

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE NEWS

A Publication for Participating Nonpublic Choice Schools



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Key Highlights: Important Dates for School Choice Programs

Key Info New to the Newsletter:

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline
LSP	9/2	Complete and return registration workbooks for reduced tuition students (if applicable)
LSP	9/7	Certification sheets due to StudentScholarships@LA.gov
LSP, SCP	9/19 - 9/21	Quarter 1 count date for LSP, SCP
TDR	9/30	Quarter 1 count date for TDR

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

Accommodating Students Displaced by Recent Flooding

Many Scholarship families have been displaced due to the recent flooding across Louisiana. As a result, these students may need to transfer their award to a different school. The Department is requesting that all Scholarship schools do their best to accommodate these families, even in instances where doing so may exceed your current enrollment cap.

If you have questions or concerns about enrolling families who have been displaced, please reach out to StudentScholarships@LA.gov.

New Transfer Form

The Department of Education has made small changes to the [2016- 2017 Transfer Form](#) to track and accommodate the needs of displaced families. **Please use [this form](#) for all transfers that happen throughout the rest of the 2016-17 school year.**

Completing and Returning Student Registration Workbooks

On **Tuesday, August 23**, families of reduced-tuition students were notified that they had been awarded a seat for the 2016-2017 school year. That same day, your school was sent a registration workbook for this group of students.

It is imperative that you reach out to these families and determine if they will attend your school by **Friday, September 2**. Families that do not confirm with your school that they are accepting the award by close of business Friday, September 2 will lose their Scholarship for 2016-2017, so please connect with them this week.

After you have confirmed which of the formerly wait-listed students have accepted their award for the 2016-2017, please edit and resubmit the registration workbook you were sent to StudentScholarships@la.gov. We ask that all updated registration workbooks be submitted by **5 p.m. on Friday, September 2**.

2015-2016 Tuition and Fees Approval

Next week, the Scholarship Team will send approved tuition and fee certification sheets to all schools.

- If the approved tuition and fees are correct, please sign, scan, and email the certification sheet back to StudentScholarships@la.gov by **Wednesday, September 7**.
- If you wish to make any changes to the proposed tuition and fees amounts or believe there is a mistake, please email StudentScholarships@la.gov.

The certification sheets should be signed and returned by **Wednesday, September 7**.

Update to the Scholarship and School Choice Quarter 1 Count Date

Due to the number of displaced students, the Quarter 1 count date for the Louisiana Scholarship Program and the School Choice Program has been postponed from the old count date of September 7-9 to the **new count date of September 19-21**. Postponing this date will give schools more time to connect with families and solidify rosters for the 2016-17 school year.

If you have questions, please reach out to StudentScholarships@LA.gov

Tuition Donation Rebate Program (TDR) News

Information about the Tuition Donation Rebate Program can be found in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Scholarship Programs Comparison Chart](#). Currently, Louisiana has three School Tuition Organizations participating in the Tuition Donation Rebate Program: ACE Scholarships Louisiana, Arete Scholars Louisiana, and New Schools for Baton Rouge Excellence Scholarship Fund. Schools interested in participating in the TDR program should communicate directly with one or more School Tuition Organizations.

School Tuition Organization	Regional Focus	STO Website	Email	Phone
ACE Scholarships Louisiana	Statewide	www.acescholarships.org	TDR@acescholarships.org	504.491.1813
Arete Scholars Louisiana	Statewide	www.aretescholars.org	maryhw@aretescholars.org	225.245.3610
New Schools for Baton Rouge Excellence Scholarship Fund	Baton Rouge	newschoolsbr.org/our-approach/excellence-scholarship-fund	esf@newschoolsbr.org	225.395.1686

School Choice Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities (SCP)

Educational Certificates are awarded contingent upon funding availability.

Student Transfers:

Families seeking to transfer their educational certificate should complete a transfer form with the receiving school. Please note that the submission of this form is not a guarantee a transfer will be approved.

- Students must have been awarded an educational certificate for the 2016-2017 school year to qualify for a transfer.
- This form must be signed by the parent/guardian and a representative of the receiving transfer school.
- The receiving school should submit this form to the Louisiana Department of Education.

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov for a School Choice Program transfer form.

Other Department Resources for Nonpublic Choice Schools

Back-to-School Resources Released

The Department is committed to providing educators at each level of the education system - teachers, principals, and LEAs - with the [supports and resources](#) they need to continue raising the bar for students in Louisiana.

- The [2016-2017 Back-to-School Package](#) provides all educators with resources, tools, and support structures to support planning and instruction, goal-setting, assessments, and parent communications for the start of the 2016-2017 school year.
- The [Back-to-School Parent Night Presentation](#) is a customizable presentation that schools can use to provide parents with information on 2016-2017 academic goals, standards and instruction, and understanding student LEAP results.
- The [Parent Guide to the LEAP Student Reports](#) helps parents read and interpret the LEAP student reports, with accompanying online resources.
- The [Louisiana Student Standards Parent Guide](#) is an overview of what the Louisiana Student Standards are, how they were developed, and how they will impact student learning and assessments this school year.

Please email districtsupport@la.gov with any questions.

Other Department Newsletters

Read the [August 23 District Newsletter](#).

- Flood Recovery Actions

Read the [August 19 Nonpublic School Choice Newsletter](#).

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