

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE NEWS

A Publication for Participating Nonpublic Choice Schools



November 2, 2017

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Important Dates for Nonpublic School Choice Programs

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline	Owners
All nonpublics	11/3/17	Submit Educational Excellence Fund Application	School leaders or finance directors
All nonpublics	11/3/17	Register for November Supervisor and Principal Collaborations	All nonpublic school leaders and testing coordinators
SCP	11/3/17	Complete Q2 enrollment in SCS	School leaders or School Choice contacts

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

New: November Superintendents' Call

You are invited to participate in the Superintendents' Conference Call hosted by State Superintendent John White on Tuesday, November 7, at 10:00 a.m. You may begin dialing into the call 15 minutes in advance. Please follow the instructions below:

1. Go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/suptscall/>
2. Dial into the Phone Bridge: 877-475-0109
3. When prompted, please give the Meeting ID #7277206
4. You will need to identify yourself in order to be placed into the meeting

New: Nonpublic Testing Coordinator Call

New: Nonpublic Testing Coordinator Call

The Monthly Nonpublic Testing Coordinator Call will take place Tuesday, November 7th. All testing coordinators for Scholarship and Tuition Donation schools are encouraged to attend. These calls take place on the first Tuesday of every month at 2:00 pm.

To join the call:

Webinar link: <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/assessment-accountability/>

Toll access number (Toll): 1-646-307-1380

Toll free access number (Toll Free): 1-855-240-2575

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

New: Release of 2016-2017 Scholarship Cohort Index

Please share with principals.

The Department will release the 2016-2017 Scholarship Cohort Index and early childhood performance profiles in the new Louisiana School Finder next week.

To support school and center leaders with these conversations, the Department has released the following resources:

- Animated school performance score and performance profile videos: video that will explain each metric in the Louisiana School Finder related to [K-12 school](#) and [Early Childhood](#) performance
- Parent Night Presentations ([K-12](#) and [ECE](#)): customizable presentations highlighting school/center successes, explain the purpose of School Finder and the data included in it, and illustrate how families can support learning at home
- [School Finder Promotional Flyer](#): one-page document directing families to the Louisiana School Finder and how to find information on their school

All resources can be found in the [Principal Support Toolbox](#) and on the [School and Center Performance page](#).

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

2016-17 Accountability Release Resources

All schools receiving a Scholarship Cohort Index or proficiency rate for the 2016-17 school year will receive their accountability results via phone call or email this week prior to next week's public release. As part of this release, the Department would like to highlight the following resources:

- [Curriculum Resource Annotated Reviews](#): The Louisiana Department of Education led an online review of instructional materials across all subjects to determine the degree of alignment with state content standards to support schools with curriculum decisions. Schools and teachers can begin accessing low-cost, high quality Tier One curricula as early as today.
- [Guidebooks](#): These comprehensive documents on subjects ranging from early childhood to SPED to high school planning provide educators with a simple reference guide for state policies and planning tools.
- Assessment Resources: The Department offers numerous assessment resources beyond the Assessment@LA.gov email address. All testing coordinators should attend the weekly assessment office hours, monthly nonpublic assessment webinars, and review the [assessment month-by-month checklist](#).
- [Online- and Paper-Based Practice Tests](#): Teachers and administrators are encouraged to review LEAP, LEAP 2025, and End-of-Course practice tests to ensure that instruction is meeting the same level of rigor as the final assessment. These practice test resources created by the LDOE are also available for student use, and should be presented to students prior to the day of the test.

New: Data Files Available

(Please note that posting location for the files below are not the same.)

2016-2017 Subgroup CSV Files

Last week, the Department provided schools with LEAP spring 2017 results by subgroup in the DRC eDIRECT portal with file name LEA/Site Code_LEA/School 2017_LEAP_Subgroup_Summary_File.

2016-2017 Progress Points for Fall 2017 SCI

The 2016-2017 K8 progress point rosters will be posted to the secure FTP no later than Friday, November 3. The rosters will include lists of

- all schools and the total number of K8 progress points awarded to them for the 2016-2017 SCI
- students eligible for consideration of progress points with their expected scale score and their actual scale score

The progress point calculation in 2016-2017 is based on previous policy, which did not include student background characteristics

The progress point calculation in 2016-2017 is based on previous policy, which did not include student background characteristics. The [K8 Progress Points FAQ](#) and [High School Progress Points FAQ](#) can be found in the accountability library.

Please contact assessment@la.gov if you have any questions.

Reminder: LASIDs Uploaded in SEE

LASIDs for all Louisiana Scholarship students can be found on student profiles in SEE. Please see the attached [instructions](#) for locating LASIDs in SEE. The Scholarship team will be following up within the next few weeks with LASID rosters to all Diocese or independent schools.

Reminder: Updated Grade 7 Social Studies Scope and Sequence Document Released

Please share with social studies teachers.

The [Grade 7 Social Studies Sample Scope and Sequence](#) document has been updated to provide support around the three shifts in social studies:

1. Instructional tasks that build content knowledge and skill with sources.
2. Coherent yearlong frame that makes connections among content ideas.
3. Assessments that measure how well students express informed opinions with evidence and outside knowledge.

Updated versions of grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and Civics are also available on the [K-12 Social Studies Resources](#) page and in each [grade level teacher library](#).

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with any questions.

Reminder: LEAP Connect and ELPT Assessment Guides and Achievement Level Descriptors

Assessment Guides

- Assessment guides for social studies have been updated to include new information about test design and, for U.S. History, session time limits.
- [LEAP Connect](#) and [ELPT](#) Assessment Guides have been posted to the Assessment Guidance library. Each guide contains information about
 - the purpose of the assessment
 - test designs
 - test administration policies
 - sample test questions
 - Resources
 - rubrics

Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs)

ALDS for [LEAP Connect](#) and [ELPT](#) have been posted to the Assessment library, and describe the knowledge, skills, and abilities that students generally demonstrate on the assessment at each achievement level.

Practice Test Resources

- Updated practice test answer keys for social studies grades 3-8 (now include annotated student responses to help teachers and students better understand scoring)
- New answer keys for U.S. History, Algebra I, Geometry, English I, and English II
- Presentation and link to the recording of the [LEAP 2025 High School Practice Tests Webinar for Teachers](#)

Please email assessment@la.gov for more information.

Reminders for District Testing Coordinators and Accountability Contacts

SPS Calculator: The [2017-2018 SPS Calculator](#) is available in the accountability library. This calculator applies BESE-approved policies for the new accountability system as defined in the Louisiana ESSA plan. Please send questions to assessment@la.gov.

2016-2017 Subgroup CSV Files: On Friday, October 27, the department will provide districts and schools with LEAP spring 2017 results by subgroup in the DRC eDIRECT portal with file name LEA/Site Code_LEA/School 2017_LEAP_Subgroup_Summary_File. Please send questions to assessment@la.gov.

2016-2017 Progress Points for Fall 2017 SPS: The 2016-2017 K8 progress point rosters will be posted to the secure FTP no

later than Friday, October 27. The rosters will include:

- a list of all schools and the total number of K8 progress points awarded to them for the 2016-2017 SPS, and
- a list of students eligible for consideration of progress points with their expected scale score and their actual scale score.

The progress point calculation in 2016-2017 is based on previous policy, which did not include student background characteristics. The expected scores reported for students are not necessarily the same as the expected scores calculated for teacher VAM. The [K-8 Progress Points FAQ](#) can be found in the accountability library. Please contact assessment@la.gov if you have any questions.

ACT: New high schools who have not received an ACT school code should submit requests should be completed through the [ACT/SAT Common High School Code Request form](#). Requests should be submitted by the school and will take approximately 3 weeks to process.

WorkKeys

- Upcoming open enrollment webinars offered by ACT
 - [Introduction to ACT WorkKeys Online Test Administration](#)
 - Monday, Nov 6, 2017 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
- The [Score Reporting Schedule](#) document contains complete information about the score reports ACT will produce and when you can expect to receive them. Additional resources can be found in the Score Reporting section of your program website at: www.act.org/stateanddistrict/louisiana
- The ACT [Understanding Scores web page](#) has resources for training and professional learning related to the ACT WorkKeys
 - If you have questions, you may
 - Use the [Contact Us web page](#)
 - Call 800.553.6244
 - Standard time, ext. 2800
 - Accommodations, ext. 1788
 - Email accommodations questions to ACTStateAccoms@act.org.

Fall High School Assessments: Test coordinators can begin preparing for test creation (scheduling, TA numbers) in eDIRECT.

Assessment Administration Support and Training: The [November Monthly call](#) will be recorded and posted in the [Assessment Library](#) on November 7. The updated [Office Hours Questions and Answers](#) document is also located in the Assessment Library.

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Submitting Transfers for the 2017-18 SY

As in previous years, [transfer forms](#) must be completed and signed by the **receiving school** and sent to StudentScholarships@LA.gov. Families in Orleans parish should be directed toward the receiving school, not the Family Resource Centers. Students should not purchase uniforms or begin attending the new school until the transfer has been processed and approved by the Department of Education.

If you have a particular question or concern regarding a transfer request, you can email studentscholarships@la.gov or call (504) 304-5467.

Tuition Donation Rebate Program (TDR) News

New: Nonpublic Testing Coordinator Call

The Monthly Nonpublic Testing Coordinator Call will take place Tuesday, November 7th. All testing coordinators for Scholarship and Tuition Donation schools are encouraged to attend. These calls take place on the first Tuesday of every month at 2:00 pm.

To join the call:

Webinar link: <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/assessment-accountability/>

Toll access number (Toll): 1-646-307-1380

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

Frequently Asked Questions and Contact Information

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
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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 Students with Exceptionalities (SCP)

New: Q2 Count Now Open

The Quarter 2 enrollment verification window for the School Choice Program will close on **November 3rd**. Please be prepared to complete the enrollment verification process on time to ensure prompt payment.

Please remember that LEADs passwords expire every 30 days and must be reset at <https://password.doe.louisiana.gov/>. Additionally, pop-up blockers must be turned off.

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with any questions.

Reminder: Submitting Transfers for the 2017-18 SY

If a student wishes to transfer a School Choice Award for Students with Exceptionalities, [transfer forms](#) must be completed and signed by the receiving school and sent to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

All Nonpublic Schools

New: 2017-2018 BESE Accountability Changes

At its October meeting, BESE approved changes to Bulletin 111 to reflect changes to Louisiana's school accountability system for 2017-2018 and beyond. School and school system leaders can review a [summary of these changes](#) and contact Jessica.Baghian@la.gov with questions.

New: Tobacco-Free Policy Guidance and Technical Assistance

The Louisiana Department of Health's [Well-Ahead Louisiana program](#) is offering technical assistance and guidance for meeting the requirements of [ACT 351](#), that prohibits the use of tobacco on school property through the release of a [sample tobacco-free policy](#) and [sample language to communicate tobacco-free policy revisions](#).

Please contact michael.comeaux@la.gov if you have any questions.

Reminder: Register for the November Collaborations by this Friday

Registration for the Supervisor and Principal Collaborations closes this **Friday, November 3, 2017**. [Supervisor Collaborations](#) will take place from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and [Principal Collaborations](#) from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the dates below.

- November 9: Bossier
- November 13: Baton Rouge
- November 15: Lafayette
- November 16: Harvey

Featured Topics

- School System Planning
- Principal and Superintendent Reporting
- Transitioning to ESSA
- Content Leader and Mentor Training
- TAP and Principal Fellowship
- LEAP 360
- Science Curricula and Field Test
- LEAP Connect & ELPT Assessment Guides
- Special Ed & EL Guidebooks
- Financial Aid Planning & Course Choice

- Financial Aid Planning Course Update
- Early Childhood Performance Profiles, Funding, and Coordinated Enrollment
- Educational Technology Initiative

Please refer to the [Supervisor Collaboration Event Overview](#) and [Principal Collaboration Event Overview](#) documents for a complete list of sessions and more detailed information. The registration code for the supervisor collaborations is **NOV2017SUP**.

Please email louisianateacherleaders@la.gov with questions related to the Collaborations.

Reminder: October 2017 BESE Meeting Summary

The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) met on October 18 and approved a number of bulletin revisions and recommendations. Please see the [October 2017 BESE Summary](#) for the approvals that directly impact the activities of local school systems.

Reminder: Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application

The submission deadline for the FY2017-2018 [Education Excellence Fund \(EEF\)](#) application has been extended to **Friday, Nov. 3**. For assistance with creating, completing, and submitting applications in eGMS, see the Training section of the [eGMS Logon page](#). For more information about EEF, please email l doe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov.

Other Department Newsletters

To view the **October 31st District Newsletter** or the **October 26th Nonpublic School Choice Newsletter**, please [visit the LDOE Newsroom](#).

To be added to the newsletter distribution list, please send an email to studentscholarships@la.gov.

LDOE Contacts

[John White](#)
State Superintendent of Education
877.453.2721 (toll-free)
Twitter @LouisianaSupe

LDOE Links

[LDOE Website](#)
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