Important News for NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS

April 9, 2020

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Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

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Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

New: Complete Roster Verification

The 2020-21 Scholarship rosters are now available in SEE. You can view your rosters by logging into LEADS. Please remember to turn your pop-up blockers off. You can review the attached Accessing Rosters in SEE guide if you need assistance accessing your rosters.

If you are unable to log in to LEADs, please reset your password at https://password.doe.louisiana.gov/.

Please review the award rosters in SEE and complete this Google Form by close of business Friday, April 18th. All schools, even those that did not accept new Scholarship students for 2020-21, should complete this form to confirm that rosters are correct or to notify LDOE staff of potential roster errors.

Please reach out to studentscholarships@la.gov with any questions.
New: Registration of Newly Awarded Scholarship Students

In an effort to ensure correct student placements are communicated, the Department will send award notifications to statewide families after schools complete roster verifications this month. Schools will receive further details on completing roster verifications on Monday, April 13th. It is imperative schools promptly complete the roster verification so that we can send statewide families accurate award notification in a timely manner.

Due to school closures, families receiving a new Scholarship award for the 2020-21 school year may accept award placements via phone or email with the school's registration contact. The school's registration contact or designee will then send the family a completed receipt of enrollment confirmation. Parents must confirm intent to enroll by May 15th; otherwise, the Scholarship award will be lost. Parents do not need to sign forms or provide eligibility documents until the stay-at-home order is lifted. Future guidance will be provided by the Department when these action items are required.

If you have any questions, please reach out to studentscholarships@la.gov.

New: Assessment Development Educator Review Committees, Summer 2020

All LEAP 2025 Social Studies, LEAP 2025 ELA, and LEAP Connect Item Content and Bias Review committees will convene virtually. Review the Assessment Development Educator Review Committees document in the Assessment Guidance Library for more information and to access links to complete interest surveys. All LEAP 2025 Rangefinding, Data Review, and Alignment Review committees are postponed until summer 2021.

Please contact michelle.mcadams@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: ACT Spring Testing

ACT spring testing has been rescheduled for June 2. This administration is not mandatory for students, since there is no accountability reporting this fall; however, it does provide juniors, as well as seniors with no ACT score on record, with an opportunity to take the assessment free of charge. The Department is also planning for an ACT administration in early fall for juniors who become seniors in 2020-2021.

Schools should return secure ACT materials that were shipped for March testing using one of the options below.

- Contact ACT to reschedule at 800-553-6244, ext 2800.
- Take materials to FedEx for return to ACT.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: 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 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 with any questions.

Reminder: For School and District Testing Coordinators

Update: Waivers for Testing

- To date, the only students who have a waiver from the assessment graduation requirements are graduating seniors who were enrolled at the time of school closing. The Department continues to review potential waivers for other students, and guidance will be provided as soon as possible.
- The current waiver does not apply to students who were not enrolled in school or students who are not yet eligible to graduate.

Update Cohort Graduation Data Certification

- The opening of cohort graduation data certification has been postponed. Accountability contacts will be notified when a new schedule has been finalized.

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

- For more info, please email Assessment Support/Training staff.

Please email studentscholarships@la.gov with any questions.
The next Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call will be on April 21 at 4:15 p.m. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** April 21 at 4:15 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**

**Reminder: Prior School Check Process Open**

The Department is accepting prior school checks from School Tuition Organizations every two weeks. The next prior school check will be accepted Tuesday, April 21st. Verified prior school checks will be returned to STOs within a week. Please upload the prior school template to your FTP and email lindsey.rhodes@la.gov when uploaded.

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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.

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

**Reminder: Awarding Process for Continuing SCP Students**

The Department is in the process of reviewing all submitted applications and awarding continuing students to the School Choice Program. Parents should receive award notification in late April or early May.
Program for the 2020 school year. At this time, parents should receive award notification in late April or early May. Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with any questions.

All Nonpublics

New: Complete Distance Learning Survey

The state's stay-at-home order and the closure of public school facilities has been extended until at least April 30.

The LDOE continues to provide regular updates for schools, which are linked here and can also be found on the LDOE's COVID-19 resource page. Schools are also encouraged to continue to review the Early Childhood and K-12 Frequently Asked Questions documents, which are updated regularly.

The LDOE is asking all schools to please complete a brief survey by close of business on Wednesday, April 15th so that we can continue to serve schools to the best of our ability. Please note that there are questions related to grades PK-12 in the survey. If your school does not serve those grades, you can simply leave the responses in that section blank.

If you have any questions that are not included on the COVID-19 resources page, please do not hesitate to reach out to nonpublicschools@la.gov.


In addition to the health concerns and significant disruption to businesses currently being experienced, there is an increase in phishing and malware campaigns exploiting the COVID-19 pandemic, which the state's Emergency Support Function-17 (ESF-17) is monitoring. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), ESF-17, and the Department encourage school systems to guard against COVID-19-related phishing attacks and disinformation campaigns by taking precautions detailed in the COVID-19 | ESF-17 Cyber Risk Management Bulletin.

Please report any cyber incident related to COVID-19-themed emails, attachments, or scams to the Louisiana FUSION Center at lafusion.center@la.gov.

Reminder: Teacher Leader Summit

In light of ongoing COVID-19 health concerns and at the direction of local and national authorities, the in-person, 2020 Teacher Leader Summit will not occur this May, as scheduled.

In keeping with the Department's commitment to supporting educators, there will be a shift to a virtual session presentation platform for as many sessions as possible. Additional details, including the list and schedule of these sessions, will be announced soon in upcoming newsletters.

Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: 2020 Jump Start Summer Institute Digital Training Model

In light of ongoing COVID-19 health concerns and at the direction of local and national authorities, the 2020 Super Summit Institute will not occur in June and July via a face-to-face model, as scheduled. This was a difficult decision and one that was not taken lightly, but the health and safety of educators, presenters, staff, and the community as a whole are paramount. The Department urges everyone to follow the guidelines and protocols put forth by public health officials.

In lieu of face-to-face training opportunities, trainings are being transitioned to a digital training model. The dynamic 2020 Jump Start Super Summer Institute Digital Training Opportunities guide provides a list of professional development and training opportunities. This list is not comprehensive and will continue to be updated as additional training options are confirmed.

A list of FAQs regarding Jump Start Super Summer Institute is available in the All Things Jump Start web portal.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

Other Department Newsletters

To view the April 7th District Newsletter or the April 2nd Nonpublic Newsletter, please visit the LDOE Newsroom. To be added to the newsletter distribution list, please send an email to nonpublicschools@la.gov.