

# Important News for NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS



June 4 , 2020

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## Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline	Owners
LSP	6/5/20	Complete cohort graduation data certification	High school counselors
Nonpublic high schools	6/7/20	Complete the <a href="#">AP Exception Testing Request Form</a>	High school testing coordinators
All nonpublics	7/15/20	Submit textbook reimbursements requests	School leaders or finance directors

## Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

### **New: Transfer Window Opened**

Schools may now submit transfer requests for the 2020-2021 school year. In order for newly awarded students to transfer a Scholarship, the student must have registered at the awarded school by the May 15th deadline. If a family is interested in a transfer, please have the family complete the [transfer form](#) and submit it to a school representative. The representative at the school must then sign the form and email it to [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov). Forms submitted by parents will not be considered.

Transfers are at the discretion of the receiving school; however, schools may not exceed new student caps (if applicable) based on [accountability results](#) for the 2019 school year.

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

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

#### **New: High School Summer Test Administration**

- The high school summer test administration schedule has changed to July 13-24.

- There is no remote access option.

#### **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 and were in the February 1 enrollment report.
- The current waiver does not apply to students who were not enrolled in school or students who are not yet eligible to graduate.
- This month, the Department will request a change in policy to waive the assessment requirement for a high school assessment-eligible course earned during the regular school year in 2019-2020 (not including summer credit recovery) for students who would have been initial testers in spring 2020. Students who failed a subject test in a prior administration will not be eligible for the waiver of the assessment requirement.

#### **Update: ACT**

- ACT announced new flexibilities for summer testing and new test-at-home options that will become available in the fall and winter. Information about at-home testing with remote proctoring will be shared as it becomes available.
- ACT State Administration
  - October 6 and October 20 paper-based administration only for students who were juniors in 2019-2020 and were unable to test in March or June. The Department will cover the cost for one administration per student.

#### **Update Cohort Graduation Data Certification**

- Cohort graduation data certification will remain open until **this Friday, June 5**. This is the final opportunity that school systems have to request changes to data that will affect the publicly reported 2019 graduation rate.

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

The next Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call will be on June 9 at 4:15 p.m. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** June 9 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, June 16th. 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](mailto: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.

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: SCP Transfer Window Open**

Students wishing to transfer SCP awards from one school to another participating school for the 2020 school year can complete the [SCP transfer form](#). The form must also be signed by a representative of the receiving school.

Please send completed form to [nonpublicschools@la.gov](mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov).

## All Nonpublics

### **New: Louisiana's Academic Strategy for 2020-2021**

The [Academic Strategy for 2020-2021](#) presentation at the Teacher Leader Summit and School Support Institutes is available in the [Teacher Leader](#) and [School Improvement Library](#). This [presentation](#) reviews Louisiana's plan for school improvement, the school system planning process, and the vision and strategy for the upcoming year. This presentation also releases the additional implementation actions and observation tools aligned to the 2020-2021 strategy and priorities.

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

### **New: Back-to-School Resources**

The Department released a suite of free resources to help parents and educators address unfinished learning from the 2019-2020 school year and ensure a strong start to the 2020-2021 school year.

The 2020-2021 back-to-school resources include:

- The [2020-2021 Educator Resource Guide](#), which highlights instructional priorities and resources to support educators with a strong start to the 2020-2021 school year. The guide is located in the [School System](#), [Principal](#), and [Teacher](#) Toolboxes and will be updated each month.
- An updated [2020-2021 School System Support Calendar](#), which details training sessions, virtual support, tools and resources, and communication streams designed to support educators.
- [Parent Back-to-School Guides](#) that provide families with information and resources to support learning, whether it takes place in the traditional classroom or at home, for the 2020-2021 school year. Guides are currently available for parents of students in grades pre-K-2, 3-12, English Learners, and students with disabilities. Translated versions will soon be available in Spanish, Vietnamese, and Arabic.
- [School Plan Family Presentation](#), which, as required by law, provides a template for school leaders to communicate school performance data, their school improvement plan, timelines for implementation and attainment of performance goals, and implications to families.

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

### **New: Work Permits for Minors**

State law requires any business hiring a minor to obtain an employment certificate. These employment certificates are to be issued by either:

- The Parish or city public school superintendent or by his designated representative
- The principal of a public or private school or by her designated representative

To fill the gap at the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, LWC began issuing blanket work permits for minors throughout the entire state. However, these temporary certificates are good for only 60 days and have since expired. Because of this, school systems are urged to immediately begin reissuing work permits.

Please review the following statutes under Title 23:

- [§182. Employers to keep record](#)
- [§188. Records kept by issuing authority](#)
- [§183. Persons authorized to issue](#)
- [§192. Certificate as evidence of age of minors](#)
- [§187. Signing of certificate by minor; return by employer after termination of employment](#)

### **New: Strong Start 2020 Instructional Material and PD Vendor Guide Updates**

Please share with Chief Academic Officers, curriculum coordinators, professional development coordinators, and purchasing directors.

The Strong Start 2020 plan includes [Instructional Materials Guidance](#) and [Professional Development Guidance](#), and the Department continues to work with publishers and vendors to update each guide as they build and refine their supports.

This week, the following entries have been **added**:

<b>Instructional Materials Guidance</b>	<b>Professional Development Guidance</b>
PhD Science: Great Minds	Big Day for Pre-K: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Wit and Wisdom: Great Minds	Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA): Amplify, Instruction Partners
	Collections: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
	ELA Guidebooks: The Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana (A+PEL) , Instruction Partners
	Eureka Math: The Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana (A+PEL), Instruction Partners
	EL Education: Instruction Partners
	The Choices Program: Brown University

This week, the following entries have been significantly **updated**:

<b>Instructional Materials Guidance</b>	<b>Professional Development Guidance</b>
Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA): Amplify	

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

### **New: Science Content Leader training**

BESE has approved three providers to begin offering Science Content Leader training:

- University of Texas, Dana Center
- Great Minds, PhD Science
- SchoolKit Group

The training details, including contact information, can be found on page 7 of the [approved provider list](#).

### **New: Advanced Placement Exam Updates**

Please share with AP Coordinators, high school curriculum supervisors, counselors, and administrators.

The College Board is offering exception testing for students who are unable to take or complete AP makeup exams. Exception testing will be held from June 22 to June 30. There will be no further testing dates available for 2020.

The [AP Exception Testing Request Form](#) is now open and will close on **June 7 at 5:00 p.m.** To complete the form, students will need the AP Makeup Request Key from their most recent e-ticket for the exam they want to take. If they can't find their e-ticket email, a backup copy is available in their My AP account.

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

## **New: NCCER Module Assessments and Performance Profile Evaluations**

Please share with school system secondary supervisors and career and technical education supervisors/coordinators, school leadership, and professional school counselors.

As Louisiana is now in Phase I of reopening, Craft Instructors can [provide face-to-face proctored pen and paper](#) for NCCER Module assessments and NCCER Performance Profile evaluations. These may occur as long as the Craft Instructor is following the state and school system's guidance during this health emergency.

To access the [online testing system](#), contact the Sponsor Representative at [martha.moore@la.gov](mailto:martha.moore@la.gov). [Remote proctoring](#) will continue to be available through July 31 should circumstances prevent classes from meeting in person at Accredited Training and Education Facilities.

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

## **New: Louisiana Principal Fellowship (NISL) Nominations and Orientation Dates**

The deadline for the [nomination form](#) for school leaders and upcoming school leaders to participate in the 2020-2021 Louisiana Principal Fellowship (operated by the National Institute of School Leadership) has been extended and should be completed no later than **June 5**. Completion of this form will enroll participants in NISL's Executive Development Program (EDP) for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Participants nominated by June 5 will be emailed a link to reserve their choice of dates for a mandatory virtual orientation. Participants only need to enroll in one of the orientation sessions available July 10, 17, or 24 from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Please note, this year's program will be held virtually until further notice.

School systems will be invoiced by NISL after participants complete orientation and Unit one of the EDP. More information about the Louisiana Principal Fellowship is also [available](#).

Please contact [jennie.moctezuma@la.gov](mailto:jennie.moctezuma@la.gov) for more information.

## **New: Intervention Content Leader Registration**

Registration is now open for 2020-2021 [Intervention Content Leaders](#). Intervention Content Leaders will serve as school building level experts to support ELA and math teachers, along with instructional leadership teams, in using the diverse learners cycle to ensure all students, including diverse learners, achieve mastery of grade level standards. School systems should register participants with strong content knowledge and expertise in Tier 1 curriculum.

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

## **New: RAVE Panic Button Training**

The Governor's Office and Louisiana State Police now offer the Rave Panic Button to all K-12 school systems and schools across the state, as well as a companion application for 9-1-1 Centers.

Those interested are encouraged to join the Rave Mobile Safety Louisiana Virtual User Group training scheduled for June 10. [Registration](#) is now open.

During this 90-minute event, attendees will learn:

- How Rave Panic Button can help during COVID-19 health emergency
- New features and functionality
  
- Product training and next steps based on you school's deployment status
- School safety best practices and lessons learned

There will also be a special breakout room for local Public Safety Answering Point (PSAPs) to learn more about Panic Button.

Please contact [mbenton@ravemobilesafety.com](mailto:mbenton@ravemobilesafety.com) with questions.

## **New: School-based Medicaid**

If applicable, school systems should update current Medicaid contact information by providing changes in name, email address, physical address and/or phone number to [anissa.young@la.gov](mailto:anissa.young@la.gov) for the following positions:

- Medicaid Coordinator
- Business Manager
- Special Education Director

School systems that will not be in operation for the upcoming school year must notify DXC immediately. Please contact DXC Provider Enrollment via the address below or fax (225-216-6392) the closing date of the school system.

DXC Provider Enrollment  
P.O. Box 80159  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-0159

School systems that will not be in operation for the upcoming school year must also contact [anissa.young@la.gov](mailto:anissa.young@la.gov) with a future billing address and/or contact person for inquiries regarding final cost report settlement transactions.

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

## **Reminder: Updated Summer Guidance on Athletics and Transportation Released**

Tuesday, the Department released updated guidelines and guidance on summer programming to include more specific information on transportation and additional information on athletics and activities. The new and updated information includes the following:

1. Updated [Initial Public Health Guidelines for K-12 Summer School and Extra-Curricular Programs](#)
2. Updated [K-12 Summer Camp, Summer School, and Extracurricular Activities Supportive Guidance](#)
3. New [K-12 Athletics Guidance](#)

Please contact [ldoecovid19support@la.gov](mailto:ldoecovid19support@la.gov) with questions.

## **Reminder: NCCER Releases Module Testing Update**

**Please share with CTE Supervisors and professional school counselors.**

The [National Center for Construction Education & Research \(NCCER\)](#) updated information about its Module Testing on May 21. To that end, NCCER will be discontinuing paper tests beginning August 1, 2021.

The Department will provide guidance to support schools and NCCER Craft Instructors with implementing the online testing for craft module assessments. As per guidance from NCCER, Performance Profiles will continue to be done in person and submitted as Registration of Training Modules through the registry.

School systems interested in piloting online testing for the 2020-2021 school year are encouraged to contact [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov).

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

## **Reminder: COVID-19 Guidance**

Louisiana's school facilities were closed in March 2020 through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Please reference the Department's [COVID-19 Information and Resources](#) webpage for regularly updated guidance. Review the [K-12 Frequently Asked Questions](#) document that is specific to the concerns of school systems for the most up-to-date information. Child care providers should refer to the [Early Childhood Frequently Asked Questions](#) for specific guidance. For education-specific information, contact the Department at [LDOECOVID19Support@la.gov](mailto:LDOECOVID19Support@la.gov).

Please contact the Louisiana 211 Network with questions about coronavirus, or text the keyword LACOVID to 898-211 for the most current information about the outbreak as it becomes available.

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

By now, every home has received 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.
- Planning, preparedness, and recovery efforts for national emergencies, including [COVID-19](#).

Self-responses, which can be completed [online](#), by phone, or by mail until October 31, **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.

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## **Other Department Newsletters**

To view the [June 2nd District Newsletter](#) or the [May 28th Nonpublic Newsletter](#), please [visit the LDOE Newsroom](#).

To view the June 2nd District Newsletter or the May 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](#)

STAY CONNECTED

