COMMUNICATIONS TO UNDERCLASSMEN
ABOUT PREPARING FOR COLLEGE

MY LOSFA COLLEGE ADVOCATE: A HIGH SCHOOLER’S GUIDE TO COLLEGE

My LOSFA College Advocate: A High Schooler’s Guide to College was created to serve as a guide for freshman through senior students. It is based on a grade-level checklist, with tips from LOSFA and the U.S. Department of Education, to assist students with what steps they should focus on to stay on track as they persist through high school.

LCAAM/LIL’ CAAM

Louisiana College Application and Access Month (LCAAM) and Lil’ CAAM, an initiative under LCAAM, were created to support students prior to the 12th grade year. Lil’ CAAM is our early start initiative to creating and enhancing college going communities in which 6th – 11th grade students complete activities that help them explore their interests, skills, and potential careers that match those skills and interests. These events promote and prepare students to make the best post-secondary decisions for their future.

UNLOCK MY FUTURE

Unlock My Future is LOSFA’s 5-point match and fit tool. Beginning in middle school, LOSFA outreach staff begin introducing students to figuring out what they are good at, to make a career doing something they love. Unlock My Future examines five key areas for planning about college and career:

1. What am I good at? (Skills and Aptitude Match)
2. Can I get in? (Academic Match)
3. Can I afford it? (Cost of Choice Match)
4. Who gets me? (Social and Emotional Match)
5. Will I stay or will I go? (Retention Match)

By helping students plan their career early, Unlock My Future removes some of the stress from senior year. Using this tool shows students what potential career matches are best for them (along with possible salary amounts), and the best way to get to that career. The tool also helps students discover which college or university would be their best fit and how many years of school would be necessary to obtain a degree or credential of value.
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ABOUT PREPARING FOR COLLEGE
(cont.)

CROSS CURRICULAR COLLEGE ACCESS ACTIVITIES

The Cross Curricular College Access Activities are classroom lessons that integrate content and skills from multiple college access and career areas into one cohesive learning experience. During these lessons, students can learn and apply the LOSFA 5-Point Match, explore their career interests, along with colleges that offer their degree and examine their cost of living after college. This approach allows the students to build upon their current knowledge and connect what they know with what they are learning, which promotes a higher level of thinking and collaborative skills needed for lifelong success as they complete high school and transition to postsecondary education.

HOW LOSFA PROGRAMS ARE ASSISTING WITH
VIRTUAL COLLEGE VISITS

VIRTUAL COLLEGE VISITS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lafayette Region</th>
<th><a href="https://louisiana.edu/admissions/vist-us/virtual-tour">https://louisiana.edu/admissions/vist-us/virtual-tour</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>Ul Lafayette</td>
<td>*No Virtual Tour</td>
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<td>South Louisiana CC</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.jag.edu/admissions/campus-tour">https://www.jag.edu/admissions/campus-tour</a></td>
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Lake Charles Region
McNeese State Univ.
Louisiana State University

HOW DISTRICTS ARE PROVIDING
COLLEGE SERVICES TO STUDENTS

COLLEGE AND CAREER ACCESS INITIATIVES

In partnership with LOSFA Outreach, the districts provide college services virtually and in person to students at the school level by hosting college and career access initiatives such as College/Career Access Support Services, College/Career Counseling Advising, Comprehensive Mentoring, TOPS/FAFSA/Financial Literacy Workshops, Virtual Office Hours, social media platforms and text messaging.

CHECKLISTS/CALENDARS THAT INCLUDE COLLEGE MILESTONES

HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL GUIDES

Every year, during the month of October, LOSFA Programs’ Public Information and Communications Division designs multiple spreads in the Business Reports’ Louisiana Next Magazine, to distribute to approximately 100,000 high school juniors and seniors in Louisiana.

This year, LOSFA Programs Field Outreach Services Division collaborated with the Business Report to create two additional magazines for middle and high school GEAR UP students.

“Your Future, Your Choice” includes important information and checklists for high schoolers, while “The Middle Matters” aids middle schoolers in their journey to be prepared for high school and beyond.