region of the state. Services may be offered at multiple sites as required within this administrative framework;
- Ensure that all institutions in the system have at least one signature program that is closely aligned with the key industry in its region;
- Ensure that students face no academic dead ends if they decide to transfer to other postsecondary education institutions. In practical terms this means that all of the colleges should be SACS accredited; and
- Have, at the system level, the capacity to mount a rapid-response workforce development program that
 - Can respond to needs of employers with a lag time of no more than one month; and
 - Draw on the capacities of all institutions in the system – and providers outside the system if necessary – to respond to these needs.

Role and Scope Designations of Louisiana Institutions of Higher Education

This section of the report describes the missions, roles, and scope of each public postsecondary education institution in the state as those missions are currently being enacted. A subsequent section suggests areas where changes might be considered. The descriptions for each institution follow a common framework by delineating:

- Audiences to be served
- The general array of programs to be offered
- Any special or unique features of institutional mission

1. Audiences

Among the characteristics of audiences to be served are those expressed in terms of:

- Geography. What geographic area is the institution expected to serve?
- Academic preparation. Does the institution admit only students with high levels of academic preparation, or does it serve adults regardless of prior levels of academic preparation?
- Age/full-time status. Does the institution primarily serve recent high school graduates, or does it have a special role in serving older (often part-time) students?
- Race/ethnicity. Does the institution have a special role in serving specific subpopulations?
- Employers. Is the institution expected to serve employers
 - In a region?
 - In specific industries?

2. Array of Programs and Services

Chief among the considerations in this dimension are:

- Level of program. Is the institution authorized to offer doctoral programs? Master's programs? If a community college, is it authorized to offer any programs at the baccalaureate level?
- Academic fields. In particular, what professional programs is the institution authorized to offer (where "professional" is defined broadly to include applied programs such as business, education, engineering, and nursing, as well as the more typically acknowledged professional programs of law, medicine, dentistry, etc.)?

3. Special Features

Among the factors in this category are:

- Academic programs. Does the institution offer programs which are unique in the state or region? Do any of the academic programs hold regional or national distinction?

- Research emphasis. Is research a primary expectation for the institution? Is the institution expected to create research capacity in specific fields?
- Land-grant status.
- Special delivery capacity. For example, is the institution charged with providing (or managing for the system) online or interactive video courses?

Within this general framework, experience also indicates that it is good practice in the policy sense to avoid the flowery language that often finds its way into descriptions of mission found in promotional pieces. Such language often obscures rather than reveals the true intention of the mission/role/scope statement.

Clear statements of role and scope that adhere to these guidelines have benefits to both institutions and the state-level decision makers. These guidelines will allow for a less onerous new-program-review process.

Role and scope changes should be a rare occurrence and will most likely involve substantive change reviews by regional and, where applicable, programmatic accreditation agencies. An additional determinant in the decision to approve a role and scope change should be the long-term impact of the state "mix" of institutions with specific role and scope functions.

This set of criteria does not mean that certain programs cannot be offered in locations where they are needed and do not currently exist. It does mean, however, that delivery should be under the auspices of an institution with a role and scope that allow delivery without seeking additional approval – either as a joint program with the degree awarded by the "authorized" institution or as a program delivered by an "authorized" institution at an off-campus site.

There is one possible exception to the set of guidelines stated above – the instance in which change of role and scope is forced by an accrediting or licensure organization (as occurred, for example, when entrance to the practice of pharmacy was determined to require a PharmD). In such cases, the approval may have to be granted with the stipulation that approval in no way opens the door to expanding role and scope in fields where change is not essentially mandatory. In particular, expanded role and scope should not be approved for a single program where expansion is voluntary even if the stipulation suggested above is attached; the stipulation will not hold and the floodgates will open to requests for approval of many more programs on an episodic basis.

The entries in this document are organized according to the five major types of institution delineated by the Board of Regents – comprehensive research university (flagship), specialized units, statewide universities, regional universities, and community and technical colleges – rather than the existing governance structure for Louisiana institutions organized by systems.

COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

Louisiana State University and A&M College

Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College (LSU) is the state's comprehensive doctoral and research university, offering a broad range of baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral programs appropriate to a nationally competitive research university. Admission to LSU is highly selective, based on academic preparation and indications of the likelihood of success.

1. Audiences

LSU, as flagship university and a land, sea, and space grant college, has a statewide mission. As such, it is responsible for serving both the state and the global community:

- Residents from throughout Louisiana who have excelled in high school studies and are seeking to complete baccalaureate degrees;
- Individuals seeking graduate and professional degrees;
- Employers, both public and private, seeking not only well-educated employees, but technical assistance and applied research;
- Economic development interests and entrepreneurs throughout the state;
- Academic disciplines and the research community;
- The community and region, by providing a broad range of academic cultural activities and public events; and
- Transfer students from two-year colleges.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Offers a broad range of undergraduate and graduate programs including core arts and sciences, agriculture and natural resources, architecture, communications, information sciences, education, engineering, public administration, and business. LSU also offers professional programs in veterinary medicine.
- Conducts basic and applied research in a broad array of disciplines and is pursuing and maintaining national prominence in multiple fields.
- Provides services specifically designed to meet the needs of statewide economic development – continuing professional education, technical and professional services, support of small businesses and entrepreneurs and technology transfer.

3. Special Programs/Features

SPECIALIZED UNITS

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – New Orleans

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – New Orleans (LSUHSC-NO) is one of two public specialized health sciences centers in Louisiana. It is a doctoral research university whose offerings are limited to programs in biomedical fields and the health professions. Admission to professional programs at LSUHSC-NO is highly selective, based on academic preparation and indications of the likelihood of success.

1. Audiences

LSUHSC-NO has a statewide mission. As such, it is responsible for serving:

- Residents from throughout Louisiana who have excelled in high school studies and are seeking to complete undergraduate degrees in health-related fields;
- Transfer students from two-year colleges seeking to continue their education in health-related fields;
- Individuals seeking graduate and professional degrees in the health professions and related fields;
- Employers in the health care industry;
- Patients who receive health care services in University-affiliated hospitals and clinics; and
- Academic disciplines and the research community.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Offering undergraduate, master's, doctoral, and professional degree programs appropriate to a comprehensive health sciences university. These include programs in medicine, dentistry, nursing, allied health, public health, and the biosciences.
- Conducting basic and applied research in the biosciences and improved approaches to health care.
- Providing clinical services to patients.

3. Special Programs/Features

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – Shreveport

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – Shreveport (LSUHSC-S) is one of two public specialized health sciences centers in Louisiana. It is a doctoral research university whose offerings are limited to programs in biomedical fields and the health professions. Admission to professional programs at LSUHSC-S is highly selective, based on academic preparation and indications of the likelihood of success.

1. Audiences

LSUHSC-S has a statewide mission. As such, it is responsible for serving:

- Residents from throughout Louisiana who have excelled in high school studies and are seeking to complete undergraduate degrees in health-related fields;
- Transfer students from two-year colleges seeking to continue their education in health-related fields;
- Individuals seeking graduate and professional degrees in the health professions and related fields;
- Employers in the health care industry;
- Patients who receive health care services in University-affiliated hospitals and clinics, especially in northern Louisiana; and
- Academic disciplines and the research community.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Offering undergraduate, master's, doctoral, and professional degree programs appropriate to a comprehensive health sciences university. These include programs in medicine, allied health, public health, and the biosciences.
- Conducting basic and applied research in the biosciences and improved approaches to health care.
- Providing clinical services to patients

3. Special Programs/Features

Louisiana State University Pennington Biomedical Research Center

The Louisiana State University Pennington Biomedical Research Center (Pennington) is a research unit dedicated to promoting healthier lives through research and education in the areas of nutrition and preventive medicine.

1. Audiences

Pennington has a statewide mission. As such it has a responsibility to serve

- Citizens from Louisiana and beyond;
- Employers in the healthcare industry;
- Patients in need of nutritional and related care;
- Researchers from around the world addressing nutritional and related care; and
- Postdoctoral fellows addressing cutting edge research in research related to health.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic discovery programs, as well as validation and developmental programs that are based on model organisms, human studies, and clinical trials.
- Contribution to postsecondary education through highly specialized training of postdoctoral fellows.
- Research programs in the areas of cancer, diabetes, epidemiology and disease prevention, genomics and molecular biology, neurobiology, neurodegeneration, nutrient sensing and cell signaling, obesity, physical activity and health, and stem cell and developmental biology.
- Increased activity in intellectual property disclosures and licensing agreements with the goal of becoming a major force in the development of technology-based companies.
- Education initiatives whose purpose is the dissemination of knowledge to improve the health and quality of life, and reduce the burden of diseases among the citizens of Louisiana and the nation.

3. Special Programs/Features

Louisiana State University Agricultural Center

The Louisiana State University Agricultural Center (LSU Ag Center) promotes scientific investigations and experiments that bear on and contribute to the establishment of permanent and effective agricultural and natural resource industries, and aids in diffusing among the people of Louisiana useful information and encouraging its practical application (putting research to work).

1. Audiences

The LSU Ag Center has a statewide mission. As such, it has a responsibility to serve

- Individual farmers and their families;
- Large production farms; and
- The agribusiness industry, from production to distribution and marketing.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Research and educational programs that develop the best use of natural resources, conserve and protect the environment, enhance the development of agricultural and related enterprises and develop human and community resources.
- Programs and services which promote the more efficient and intelligent use of the vast human and natural resources of the state by accomplishing the following goals: strengthening the productivity and profitability of Louisiana farms; facilitating the wise use of natural resources and protection of the environment; developing new agricultural crops and value-added products; building leaders and good citizens through 4-H youth development; strengthening families and communities; and implementing nutrition, diet, food safety, and health programs for better living.

3. Special Programs/Features

Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center

The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SU Ag Center) conducts statewide agricultural, research and extension programs to benefit a diverse clientele, contributing to the sustainability, productivity, profitability and competitiveness of Louisiana's agricultural industry.

1. Audiences

The SU Ag Center has a statewide mission. As such, it has a responsibility to serve

- Individual farmers and their families;
- Large production farms; and
- The agribusiness industry, from production to distribution and marketing.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic and applied research programs, disseminating information, and encouraging citizens to adopt relevant practices. Through its research, the SU Ag Center advances the state of knowledge and develops new practices and products.
- Extension programs which disseminate relevant information that addresses the scientific, technological, social, economic, and cultural needs of all citizens, with particular emphasis on the needs of those who are socially, economically, or educationally disadvantaged.
- Programs and services to strengthen the productivity, profitability and competitiveness of Louisiana's agriculture, forestry, and fisheries while enhancing the environment and assuring wise use of natural resources. Also, programs in nutrition, health, family, and community development programs to enhance the quality of life of Louisiana's citizens.

3. Special Programs/Features

Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center

Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center (LSU Law) is one of two public law centers in Louisiana. It is a specialized academic unit whose offerings are limited to programs in the law. Its primary mission is to attract and educate a well-qualified culturally and racially diverse group of men and women in order to produce highly competent and ethical lawyers capable of serving the cause of justice in private practice, in public service, and in commerce and industry. Admission to professional programs at LSU Law is highly selective, based on academic preparation and indications of the likelihood of success.

1. Audiences

LSU Law has a statewide mission. As such, it has a responsibility to serve

- Residents from throughout Louisiana who have excelled in undergraduate studies and are seeking a professional degree in law;
- Employers in the legal and related professions;
- Citizens seeking legal assistance; and
- Academic disciplines and the research community.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Offering masters and professional degree programs appropriate to a law center.
- Conducting applied research in the law.
- Providing clinical services to citizens.

3. Special Programs/Features

Southern University Law Center

Southern University Law Center (SU Law) is one of two public law centers in Louisiana. SU Law offers legal training to a diverse group of students. The Law Center seeks to maintain its historical mission to provide legal education opportunities to underrepresented racial, ethnic, and economic groups; to advance society with competent, ethical individuals who are professionally equipped for positions of responsibility and leadership; and to promote legal services in underprivileged urban and rural communities. Admission to professional programs at SU Law is highly selective, based on academic preparation and indications of the likelihood of success.

1. Audiences

SU Law has a statewide mission. As such, it has a responsibility to serve

- Residents from throughout Louisiana who have excelled in undergraduate studies and are seeking a professional degree in law;
- Employers in the legal and related professions;
- Citizens seeking legal assistance; and
- Academic disciplines and the research community.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Offering a professional degree program in law.
- Conducting applied research in the law.
- Providing clinical services to citizens.

3. Special Programs/Features

Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium

The Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) is a research unit dedicated to marine research and education. LUMCON fulfills its mission by conducting research and education programs relevant to Louisiana's needs in marine science, and by serving as a resource facility for all Louisiana schools with interests in marine research and education. Thus, LUMCON fosters understanding of the economic and cultural value of Louisiana's coastal and marine environments.

1. Audiences

LUMCON has a statewide mission. As such, it has a responsibility to serve

- Elementary and secondary students and teachers with an interest in marine sciences;
- Colleges students with an interest in pursuing careers in the marine sciences; and
- College and university marine scientists with an interest in conducting specialized research which can only be directed at sea.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Direct, first-hand experiences in marine science. LUMCON's programs include summer courses, field trips, internships, graduate education, teacher training, research experiences, and exposure of the public to the value of Louisiana's resources.
- Applied research in Coastal Marine Science ranging from basic to applied science in areas including aquaculture, coastal ecosystems, hypoxia, phytoplankton ecology, biogeochemistry, fisheries production, coastal processes, coastal restoration, and river-ocean interactions.

3. Special Programs/Features

STATEWIDE UNIVERSITIES

Louisiana Tech University

Louisiana Tech University (LA Tech) is a comprehensive university with a mission to educate undergraduate and graduate students primarily in science and technology disciplines and to conduct research in these fields. Admission to LA Tech is selective, based on courses completed and academic performance.

1. Audiences

LA Tech has a statewide mission and is responsible for serving

- Residents from throughout Louisiana who have excelled in high school studies and are seeking a baccalaureate or graduate degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students;
- Employers, both public and private, seeking not only well-educated employees, but technical assistance and applied research;
- Economic development interests and entrepreneurs throughout the state;
- Academic disciplines and the research community; and
- The area community, by providing a broad range of academic cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- A broad range of baccalaureate and master's-level core arts and sciences programs appropriate to a comprehensive teaching and research university.
- Baccalaureate and graduate programs in professional fields of architecture, education, engineering, computer and information science, related business fields, and allied health professions.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Doctoral programs in a variety of arts, sciences and professional fields, including computational analysis, biomedical engineering, audiology, and business.
- Services specifically designed to meet the needs of statewide economic development – continuing professional education, technical and professional services, support of small businesses and entrepreneurs and technology transfer.

3. Special Programs/Features

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) is a comprehensive university with a mission to educate undergraduate and graduate students in a variety of arts, sciences and professional programs. Admission to ULL is selective, based on courses completed and academic performance.

1. Audiences

ULL has a statewide mission and is responsible for serving

- Residents from throughout Louisiana, especially those of the Acadiana region, who have excelled in high school studies and are seeking a baccalaureate or graduate degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students;
- Regional employers, both public and private – including school districts, health care providers, local governments, private businesses and community agencies seeking technical assistance and applied research;
- Economic development interests and entrepreneurs in the region;
- Academic disciplines and the research community; and
- The community and region, by providing a broad range of academic and cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- A broad range of baccalaureate and master's-level core arts and sciences programs in the variety appropriate to a comprehensive, teaching and research university.
- Baccalaureate and master's programs in the professional fields of architecture, computer science, education, engineering, criminal justice, nursing and allied health, and business.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Doctoral programs in a variety of arts, sciences and professional fields, including English, education, nursing, computer and systems engineering, mathematics and environmental biology.
- Services specifically designed to meet the economic development needs of the region.

3. Special Programs/Features

University of New Orleans

The University of New Orleans (UNO) is a comprehensive university with a mission to educate undergraduate and graduate students in a variety of arts, sciences and professional programs. Admission to UNO is selective, based on courses completed and academic performance.

1. Audiences

UNO has a statewide mission and is responsible for serving

- Residents throughout the state, especially those of the greater New Orleans area who have excelled in high school and who are seeking a baccalaureate or graduate degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students;
- Employers in the region, particularly in the private sector – especially in planning and environmental protection, engineering, and health care;
- Economic development interests and regional entrepreneurs;
- Academic disciplines and the research community; and
- Civic and cultural organizations of the region, and the area community, by providing a broad range of academic and cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- A broad range of baccalaureate and master's-level core arts and sciences programs appropriate to a comprehensive teaching and research university.
- Baccalaureate and master's programs in urban planning, communications, education, engineering, business, healthcare management, and hospitality administration.
- Doctoral programs in education, engineering, conservation biology, chemistry, psychology, political science, financial economics and urban studies.
- Services designed to meet local economic development needs.

3. Special Programs/Features

REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES

Grambling State University

Grambling State University is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is successful education of undergraduate students and services to the employers and communities in its region. Grambling uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

Grambling is responsible for serving

- Residents of Louisiana, particularly those in the northern part of the state and in the Delta, who have completed a high school education and are seeking either a college degree or continuing professional education;
- A nationwide base of alumni desirous of educating their children at their alma mater;
- Employers in the region, both public and private – school districts, health care providers, local governments and private businesses;
- Economic development interests and regional entrepreneurs; and
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from Louisiana Delta Community College, Bossier Parish Community College, and Southern University – Shreveport.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- An array of baccalaureate liberal arts programs – arts and humanities, social sciences, natural sciences – appropriate to a teaching institution with a predominantly undergraduate student body.
- Professional programs at the baccalaureate level in communications, engineering technology, computer/information systems, education, criminal justice, social work, nursing, and business.
- Master's programs in communications, nursing, sports administration, and areas related to public administration (criminal justice, public administration, and social work).
- A doctoral degree in developmental education
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.

3. Special Programs/Features

Louisiana State University – Alexandria

Louisiana State University – Alexandria (LSUA) is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is successful education of undergraduate students and service to the employers and communities within its region. LSUA uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

LSUA is responsible for serving

- Residents of central Louisiana who have completed high school and are seeking an undergraduate degree;
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from Central Louisiana Technical Community College;
- Employers in the region, both public and private, school districts, local governments, health care providers, and private businesses;
- Economic development interests and regional entrepreneurs; and
- The communities in the area by providing a broad range of academic and cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Baccalaureate programs in the arts and humanities, the natural sciences, and social sciences appropriate to a teaching institution with an undergraduate student body.
- Baccalaureate programs in the applied fields of communications, education, criminal justice, nursing, and business.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Services specifically designed to meet the needs of regional economic development (small business development and support for entrepreneurs).
- Access to graduate programs needed in the region by brokering the delivery of such programs from other universities.

3. Special Programs/Features

Louisiana State University – Shreveport

Louisiana State University – Shreveport (LSUS) is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is successful education of undergraduate students and services to the employers and communities in its region. LSUS uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

LSUS is responsible for serving

- Residents of northwest Louisiana who have completed high school and are seeking either a college degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from Bossier Parish Community College and Southern University – Shreveport;
- Employers in the region, both public and private; school districts, local governments, and private businesses;
- Economic development interests and regional entrepreneurs; and
- The area community, by providing a broad range of academic and cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Baccalaureate programs in arts and humanities, the natural sciences, and social sciences appropriate to a teaching institution with a predominantly undergraduate student body.
- Baccalaureate and master's programs in the professional fields of communications, counseling, information technology, education, and business.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Services specifically designed to meet the needs of regional economic development (small business development, support for entrepreneurs, problem-solving).

3. Special Programs/Features

McNeese State University

McNeese State University is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is successful education of undergraduate students and services to the employers and communities in its region. McNeese uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

McNeese is responsible for serving

- Residents of southwest Louisiana who have completed high school and are seeking either a college degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from SOWELA Technical Community College;
- Employers in the region, both public and private, school districts, health care providers, local governments, and private businesses;
- Economic development interests and regional entrepreneurs; and
- The area community, by providing a broad range of academic and cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- An array of liberal arts programs at the baccalaureate level – arts and humanities, social sciences, natural sciences – appropriate to a teaching institution with a predominantly undergraduate student body.
- Baccalaureate programs in education, engineering, business, nursing, selected allied health fields, mass communications, and criminal justice.
- Master's programs primarily related to education, engineering, arts and sciences, nursing, and business.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Services specifically designed to meet the needs of regional economic development (small business development, support for entrepreneurs, problem-solving).

3. Special Programs/Features

Nicholls State University

Nicholls State University is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is successful education of undergraduate students and services to the employers and communities in its region. Nicholls uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

Nicholls is responsible for serving

- Residents of south central Louisiana who have completed high school and are seeking either a college degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from Fletcher Technical Community College;
- Employers in the region, both public and private, school districts, health care providers, local governments, and private businesses;
- Economic development interests and regional entrepreneurs; and
- The area community, by providing a broad range of academic and cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- An array of liberal arts programs at the baccalaureate level – arts and humanities, social sciences, natural sciences – appropriate to a teaching institution with a predominantly undergraduate student body.
- Baccalaureate programs in the professional areas of education, business, culinary arts, nursing and selected allied health fields, and petroleum services.
- Master’s programs primarily related to education and business.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Services specifically designed to meet the needs of regional economic development (small business development, support for entrepreneurs, problem-solving).

3. Special Programs/Features

Northwestern State University

Northwestern State University is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is successful education of undergraduate students and services to the employers and communities in its region. Northwestern uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

Northwestern is responsible for serving

- Residents of the northwest and west central regions of Louisiana who have completed high school and are seeking either a college degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from Bossier Parish Community College and Southern University – Shreveport;
- Regional employers, both public and private, including school districts, health care providers, local governments, private businesses and community agencies seeking technical assistance and applied research;
- Economic development interests and entrepreneurs in the region; and
- The area community, by providing a broad range of academic and cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Undergraduate and graduate nursing and allied health programs located in Shreveport that, with LSUHSC in Shreveport, provide major health profession training for that region.
- An array of liberal arts programs at the baccalaureate level – arts and humanities, social sciences, natural sciences – appropriate to a teaching institution with a predominantly undergraduate student body.
- Baccalaureate programs in the professional fields of communication, computer information science, education, criminal justice, social work, nursing and allied health, and business.
- Master’s programs primarily related to education, selected arts, health, and nursing.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Services specifically designed to meet the needs of regional economic development.

3. Special Programs/Features

Southeastern Louisiana University

Southeastern Louisiana University is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is successful education of undergraduate students and services to the employers and communities in its region. Southeastern uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

Southeastern is responsible for serving

- Residents of the greater metropolitan region, especially those of the Northshore parishes, who have completed high school and are seeking either a college degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from Northshore Technical Community College;
- Regional employers, both public and private, including school districts, health care providers, local governments, private businesses and community agencies seeking technical assistance and applied research;
- Economic development interests and entrepreneurs in the region; and
- The area community, by providing a broad range of academic and cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Baccalaureate arts and science programs in the variety appropriate to a teaching university with a predominantly undergraduate student body.
- Baccalaureate programs in the professional fields of communications, computer science, education, criminal justice, nursing and allied health, business, and social work.
- Master's programs in education, business, nursing and allied health, and selected arts and sciences fields.
- Practice doctorate degrees in collaboration with ULL in educational leadership and nursing practice.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Services specifically designed to meet the needs of regional economic development.

3. Special Programs/Features

Southern University and A&M College

Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is to prepare students for careers and lifelong learning in a global 21st century economy. The university has a special mission to serve the needs of the underserved, especially African-American students. Southern uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

Southern University, as a land grant college and an HBCU, is responsible for serving

- Residents from throughout Louisiana, particularly in the greater Baton Rouge area, who are seeking either a college degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from Baton Rouge Community College;
- Employers, both public and private, seeking not only well-educated employees, but technical assistance and applied research;
- Economic development interests and entrepreneurs throughout the state; and
- The community and region by providing a broad range of academic cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- A broad array of baccalaureate and master's programs appropriate for a predominantly teaching institution that emphasizes professional programs including those in agriculture, communication, education, engineering, computer science, criminal justice, social work, business, nursing and allied health.
- Applied research, with doctoral and professional programs in education, environmental toxicology, public policy, and nursing.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Services specifically designed to meet the needs of statewide economic development – continuing professional education, technical and professional services, support of small businesses and entrepreneurs.

3. Special Programs/Features

Southern University at New Orleans

Southern University – New Orleans (SUNO) is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is successful education of undergraduate students and services to the employers and communities in its region. SUNO uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

SUNO is responsible for serving

- Residents of the New Orleans metropolitan area who have completed high school who are seeking either a college degree or continuing professional education;
- Employers in the region, particularly public sector employers – school districts and local governments;
- The city through contributions to the cultural life of the community; and
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from Delgado Community College.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- An array of liberal arts programs appropriate to a teaching institution with a predominantly undergraduate student body – arts and humanities, social sciences, natural sciences – with particular strength in social sciences areas.
- Baccalaureate programs in education, criminal justice, social work, and business with complementary master's programs in museum studies, criminal justice, social work and management information systems.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.

3. Special Programs/Features

University of Louisiana at Monroe

The University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) is primarily a teaching institution whose mission is successful education of undergraduate students and services to the employers and communities in its region. ULM uses a traditional admission process based on courses completed, GPA, and standardized test scores.

1. Audiences

ULM is responsible for serving

- Residents of the northeast region of Louisiana who have completed high school and are seeking either a college degree or continuing professional education;
- Two-year college transfer students, particularly those from Louisiana Delta Community College;
- Regional employers, both public and private, including school districts, health care providers, local governments, private businesses and community agencies seeking technical assistance and applied research;
- Economic development interests and entrepreneurs in the region; and
- The area community, by providing a broad range of academic and cultural activities and public events.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Baccalaureate and master's arts and sciences programs in the variety appropriate to a comprehensive teaching university.
- Baccalaureate and master's programs in the professional fields of communications, criminal justice, education, social work, nursing and allied health, and business.
- Doctoral programs in curriculum and instruction, marriage and family therapy, and pharmacy.
- Support for area K-12 schools seeking college general education courses for advanced students and assistance in ensuring that their graduates are college- and career-ready.
- Services specifically designed to meet the economic development needs of the region.

3. Special Programs/Features

COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Baton Rouge Community College

Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC) is a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, BRCC uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

BRCC is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of Baton Rouge and the surrounding area who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in process technology, criminal justice, nursing, entertainment technology, construction management and business/office occupations.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

Bossier Parish Community College

Bossier Parish Community College (BPCC) is a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, BPCC uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

BPCC is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of northwest Louisiana who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in telecommunications, computer information systems, oil and gas production technologies, engineering and industrial technologies, culinary arts, criminal justice, nursing and numerous allied health fields, and business and office occupations.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

Delgado Community College

Delgado Community College is a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, DCC uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

Delgado is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of New Orleans and the surrounding area who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in communications, computer/information technologies, funeral service, culinary arts, early childhood education, engineering and science technologies, criminal justice, electrical, automobile and construction trades, interior and graphic design, nursing, a wide variety of allied health fields, and business/management occupations.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College

L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College is a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a technical community college, Fletcher uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

Fletcher is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of south central Louisiana who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in electrical and construction trades, auto and diesel mechanics, welding, production technologies, nursing and selected allied health fields, and business/office technologies.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

Louisiana Delta Community College

Louisiana Delta Community College (LDCC) is a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, LDCC uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

LDCC is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of Northeast Louisiana who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in child care, process technology, auto and diesel mechanics, welding, nursing and selected allied health fields, and business/office occupations.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

LSU – Eunice

Louisiana State University – Eunice (LSUE) is a two-year institution established to serve the educational needs of the students in Acadiana and southwest Louisiana. As a two-year institution, LSUE uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

LSUE is responsible for meeting the needs of

- Residents of Acadiana and southwest Louisiana who are seeking a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs; and
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and vocational skill to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- General education programs designed to prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions.
- Occupational training in computer information technology, criminal justice, child care, fire and emergency services technology, nursing and selected allied health occupations; and business/management occupations.

3. Special Features

Northshore Technical Community College

Northshore Technical Community College is a developing comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, Northshore uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

Northshore is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of the Northshore parishes who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in computer systems networking, culinary arts, child care, criminal justice, construction trades, automotive and welding technologies, practical nursing and patient care, diesel mechanics, and business/office occupations.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

Elaine P. Nunez Community College

Elaine P. Nunez Community College (Nunez) is a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, Nunez uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

Nunez is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of southeast Louisiana who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in food service production, industrial technology and maintenance, process technology, construction technologies, child care, EMT, practical nursing, and business/management occupations.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

River Parishes Community College

River Parishes Community College (RPCC) is a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, RPCC uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

RPCC is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of Ascension, Assumption, and St. James parishes who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in process and industrial instrumentation technologies, automotive technology, welding, practical nursing, and business/office occupations.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

South Louisiana Community College

South Louisiana Community College (SLCC) is a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, SLCC uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

SLCC is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of the Acadiana parishes who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in industrial technology, child care, criminal justice, emergency medical services, and general business.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

Southern University – Shreveport

Southern University – Shreveport (SUSLA) is a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, SUSLA uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

SUSLA is responsible for meeting the needs of:

- The residents of northwest Louisiana who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in computer applications, event management, electronics technology, criminal justice, nursing and several allied health fields, and business occupations.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Programs/Features

Sowela Technical Community College

Sowela Technical Community College is seeking SACS accreditation as a comprehensive community college responsible for providing the full range of community college services in its region. As a community college, Sowela uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

Sowela is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of Southwest Louisiana who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; a general education program in preparation for transfer to a university; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic academic/workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in computer applications and networking, culinary arts, automotive, construction, industrial and process technology, criminal justice, graphic arts, practical nursing, and business/office occupations.
- General education courses necessary to prepare students to transfer to four-year institutions.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Program/Features

Acadiana Technical College

Acadiana Technical College is a regional technical college responsible for providing the full range of technical college services in its region. As a technical college, Acadiana Technical College uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

Acadiana Technical College is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of the Acadiana region who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in business, commerce & service, health services occupations, information technology, construction & manufacturing, and transportation services careers.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Program/Features

Capital Area Technical College

Capital Area Technical College is a regional technical college responsible for providing the full range of technical college services in its region. As a technical college, Capital Area Technical College uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

Capital Area Technical College is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of the Capital region who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in business, commerce & service, health services occupations, information technology, construction & manufacturing, and transportation services careers.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Program/Features

Northeast Louisiana Technical College

Northeast Louisiana Technical College is a regional technical college responsible for providing the full range of technical college services in its region. As a technical college, Northeast Louisiana Technical College uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

Northeast Louisiana Technical College is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of northeast Louisiana, including the Delta region who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in business, commerce & service, health services occupations, information technology, construction & manufacturing, and transportation services careers.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Program/Features

Northwest Louisiana Technical College

Northwest Louisiana Technical College is a regional technical college responsible for providing the full range of technical college services in its region. As a technical college, Northwest Louisiana Technical College uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

Northwest Louisiana Technical College is responsible for meeting the needs of

- The residents of the northwest Louisiana region who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in business, commerce & service, health services occupations, information technology, construction & manufacturing, and transportation services careers.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Program/Features

South Central Louisiana Technical College

South Central Louisiana Technical College is a regional technical college responsible for providing the full range of technical college services in its region. As a technical college, South Central Louisiana Technical College uses a traditional open admission process.

1. Audiences

South Central Louisiana Technical College is responsible for meeting the needs of:

- The residents of the south central Louisiana region who are seeking career-technical training as preparation for entry into a vocation; industry or academic training to upgrade skills; or acquisition of basic academic skills required for success in pursuit of either academic or vocational programs;
- Employers in the area seeking new employees who have the necessary workplace and technical skills to fill open positions or employers seeking to upgrade skills of current employees;
- Economic development interests in the area; and
- Communities and civic groups within the service area.

2. Array of Programs and Services

- Basic workplace readiness skills training.
- Occupational training in business, commerce & service, health services occupations, information technology, construction & manufacturing, and transportation services careers.
- Business and industry training to meet the needs of current employers and economic development interests.

3. Special Program/Features

Areas Where Changes Should be Considered

A comparison of current roles, missions and governance arrangements with those described in the “ideal” version earlier in this document suggest several areas in which changes would better serve the residents of Louisiana. Some changes deal with governance structures – how many systems should there be, and which institutions should be in which systems. Other changes would result in changes to the roles and missions of existing institutions. These two types of changes are enumerated in the following sections.

1. Changes in governance arrangements.

The schema previously described suggested three management boards:

- a. A flagship university system. The institutions that clearly fit into this category are LSU A&M (including Pennington, Law, Agriculture), LSUHSC-NO and LSUHSC-S. This view of the world suggests that the LSU System should divest itself of LSUE, LSUA, and LSUS.
- b. A regional university system. The institutions currently in the UL System would all remain in that system. They would be joined by LSUA, LSUS, SU A&M, and SUNO.
- c. A comprehensive community college system. The institutions currently in the LCTCS would all remain in the system. They would be joined by LSUE and SUSLA. In addition, over time, LTC would cease to exist as a separate entity; its constituent parts would be joined with appropriate community colleges as opportunities conducive to such changes arise.

While an ideal schema for organizing higher education institutions in Louisiana is articulated above, the authors of this document defer recommendations on governance to the Governance Commission’s recommendations, which were being developed concurrent to this study.

2. It is presumed that the leadership of the LCTCS will continue the process of incorporating LTC campuses into appropriate community colleges as opportunities arise.
3. Potential changes in institutional role and scope

In order to better serve the needs of the citizens of the state of Louisiana and its geographic sub-regions, it is suggested that the following changes/enhancements in institutional role and scope be considered:

- a. Enhance LA Tech’s role as a statewide technological (science and engineering-oriented) university. In practical terms this will mean:
 - Beefing up LA Tech’s existing technology programs. The objective should be to increase their share of the institution’s enrollments and degree production;
 - Locating new graduate programs in technology fields at LA Tech rather than at any other UL institutions;
 - Encouraging growth in its technology-related research capacity; and

- Minimizing expansion of non-technical programs, especially in education.
- b. Bring more focus to the programs at Grambling by enhancing the size and scope of its programs in education. Minimize expansion of engineering technology programs at Grambling. These are more appropriately housed at LA Tech.
- c. Enhance the role of SU A&M. As LSU A&M further evolves as a flagship university and becomes more selective in the process, it will create a need in the Baton Rouge region for a more comprehensive regional university. SU A&M should be expected to fill this role. In this case, the issue is not about available programs – the institution already has all the programs needed to fulfill the role as the region’s comprehensive university. The issue is serving a much broader array of students than is currently the case. The state, and SU A&M itself, will have to see the institution not only as an HBCU but as the comprehensive university serving the capital region of the state.
- d. More clearly focus the mission of SUNO as a regional university in New Orleans with a primary role as preparing graduates that meet the needs of the public sector employers in the region. This means:
 - Creating or strengthening programs of excellence in education, public administration, criminal justice, and social work;
 - Considering affiliating the SU Law School with SUNO; and
 - Phasing out programs that do not meet this role.
- e. More clearly focus the mission of UNO as a regional university in New Orleans with a primary role of preparing graduates to meet the needs of the private sector employers in the region. This means:
 - Focusing on programs of excellence in such areas as engineering, naval architecture, business, environmental sciences, and urban planning; and
 - Phasing out programs that do not meet this role.
- f. Slightly expand the role of Northwestern State to include responsibility for providing programs to LCTCS faculty that will make them eligible to teach in SACS-accredited institutions. NSU has expertise in both adult education and distance delivery. LCTCS has a current – and likely long-term– need to increase education attainment levels of its faculty, particularly those who teach in technical fields, so that the credits for courses they teach can be accepted at SACS-accredited institutions. NSU should be charged to partner with LCTCS to address this need. Because of NSU’s extensive success and experience in Nursing, it may be appropriate to authorize it to offer the DPN at its Shreveport campus to serve the northern region of the state as the profession moves to higher level credential criteria for nurses.