

# Important News for NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS



July 26, 2018

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## Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline	Owners
All nonpublics that participate in Child Nutrition Program	9/10/18	Complete off-site <a href="#">Administrative Review Forms</a>	Child nutrition supervisors
LSP, TDR	9/10/18	Complete Assessment Development Educator Review Committee Survey	School leaders or ELA teachers

## Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

### New: Assessment Development Educator Review Committees

Please share with principals and teachers.

The Department is now recruiting for [ELA Item Content and Bias Review Committees](#).

- Committees for ELA grades 3 and 4 will convene the week of September 22
- Committees for ELA grades 5-8 and English I and II will convene the week of October 22
- Selected participants will review newly developed ELA test items.

Committee participants have the opportunity to develop understanding of state assessments and ensure that tests are aligned to the standards, appropriate for the grade or course, and appropriate for Louisiana students. Additionally, the educators that do this work learn how to better use assessments in their classrooms or school systems.

To apply to be a participant, any interested educator needs to complete an interest survey themselves, and may complete surveys for more than one committee. Everyone who completes the interest survey is considered for selection but is not guaranteed a seat on the committee. Surveys close **August 10, 2018**.

Interest Survey Links:

- [ELA grades 3 and 4](#)
- [ELA grades 5-8, English I and English II](#)

## **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](mailto: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.
- The State Placement Test Coordinator Manual is posted in [eDIRECT](#). Test setup and the additional materials window opens on August 3.

### **LEAP 360**

- Diagnostic and Interim test setup for 2018-2019 opened on July 16 in [eDIRECT](#).
- LEAP 360 Diagnostic Teacher Study Guides are now available in [eDIRECT](#), including answer keys, scoring guides, and copies of the assessments. Teacher Study Guides can be found in General Information under Documents; select the Diagnostic/Interim 18-19 administration and the Teacher Study Guides document type.
- 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](#).
- Starting July 23, DTCs can begin managing users for LEAP 2025 in [eDIRECT](#).

### **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 [OTT site](#), and the OTT DTAs and OTT Reference materials are posted in [eDIRECT](#) under Documents in General Information.
- Starting July 23, DTCs can begin managing users for LEAP Connect in [eDIRECT](#).

### **ELPT and ELPS**

- ELPS administration will open on August 1. Reference the ELPS Test Administrator Overview and Training [webinar](#) or [presentation](#) for an overview of the screener design, setup, and administration.
- TIDE opened yesterday for user and student management for ELPS. Refer to the [TIDE User Guide](#) for detailed directions on adding users and students.
- ORS will close in the first weeks of August. School systems should download any ELPT data that will be needed during these times.
- The [Louisiana ELPT Portal](#) has been updated to include ELPS materials. The [ELPS Training Modules](#), [ELPS Step Two Speaking Scoring Document](#), [TIDE User Guide](#), [TA User Guide](#), [ELPS Test Administration Manual](#), and [ELPS/ELPT Accessibility and Accommodations Manual](#) are now posted for review.
- The [AIR Secure Browser](#) must be installed on all devices that will be used for ELPS Administration. Reference the [Secure Browser Installation Manual](#) for detailed directions.

### **ACT and WorkKeys**

- 2017-2018 ACT payments were due by July 15 and overpayments, if applicable, will be refunded to school systems by July 30.
- All emails from ACT will now come from [statetesting@operations.act.org](mailto:statetesting@operations.act.org). To continue receiving email from ACT, make sure your email system's list of allowed addresses (whitelist) includes all of the following: [statetesting@operations.act.org](mailto:statetesting@operations.act.org), [statetesting@act.org](mailto:statetesting@act.org), [@operations.act.org](mailto:@operations.act.org), or [@act.org](mailto:@act.org).
- [Bulletin 118](#) has been updated and effective beginning in SY 2018-19 as follows:
  - Students shall be subject to a 30-day wait period before retesting on WorkKeys assessments, during which time school systems 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](mailto:LDEdata@la.gov).

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## Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) Program News

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Interest Survey Links:

- [ELA grades 3 and 4](#)
- [ELA grades 5-8, English I and English II](#)

Email [michelle.mcadams@la.gov](mailto:michelle.mcadams@la.gov) or [kathleen.judy@la.gov](mailto:kathleen.judy@la.gov) with 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	<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
New Schools for Baton Rouge Excellence Scholarship Fund	Baton Rouge	<a href="http://newschoolsbr.org/our-approach/excellence-scholarship-fund">newschoolsbr.org/our-approach/excellence-scholarship-fund</a>	<a href="mailto:esf@newschoolsbr.org">esf@newschoolsbr.org</a>	225-395-1686
Son of a Saint	New 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 for Students with Exceptionalities (SCP)

### 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](mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov).

## All Nonpublics

### New: Back-to-School Materials Released

Please share these resources with principals and teachers.

The Department is committed to providing all educators-teachers, principals, and school system leaders-with the supports and resources they need to continue raising the bar for students in Louisiana.

Here are resources released today by Department to support the start of the 2018-2019 school year.

- [2018-2019 Educator Resource Guide](#) highlighting instructional priorities and resources to support educators with the start of the 2018-2019 school year. The guide is located in the [School System](#), [Principal](#) and [Teacher](#) Toolboxes and will be updated each month.
- [Updated 2018-2019 School System Support Calendar](#): Schedule of in-person trainings, virtual support, tools and resources, and communication streams designed to support educators
- [Back-to-School Night Presentation](#): Customizable presentation that school leaders and teachers can use to provide parents with information on 2018-2019 academic goals, standards, and assessments.
- [Parent Back-to-School Guides](#): provide families with information and resources to support learning at home for the 2018-2019 school year.
  - Guides are currently available for parents of 3-12 students, English learners, and students with disabilities.
  - Guide for parents of PK-2 students and translated versions of all guides will be available by early August.

Email [doecommunications@la.gov](mailto:doecommunications@la.gov) with questions.

### New: August School System Planning Call

The August School System Planning Call will take place on August 1 at 1:00 p.m. The following school system supervisors should participate:

- Early childhood supervisors

- Curriculum and instruction supervisors
- Data coordinators
- District test coordinators and accountability contacts
- High school and career and technical supervisors
- Personnel directors
- Talent (Mentors, Content Leaders, Teacher Leaders) supervisors

To join the webinar:

- Logon to: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/>
- Telephone: 1-669-900-6833
- Enter Meeting ID: 398875849

Email [districtsupport@la.gov](mailto:districtsupport@la.gov) with questions.

### **New: Immunizations and School Admissions Requirements**

Please note when registering students for the 2018-19 school year that unvaccinated students cannot be denied admittance to a school if a parent or guardian submits a written dissent or a written statement from a physician to school leadership. For more information, please see [R.S. 17:170, 170.3, and 170.4](#).

If you have any questions, please reach out to [nonpublicschools@la.gov](mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov).

### **New: Louisiana STEM Advisory Council Statewide Summit**

Please share with STEM Coordinators

The inaugural LaSTEM Statewide summit will be held on September 7 at Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge. The Summit will:

- showcase some of the most effective, resourceful, and impactful STEM activities and programs in Louisiana, as well as some federal STEM agencies, through interactive exhibits and demonstrations;
- provide a venue for STEM teacher professional development programs to host up to a full day of training for K-12 STEM educators;
- host informative and engaging breakout sessions for educators, administrators, legislators and leaders from PK-Postsecondary education about STEM policy trends, school and industry partnerships, the creation and development of Regional STEM Hubs in Louisiana, and success stories of existing STEM ecosystems in Louisiana and throughout the country; and
- function as a fundraiser for the support of LaSTEM initiatives and LaSTEM-endorsed programs.

There is no cost to attend the event, but interested participants must [register](#) using their school system email address. Lunch will be provided.

For additional information please contact [lastem@regents.la.gov](mailto:lastem@regents.la.gov).

### **Update: 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.

The [Registration](#) deadline has been extended to **July 30**.

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

### **Reminder: Newly Released School Safety Guide**

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](mailto:erin.bendily@la.gov) with any questions.

### **Reminder: Supplemental Course Allocation/Course Choice Webinar**

Please share with school and school system SCA coordinators and professional school counselors. The Louisiana Supplemental Course Allocation(SCA)/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.

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.

- 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](mailto:sca@la.gov).

## Other Department Newsletters

To view the **July 24th District Newsletter** or the **July 19th 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

