



March 5 , 2020

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## Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline	Owners
All nonpublic high schools	3/6/20	<a href="#">Order</a> diplomas for 2019-20 graduates	School leaders
SCP	3/13/20	Submit returning student applications to the FTP	School leaders or School Choice contacts
All nonpublic high schools	4/1/20	Submit nominations for the <a href="#">Principal Fellowship Cohort</a>	School leaders

## Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

### **New: Transfer Window Closed**

Due to testing and the upcoming lottery for Scholarship students, **the transfer window for Scholarship students wishing to transfer for the remainder of the year is closed at this time.** Transfers submitted will not be approved unless due to extenuating circumstances.

Families that wish to transfer their Scholarship award from one school to another due to extenuating circumstances for the remainder of the school year must complete a transfer form. The school leader or Scholarship contact of the student's new school must sign off on the transfer and submit to [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) for approval.

Completion of the transfer form is not a guarantee that a transfer will be granted, and schools can not exceed their student enrollment caps. Families should not buy uniforms or other supplies until the Department has approved the transfer.

**The transfer window to transfer awards for the 2020 school year will open in the summer.**

Please email [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) with any questions.

## **Reminder: 2019-2020 Graduate Diploma Orders**

Please share with principals, professional school counselors, and data coordinators.

The final deadline to order 2019-2020 diplomas and seals is **March 6**. Please use the new [Diploma Order Form](#) to submit an order for the 2019-2020 graduates. All diploma requests must be submitted through the [Diploma Order Form](#). Only one form should be completed for each school system. The Department will cover the costs for the initial order and distribution.

Please contact [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov) with questions.

## **New: ELA Guidebooks 9-12 (2020)**

The first round of new Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 9-12 (2020) will soon be available on Louisiana's open source digital platform.

Please see the updated [Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 9-12 \(2020\) Overview](#) for the most up-to-date information related to:

- text access and purchasing,
- Teacher Leader Summit, and
- professional development opportunities.

Please contact [elaguidebooks@la.gov](mailto:elaguidebooks@la.gov) with questions.

## **Reminder: For School and District Testing Coordinators**

### **Cohort Graduation Data Certification**

- Data certification for the 2018-2019 graduation cohort will open through Louisiana Data Review the week of March 16. All accountability contacts will receive an individual email with login credentials and resources. There will be a webinar immediately following the March 10 monthly call to review cohort graduation policy and to provide directions for using the online data certification system.

### **Updated Growth to Mastery Student-Level Rosters**

- The growth to mastery student-level rosters have been updated to route students to the site code reported for them during the October 1 SIS collection. Updated rosters are available on the secure FTP.

### **English III EOC School System Administration Materials**

- An English III test materials folder is available on the secure FTP, which includes all materials needed to administer and score English III assessments provided three times yearly through a process determined by the school system. Included in the folder are manuals that include specific directions.
- Requests for braille forms of the test are provided as needed by the Department and should be addressed to [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov).
- Please contact [jennifer.baird@la.gov](mailto:jennifer.baird@la.gov) with questions.

### **LEAP Connect**

- The LEAP Connect testing window is now-March 13. All students who are eligible to take alternate assessments should now be identified with documentation in SER.

### **ACT and WorkKeys**

- Recordings of the ACT Test Administration Q&As [1](#) and [2](#) can be accessed using the links provided.

### **Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours**

The next **Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call** will be on **March 10 at 1:00 p.m.** Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 10 at 1:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164

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## **Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) Program News**

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## **Reminder: Frequently Asked Questions and Contact Information**

Information about the Tuition Donation Credit 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 Credit Program: ACE Scholarships Louisiana, Arete Scholars Louisiana, and Son of a Saint. Schools interested in participating in the TDC program should communicate directly with one or more School Tuition Organizations.

School Tuition Organization	Regional Focus	STO Website	Email	Phone
ACE Scholarships Louisiana	Statewide	<a href="http://www.acescholarships.org">www.acescholarships.org</a>	<a href="mailto:TDR@acescholarships.org">TDR@acescholarships.org</a>	504-491-1813
Arete Scholars Louisiana	Statewide	<a href="http://www.aretescholars.org">www.aretescholars.org</a>	<a href="mailto:maryhw@aretescholars.org">maryhw@aretescholars.org</a>	225-245-3610
Aspiring Scholars	New Orleans Archdiocese	<a href="https://aspiringscholarsla.org/">https://aspiringscholarsla.org/</a>	<a href="mailto:info@aspiringscholarsla.org">info@aspiringscholarsla.org</a>	504-513-4140
Son of a Saint	Orleans	<a href="http://www.sonofasaint.org">www.sonofasaint.org</a>	<a href="mailto:hello@sonofasaint.org">hello@sonofasaint.org</a>	504-561-7508

## **School Choice Program**

### **Reminder: School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities Applications Available**

The application for the School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities has been emailed to all approved participating schools for the 2020-21 school year. Applications are due **March 13th**.

Given the current level of funding, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is unable to accept applications for new students to the School Choice Program (SCP) for the 2020-21 school year at this time. However, the LDOE will continue to fund awards for all current School Choice students that submit an application at an eligible school for the 2020-2021 school year. **As a reminder, all current students must reapply each year to keep their award.**

Returning students should submit their application to the school in advance of the March 13th deadline. Once schools have collected applications from all returning students who wish to apply, school contacts should upload the applications to the FTP in the 2020-21 SCP folder. **Please upload each student's application as a separate pdf saved as the child's name.**

For more information, please contact [nonpublicschools@la.gov](mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov).

## All Nonpublics

### **New: 2019-2020 Graduate Diploma Orders**

Please share with principals, professional school counselors, and data coordinators.

The final deadline to order 2019-2020 diplomas and seals is March 6. Please use the new [Diploma Order Form](#) to submit an order for the 2019-2020 graduates. All diploma requests must be submitted through the [Diploma Order Form](#). Only one form should be completed for each school system. The Department will cover the costs for the initial order and distribution.

Please contact [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov) with questions.

### **New: Jump Start Construction Scholars Program**

Please share with counselors.

The Louisiana Construction Education Foundation (LCEF) [Jump Start Construction Connect Scholars Program](#) is now accepting applications for a \$1,000 scholarship. The scholarship is geared toward students who have earned the Jump Start Diploma, earned a National Center for Construction Education and Research credential, and enrolled in an LCTCS campus on a construction pathway or in an Associated Builders and Contractors training program.

This is the state's first and only scholarship dedicated exclusively to Jump Start graduates. This effort is a collaboration of the Louisiana Construction Education Foundation, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and the Department.

Please contact [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov) with questions.

### **Reminder: Every Child Counts - 2020 Census**

**Census Day is observed nationwide on April 1. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census.**

The 2020 Census count impacts the federal funds that communities receive each year for programs and services that are critical for schools, students, and younger children, such as:

- Special education, Head Start, after-school programs, and classroom technology.
- Food assistance, including free and reduced-price school lunches.
- Maternal and child health programs.

Completion of the census ensures federal funding to support Louisiana students. The Department encourages school systems to explore the newly available [2020 Census Toolbox](#) to find activities specially designed to be engaging and appropriate for each grade level, from counting for kindergarteners to examining career statistics for high schoolers. **School systems are encouraged to organize a [Statistics in Schools \(SIS\)](#) week this month to help students learn more about the importance of a complete count in the 2020 Census.**

Please contact [ldoecommunications@la.gov](mailto:ldoecommunications@la.gov) with questions.

### **Reminder: 2020 Spring Counselor Institutes**

Please share with professional school counselors.

The semiannual Counselor Institutes are an opportunity for professional school counselors to receive important information from the Department and other agencies and meet with other school counselors in their region. Topics to be discussed during the Spring 2020 Institutes include school counseling resources, middle and high school updates, and Jump Start 2.0. [Registration](#) for the Department's Spring Counselor Institutes is now open.

Please click on the date in the chart below to register for the Spring Counselor Institutes. All events are from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

**Please note that the date of the Counselor Institute in Acadia Parish has changed.**

Date	Location
<a href="#">April 1</a>	St. Charles Professional Learning Center

	12727 US-90 Luling, LA 70070
<a href="#">April 2</a>	Tangipahoa Parish School Board Office 59656 Puleston Road Amite, LA 70422
<a href="#">April 3</a> <b>date change</b>	Acadia Parish Education Center 2402 N. Parkerson Avenue Crowley, LA 70526
<a href="#">April 7</a>	Bossier Parish School for Technology and Innovative Learning 1020 Innovation Drive Bossier City, LA 71111
<a href="#">April 8</a>	Ouachita Parish School Board 1600 North 7th Street West Monroe, LA 71291
<a href="#">April 9</a>	St. Landry Parish School Board 1013 E. Creswell Lane Opelousas, LA 70571

Please contact [leslie.gilliland@la.gov](mailto:leslie.gilliland@la.gov) with questions.

## Reminder: Annual Vaccination Assessment

In accordance with [RS 17:170](#), chief administrators of schools are responsible for electronically reporting student immunization or exemption information to the Office of Public Health (OPH). School immunization requirements help safeguard children and adolescents by making sure they are protected when they get to school, where the potential for vaccine-preventable disease transmission is higher. School vaccination assessments identify pockets of under-vaccinated students.

The [Annual Vaccination Assessment Memo](#) and ranked parish reports for both [kindergarten](#) and [grade 6](#) for school year 2019-2020 are now available. Please note: These reports reflect parish-level results for the percentage of complete records and, for the first year, exemption data is available for [kindergarten](#) and [grade 6](#).

Maps depicting these results are on the [LDH Immunization](#) webpage under "Data & Charts." In collaboration with Public Health Informatics, the Immunization Program anticipates being able to share data to the school-level within the next month.

Please contact [stacy.hall@la.gov](mailto:stacy.hall@la.gov) with questions.

## Other Department Newsletters

To view the **March 3rd District Newsletter** or the **February 20th Nonpublic Newsletter**, please [visit the LDOE Newsroom](#).

*To be added to the newsletter distribution list, please send an email to [nonpublicschools@la.gov](mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov).*

### LDOE Contacts

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

### LDOE Links

[LDOE Website](#)  
[Contact Us](#)

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