

Important News for NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS



July 19, 2018

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Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline	Owners
All nonpublics	7/20/18	Complete end of year survey	District test coordinators
All nonpublics that participate in Child Nutrition Program	9/10/18	Complete off-site Administrative Review Forms	Child nutrition supervisors

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

Reminder: LEAP 2025 Data Released

Last week, the Department released the [2018 LEAP 2025 results](#). This release is the first step in a series of student progress data releases. Below is a timeline of relevant data release dates:

- **Friday, July 6:** 3-7 growth-to-mastery 2018-2019 target rosters were released in eDIRECT portal (for planning). The rosters provide student growth targets for the 2018-2019 school year.
- **August:** Annual rates of progress from one year to the next for students, schools, and school systems
- **Fall:** Scholarship Cohort Indexes that combine proficiency rates and progress rates, reported in School Finder

If you have questions about accessing the 2018 LEAP results for your school or individual students, reach out to assessment@la.gov.

Reminder: Achievement Level Descriptors

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Please share with principals and teachers.

Achievement level descriptors (ALDs) are available in the [Assessment](#) library for grades 3-8 English language arts, mathematics, and social studies, and the English I, English II, Algebra I, and Geometry high school courses. After standard setting, the U.S. History ALDs will be finalized and added to the Assessment library in the fall. Biology and grades 3-8 science will follow in fall 2019.

[Additional information](#) is also available, by content area, on how ALDs can provide additional insight to educators when reviewing LEAP 2025 student performance.

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Bulletin 118 Update

Please share with school test coordinators and principals.

[Bulletin 118](#) has been updated and the following changes regarding ACT WorkKeys will be in effect for the start of the 2018-2019 school year:

- Students shall be subject to a 30-day wait period before retesting on WorkKeys assessments, during which time LEAs shall provide remediation.
- For schools or systems that administer WorkKeys assessments on non-LDOE realms, there is a new [addendum to the ACT data sharing agreement](#) that can be signed and returned to ldedata@la.gov.

Bulletin 118 also states that school systems must administer all assessments according to the testing schedule dates approved by BESE. The BESE approved testing window for WorkKeys is:

- October 1, 2018 - April 12, 2019 (CBT)
- October 1-12, 2018 - (PBT for fall accommodated paper)
- March 13-27, 2019 - (PBT for spring accommodated paper test)

Email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: 2018-19 Transfer Window Opened

Families that wish to transfer their Scholarship award from one school to another may complete the attached [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. Transfer forms must be submitted by the school--forms submitted by parents will not be accepted.

Completion of the transfer form is not a guarantee that a transfer will be granted. Schools can not exceed their student enrollment caps. Additionally, newly-awarded students must have accepted their award by the May 25th deadline in order to be eligible for a transfer. Families should not buy uniforms or other supplies until the Department has approved the transfer.

Since the LDOE has received a large number of transfer requests, we appreciate schools patience as we process these requests in the order received.

Reminder: Important Information for District Testing Coordinators

General

- Data certification for ACT and DCAI will begin in early August. It is very important that all changes to district test coordinators (DTCs) or accountability contacts be submitted to the Department using the [DTC and Accountability Contact Update](#) form found in the Assessment Library.
- In June, BESE approved the Test Irregularity Review Committee comprised of national, state, and local testing experts. Any superintendent/charter leader wishing to nominate their accountability representative should email the individual's resume to assessment@la.gov by July 31.
- The State Placement Test Coordinator Manual is posted in [eDIRECT](#). Test setup and the additional materials window open on August 3.
- The deadline for DTCs and accountability contacts to complete the [End of Year Survey](#) is this **Friday, July 20**.

LEAP 360

- Diagnostic and Interim Quick Start Guides are posted in the [LEAP 360](#) Library.
- Diagnostic and Interim test setup for 2018-2019 is now available in [eDIRECT](#).
- Student data and accommodations will be managed via eScholar and SIS/SER. Updates to eScholar and SIS/SER will be refreshed nightly in [eDIRECT](#). Student data can be viewed/edited through the Student Management tab in [eDIRECT](#).
- Through the Student Groups tab in [eDIRECT](#), student groups can be created to associate students and teachers. Through this association, teachers can quickly access their students' information, testing status, and reports.

LEAP 2025

- High School Practice Test Teacher Access is live. Teachers may access the online practice tests by copying and pasting the [teacher access link](#) into Google Chrome. The usernames and passwords are located in the [Practice Test Quick Start Guide](#).

LEAP Connect

- The LEAP Connect Online Tools Training (OTT) is now posted for ELA and math grades 3-8 and 11. The OTT can be accessed through the INSIGHT Portal or through the [LEAP OTT site](#), and the OTT DTAs and OTT Reference materials are posted in [eDIRECT](#) under Documents in General Information.

ACT and WorkKeys

- 2017-2018 ACT payments were due by last Sunday, July 15. Overpayments, if applicable, will be refunded to school systems by July 30.
- See information about [Bulletin 118](#) updates below.
- For schools or systems that administer WorkKeys assessments on non-LDOE realms, there is a new [addendum to the ACT data sharing agreement](#) that can be signed and returned to LDEdata@la.gov.

Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) Program News

Reminder: LEAP 2025 Data Released

The Department released the [2018 LEAP 2025 results](#) Tuesday. This release is the first step in a series of student progress data releases. Below is a timeline of relevant data release dates:

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[Additional information](#) is also available, by content area, on how ALDs can provide additional insight to educators when reviewing LEAP 2025 student performance.

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Donor Credit Report Available

[Donor credit reports](#) are required to be submitted at the conclusion of the Spring application process. STOs may also submit donor credit reports prior to the required deadlines. STOs should submit this report via the secure FTP site and notify LDOE personnel when the report has been submitted. The LDOE uses this information in the Donor Credit Report to prepare appropriate tax credit documentation.

Please contact lindsey.bush@la.gov with additional questions.

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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 four School Tuition Organizations participating in the Tuition Donation Credit Program: ACE Scholarships Louisiana, Arete Scholars Louisiana, New Schools for Baton Rouge Excellence Scholarship Fund, 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	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
Son of a Saint	New Orleans	www.sonofasaint.org	hello@sonofasaint.org	504-561-7508

School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities (SCP)

Reminder: 2018-2019 Award Amount

School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities award amount is 50% of MFP for the district in which the student resides. Award amount per school district can be found [here](#).

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with any questions.

Reminder: Transfer Request Form Available

In order to transfer a School Choice award from one participating school to another, families and receiving schools should complete a [transfer form](#). Please submit transfer forms to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

All Nonpublics

New: Newly Released School Safety Guide

Please share with principals and facility supervisors

Please share with principals and facility supervisors.
Last week the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's National Threat Assessment Center released a new operational [guide](#) and [briefing](#) developed by the United States Secret Service, for preventing school violence on school campuses through use of a threat assessment model.

Please visit the [National Threat Assessment Center](#) for more information or contact erin.bendily@la.gov with any questions.

New: Supplemental Course Allocation (SCA)/Course Choice Registration and Webinar

Please share with school and school system SCA coordinators and professional school counselors.

The Louisiana Course Choice program provides students and schools with access to a broad variety of course offerings from online, face-to-face, industry training, and dual enrollment course providers. These course offerings enable schools to provide courses not currently available to students, including:

- career and technical preparation supporting the Jump Start program;
- academic work required to achieve TOPS;
- advanced coursework not available at the school due to limited resources;
- dual enrollment courses from colleges and universities; and
- intensive remediation for students struggling to stay on pace for graduation.

Registration for Course Choice for the 2018-2019 school year opened on July 1 and will close September 14 at 5:00 p.m. Please refer to the [Course Choice Registration Instructions](#) for details on this process.

Schools will register students directly with the course providers, and must document all Supplemental Course Allocation (SCA) Course Choice enrollments in the [Course Choice Registration System](#) by the end of registration deadlines in order to fund the courses using SCA.

Additionally, the Department will hold a webinar for school and school system SCA coordinators to learn about the allocation of SCA/Course Choice, and program policies and protocols for 2018-2019. Important program information will be shared as well as instructions on using the mandatory SCA portal for reporting. The webinar will be offered on four different days.

- July 25, 2:00 p.m.: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/442268691>
- August 1, 2:00 p.m. <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/744666298>
- August 8, 2:00 p.m. <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/713338208>
- August 15, 2:00 p.m. <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/416418831>

For more information, please e-mail sca@la.gov.

Reminder: Department Transitions to Zoom Platform for All Webinars

Please share this information with all school system supervisors.

Starting July 1, the Department began using [Zoom](#) for all of its webinars and will no longer use the Adobe Connect platform. Therefore, school system leaders should pay close attention to the new links and meeting IDs for upcoming webinars, as all previously used links for regularly scheduled meetings are no longer valid.

Participants will now be able to join the Department's webinars in three ways:

- by computer only (using the sound and audio capabilities of the computer),
- by iPhone or Android phone with the Zoom App (available in the App Stores), or
- by computer and phone.

Participants who join by computer and phone must enter the Participant ID displayed on their computer in order to fully participate in the webinar, and are encouraged to log on to their first Zoom webinar 10-15 minutes early to ensure that they are able to successfully open, or if needed download, the Zoom application.

Please email edtech@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: 2018-2019 Louisiana Principal Fellowship Program Registration

The Louisiana Principal Fellowship Program is designed to support school leaders in their work as instructional leaders using the National Institute for School Leadership (NISL): Executive Development Program (EDP) model. This program is designed for principals, assistant principals, aspiring leaders, and school system staff. The cost per participant is \$7,100.

[Registration](#) is now open and will close on July 20.

Please reference the [2018-2019 Louisiana Principal Fellowship Program Guide](#) or contact teri.roberts@la.gov with any additional questions.

Reminder: 2018-2019 Child Nutrition Program Administrative Review (AR) Schedule

Please share with child nutrition supervisors.

As part of the Department's USDA Child Nutrition Program monitoring, the Department has released the [Annual Administrative Review Schedule for 2018-2019](#).

The Department's AR team leader will contact each school system that is scheduled for review. The off-site [Administrative Review Forms](#) are due on **September 10**.

Please email shanna.legier@la.gov for more information.

Other Department Newsletters

To view the **July 17th District Newsletter** or the **July 12th Nonpublic Newsletter**, please [visit the LDOE Newsroom](#).

To be added to the newsletter distribution list, please send an email to 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

