

LSU Staff Senate Resolution 26-01 for Tuition Reduction and Fee Remission for LSU Staff Children/Dependents and Spouses

WHEREAS, the LSU Staff Senate and Faculty Senate have identified tuition reduction and fee remission for staff families as an institutional priority and have previously adopted resolutions in support of this benefit;

WHEREAS, research shows that most institutions of higher education offer tuition benefits to full-time employees' spouses (87%) and children (91%);

WHEREAS, most LSU peer institutions within the Southeastern Conference provide reductions in the cost of attendance for staff spouses and children/dependents;

WHEREAS, the University of Louisiana System, Southern University and A&M College System, public peers to LSU, in addition to most private universities within Louisiana offer reductions in the cost of attendance for staff spouses and children/dependents;

WHEREAS, expanding tuition benefits for staff spouses and children/dependents would strengthen LSU's ability to recruit and retain high-quality staff, reduce staff flight to peer institutions that already offer similar benefits, and support the University's enrollment goals;

WHEREAS, high staff turnover results in significant financial and operational costs, including lost productivity, loss of institutional knowledge, recruitment and training expenses, and reputational harm;

WHEREAS, improved affordability for staff families supports student retention and graduation outcomes in alignment with LSU's Strategic Plan;

WHEREAS, TOPS is unavailable to staff spouses, to the children/dependents who do not meet the minimum GPA or ACT requirements, and to children/dependents of incoming staff who have not graduated from a Louisiana high school;

WHEREAS, the merit-based Louisiana Tiger Legacy Scholarships require a minimum ACT composite score of 24 and are therefore unavailable to some staff children/dependents;

WHEREAS, the current Tiger Legacy Scholarships award amounts range from \$500–\$1,000 based on ACT score, which has not kept pace with rising fees, limiting the effectiveness in reducing financial barriers;

WHEREAS, a tuition benefit program can be structured to minimize fiscal impact through phased implementation, credit-hour limits, or use of existing aid capacity;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the LSU Staff Senate recommends the establishment of an undergraduate tuition benefit for eligible spouses and children/dependents of staff enrolled within the Louisiana State University System, including LSU Online, who, while remaining eligible for all other institutional, state, and federal financial aid, shall receive:

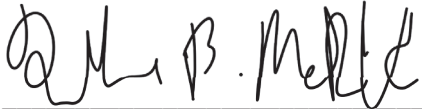
- A tuition rate not to exceed \$25 per credit hour (up to 15 credit hours per semester) or a 50% tuition reduction, with all participants classified as in-state for tuition purposes; and
- Full remission of all University-controlled fees.

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THEREFORE, be it further resolved, the LSU Staff Senate urges the University administration to collaborate with the Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, Council of Staff Advisors (COSA) , and relevant campus offices to finalize and implement this benefit no later than the next fiscal year.

THEREFORE, be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Wade Rouse, President; James Dalton, Executive Vice President and Chancellor; Troy Blanchard, Interim Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost; Trey Jones, III, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel; Sibel Bargu Ates, Interim Dean of the Graduate School; Todd Manuel, Vice President of Engagement, Civil Rights, and Title IX; Meg Casper Sunstrom, Chief Communications Officer; Emmet Brown, Vice President for Enrollment Management; Clay Jones, Associate Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer; Dan Tirone, Faculty Senate President, and Lavar Henderson, Student Government President.

Approved by the LSU Staff Senate , February 18, 2026.



Quinneka McDonald, President



Tammy Millican, President-Elect



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Bradley Waters, Secretary



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