

# **Southeastern Profile**

*Appendix A*

## **Southeastern Profile:**

Southeastern Louisiana University, the state's third largest institution of higher education, is located in the heart of the Florida Parishes and serves as a major educational, economic and cultural center for the region.

Through reputation, geographic location, and creative marketing approaches, Southeastern attracts a diverse, college-prepared student body. The university promotes personal growth, student success and retention, as well as the development of intellect and character through academic, social, and wellness programs. Southeastern offers credit and non-credit educational experiences that emphasize challenging course content that is relevant to the workforce or further studies, and innovative, effective delivery systems.

Southeastern offers 70 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Emphasis is placed on ensuring academic quality in programs through national accreditation of all degree programs offered. The university's highly recognized teacher preparation program – one of the largest in Louisiana – was the first to guarantee the performance of its teacher education graduates to area school systems. The nursing program has been recognized twice in the past five years as the "best nursing school in the state" by the Louisiana Nurses Foundation.

Southeastern is the second largest provider of distance education in the state, offering courses through video, Internet and cable television to hundreds of students throughout the nation and in several foreign countries. Courses are also offered at satellite centers in St. Tammany Parish, Livingston Parish, and in Baton Rouge.

Southeastern's outreach into the community includes its radio station, KSLU 90.9 FM, the only public radio station on the north shore. KSLU last year was named the state's best medium market station by the Louisiana Broadcasting Association for its community service activities, including its work following Hurricane Katrina. The university also operates the award-winning Southeastern Channel, offered over the Charter Communications cable network. The Channel reaches into more than 90,000 homes in Tangipahoa, St. Tammany and Washington parishes as well as parts of Livingston Parish. Both KSLU and the Southeastern Channel offer excellent training opportunities for students interested in broadcasting.

Southeastern embraces active partnerships that benefit faculty, students and the entire region. Collaborative efforts are varied and dynamic, and encompass education, business, industry and the public sector. Numerous university partnerships have contributed to the renewal and diversification of the regional economy, a challenge issued to universities as part of "Louisiana: Vision 2020," the state's master plan for economic development. The university operates the Southeast Louisiana Business Center, partnering with area chambers of commerce and economic development agencies to develop a one-stop-shop to assist businesses seeking to locate or expand in the region. An integral part of the center is the Small Business Development Center,

which provides training programs and free consultation to businesses or individuals looking to start businesses in a five-parish area.

A major employer in southeast Louisiana, Southeastern provides work for nearly 1,700 faculty and staff. With more than 15,000 students, the university has a significant economic impact on the region, estimated at approximately \$450 million annually on a 25-mile radius.

Additional information about Southeastern can be found at the following:

<http://www.selu.edu/admin/ir/factbook/index.html>