



Happy Holidays



STARTing LINE

4th Quarter 2009

Volume 2-4

2009 START DEPOSIT DEADLINE APPROACHING QUICKLY

Deposits credited during the 2009 calendar year can reduce a START account owner's state tax liability for that year. **Deposits received, (not postmarked) by the close of business (4:00 p.m. CST) on Thursday, December 31, 2009, will be credited in 2009.**

Up to \$2,400 in deposits per beneficiary made during 2009 (\$4,800 per beneficiary if the owner files a joint tax return) can be deducted from income reported on the owner's 2009 Louisiana Income Tax Return. All deposits received in 2009 are also eligible for Earning Enhancements, which will be credited to accounts effective December 31, 2009. Out-of-state account owners should send a copy of his/her 2008 federal income tax return to the START Saving Program, Post Office Box 91271, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9271.

Deposits should be payable to the START Saving Program and may be delivered one of three ways:

1. Regular mail addressed to START Saving Program, Post Office Box 91271, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9271. Please allow mail time since deposits must be received and not simply postmarked.
2. Overnight delivery addressed to 1885 Wooddale Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806.
3. In person delivery at the LOSFA Office 3rd floor, 1885 Wooddale Boulevard, Baton Rouge.

LOSFA will be set up to receive in-person START deposits in Room 322 on the third floor of the Wooddale Tower Building (1885 Wooddale Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806) from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday, December 28 through Thursday, December 31.

On or before the third week of January, 2010, START account owners will be mailed a notification of total deposits made in 2009 to be used for state income tax return filing purposes.

Should you have any questions or need assistance, please call us at 1-800-259-5626 x1012 or e-mail us at START@startsaving.la.gov.

Two START rule changes up for public comment

Pending approval by the Louisiana Tuition Trust Authority (LATTA), START account owners may soon be able to avail themselves of new changes to the program.

The proposed rule changes would authorize account owners to select an investment option for each new deposit and provide guidelines and restrictions for changing investment options when an education savings account has two or more investment options.

The rule change would also authorize account owners with multiple accounts to roll over part of the value of a START account to another START account that has a beneficiary who is a member of the family of the original account's beneficiary.

Public comment on the proposed changes is open until Dec. 10, 2009. To comment, send an e-mail to romdal@osfa.la.gov or mail comments to:

Melanie Amrhein, Executive Director
Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance Director
P.O. Box 91202
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9202



For more information, contact the
START Saving Program:

By Phone: 800-259-5626, Ext. 1012

By E-mail: start@startsaving.la.gov

By Mail: P.O. Box 91271, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9271

Web Address: www.startsaving.la.gov

For submissions, opinions or comments for STARTing Line, please
contact David Roberts at droberts@osfa.la.gov.