The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) met last Tuesday and Wednesday, August 15 and 16. A summary of board actions that directly impact the activities of local education agencies are listed below.

Any bulletin revisions, with the exception of emergency rules, must run in the Louisiana Register as a Notice of Intent for 90 days and complete the rulemaking process before becoming rule and appearing in the bulletins on the BESE website. For more information or questions on any of these policy changes, please contact Ryan Gremillion.

**Proposed revisions to Bulletin 111, *The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*, and Bulletin 118, *Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices*, pursuant to the Louisiana Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plan, as approved by the United States Department of Education (USDOE)**

On April 15, 2017, the LDE submitted the proposed state plan to the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). During the summer, the USDOE provided feedback relevant to the proposed Louisiana plan, to which the LDE responded. On Tuesday, August 15, 2017, USDOE approved the Louisiana plan.

In order to implement the Louisiana plan pursuant to the new federal law, revisions to Bulletin 111 and Bulletin 118 are required. The LDE made available for public review draft copies of the aforementioned revisions and the Board received the proposed revisions. These bulletin revisions will be considered by the Board in October 2017

[Click here](https://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/AQ5LHL56A762/%24file/AGII_5.1_ESSA_B111_Aug_2017.pdf) to view the proposed revisions to Bulletin 111, The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System; [click here](https://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/APWUHU6D15C7/%24file/AGII_5.1_ESSA_B118_Aug_2017.pdf) to view the proposed revisions to Bulletin 118, Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices.

**Revisions to Bulletin 118, *Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices*, regarding scaled score ranges for state assessments**

Performance standards for LEAP English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies tests are finalized in scaled-score form. The proposed revisions update the social studies scaled score range.

[Click here](https://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/AQ6LT5580CBE/%24file/AGII_5.6_B118_Aug_2017.pdf) to view the approved revisions to Bulletin 118, *Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices*.

**Revisions to Bulletins pursuant to Acts of the Louisiana Legislature**

Recent acts of the Louisiana legislature required revisions to bulletins related to early childhood education, school personnel, and discipline of students with exceptionalities and students eligible for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and have an Individualized Accommodation Plan.

[Bulletin 137](https://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/APWM6L51399E/%24file/AGII_5.2_B137_Aug_2017.pdf) and [Bulletin 139](https://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/AQ4S636BA0F9/%24file/AGII_5.2_B139_Revised_Aug_2017.pdf) contain approved revisions related to early childhood education; [Bulletin 130](https://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/APZN7L5E8CE9/%24file/AGII_5.3_B130_Aug_2017.pdf) contains approved revisions related to school personnel; and [Bulletin 741](https://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/APZN875EA668/%24file/AGII_5.4_B741_Aug_2017.pdf) and [Bulletin 1706](https://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/APWTB6681CAB/%24file/AGII_5.4_B1706_Aug_2017.pdf) contain approved revisions related to discipline of students with exceptionalities and students eligible for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and have an Individualized Accommodation Plan.

**Reauthorization of successful Course Choice providers**

State law provides for the initial authorization of course providers for three years. After the initial three-year authorization period, the Board may reauthorize the course provider for additional periods of not less than three years nor more than five years after thorough review of the course provider activities and the achievement of students enrolled in courses offered by the course provider.

At last week’s meeting, the Board approved the reauthorization of ten course providers.

[Click here](http://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=APTSYU750431) to view the list of course providers reauthorized by the Board.

**Approval of Allocations**

The Board approved seven allocations of funding to local districts at last week’s meeting including: funding for the education of homeless children and youth, funding to prepare students with disabilities for employment and post-secondary educational opportunities, funding for Advanced Placement exams for low income students, funding to support dropout prevention and workforce preparation for at-risk youth, and funding for teacher preparation providers.

[Click here](https://www.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/APVNW8543621/%24file/AF_4.1_August_CHART_-_Comp_and_Other.pdf) to view the list of allocations approved at last week’s meeting.