

Important News for NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS



August 13 , 2020

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Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline	Owners
Nonpublics	8/14/20	Attend Reopening Roundtable	Diocesan Superintendents
All nonpublics	8/18/20	Attend CHNOLA Virtual Town Hall	School support staff
LSP	8/21/20	Complete registration workbooks	School leaders or Scholarship contacts

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

New: Registration Workbooks Forthcoming

Next week, all Scholarship schools will receive their Registration Workbooks via their FTP. On this workbook, schools will report whether awarded students are enrolled and attending their school. Any students not enrolled will be dropped from their roster. Completed registration workbooks are due by **Friday, August 21st**. Further instructions will be sent via email once registration workbooks have been placed in the FTP.

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

New: Reopening Roundtable: A Virtual Series for Superintendents

Superintendents and charter leaders are invited to participate in a Reopening Roundtable virtual series hosted by Dr. Brumley. This

call will be held at 9 a.m. each Friday during the month of August and will continue monthly beginning in September. Every week a panel of system leaders will share their experiences reopening and operating schools during the health crisis. It's important that the Department is a support agency during these uncertain times, and this series will help facilitate discussions of best practices. Information needed to join this series is included below.

- Webinar Date and Time: **August 14 at 9 a.m.**
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97826043901>
- Webinar Password: 5v7Dwq
- Webinar Phone Number: 312-626-6799
- Meeting ID#: 978 2604 3901
- Dial-in Password: 556910

Please enter your full name and school system name when logging in.

Reminder: Transfer Window Opened

The Scholarship team has been processing a significant number of transfer requests and will continue to do so in the coming weeks. Please remember, 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. 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 with any questions.

Reminder: For School and District Testing Coordinators

Updates to District Test Coordinator and/or Accountability Contacts

- In order to access many testing vendor platforms, it is important that school systems record changes to the district test coordinator and/or accountability contact in the [Louisiana School System Contact Form](#). To expedite changes needed for assessments, please contact assessment@la.gov.

ACT

- **ACT Webinar Opportunities**
 - August 18: Attend a Q&A session about ACT accommodations and supports and test administration for the October testing. [Register to attend](#).
- All school systems that tested students in June 2020 and/or who plan to test students during the October 2020 makeup for 2019-2020 juniors must sign the ACT MOU Addendum that is posted in the [Assessment Library](#).
- 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 applicable student.
 - **Important: Materials will be shipped separately for each administration.**
 - Currently, ACT does not offer remote administrations for any scheduled testing dates.
 - The [Schedule of Events](#) for the October ACT administration is posted on the [ACT State Testing](#) site.
 - The [Schedule of Events](#) for the 2020-2021 WorkKeys administration is posted on the [ACT State Testing](#) site.
 - [PearsonAccess^{next}](#) (PANext) is open through August 28 to manage participation and verify secure district shipping addresses for both the ACT October administration and the 2020-2021 WorkKeys assessments.

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

The next Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call will be on **August 18 at 3:45 p.m.** A password will now be required for Office Hours. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** August 18 at 3:45 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164
- **Password:** 2020202!

Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) Program News

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- **Password:** 2020202!

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	www.acescholarships.org	TDR@acescholarships.org	504-491-1813
Arete Scholars Louisiana	Statewide	www.aretescholars.org	maryhw@aretescholars.org	225-245-3610
Aspiring Scholars	New Orleans Archdiocese	https://aspiringscholarsla.org/	info@aspiringscholarsla.org	504-513-4140
Son of a Saint	Orleans	www.sonofasaint.org	hello@sonofasaint.org	504-561-7508

School Choice Program

New: Awarding Process for New SCP Students

The Department is in the process of reviewing all applications that were submitted by the August 7th deadline and awarding eligible students. Schools will be sent a copy of their rosters by August 21st to review and mark the students that are currently accepted and enrolled.

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with any questions.

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.

All Nonpublics

New: Strong Start 2020: Virtual Teaching and Learning Guidance

The [Louisiana Virtual Instruction Guide](#) will be released this week. It is designed for educators and outlines the expectations for teaching and learning in a virtual setting.

The guide outlines the expectations of four characteristics of high-quality virtual instruction for students in grades pre-K through 12:

- High-quality, standards-aligned curriculum
- Interactive, engaging instruction
- Monitoring student progress
- Student support

A [Louisiana Virtual Instruction Guide for Parents](#) will also be released this week.

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.

New or updated information will be highlighted in yellow within the document.

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

Instructional Materials Guidance	Professional Development Guidance
Activate Learning, IQWST Science, Grades 6-8	
Amplify, Amplify Science Louisiana, Grades K-5	
Great Minds, PhD Science, Grades 3-5	
inquiryHub, Biology, High Quality Pilot	
OpenSciEd, High Quality Pilot, Grades 6-8	

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

New: Quest for Success Teacher Training

Please share with CTE supervisors, counselors and school system leaders.

The dynamic [2020 Jump Start Super Summer Institute Digital Training Opportunities](#) guide has been updated to include additional Quest for Success training opportunities. The next virtual training opportunity will occur August 24-27 from 4 to 8 p.m. each day.

[Registration is through Eventbrite](#) and registration costs for training sessions are paid directly to the provider. Carl Perkins and Career Development Funds are eligible funding sources for registration.

Additional Quest for Success training opportunities will be available throughout the school year and will be communicated in an upcoming newsletter entry. These additional training opportunities will include a variety of flexible training opportunities for new Quest for Success instructors such as once a week, weekly and weekend opportunities.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

New: Quarterly Personnel Director Webinar

Personnel directors and staff are invited to attend the final Quarterly Personnel Director Webinar on **August 20 at 10 a.m.** Key topics will include certification extensions due to COVID-19, BESE's consideration of the Mentor waiver request, Mentor/resident data collection process and certification updates.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** August 20 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93475503910>
- **Webinar Password:** 46E%cL
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 934 7550 3910
- **Dial-in Password:** 658750

Moving forward, information pertinent to certification and educator workforce concerns will be discussed on the Policy and Governmental Affairs monthly calls beginning in September.

Please contact sara.delano@la.gov with questions.

New: 2020-2021 Reopening and Operations Resource Updates

The Department and the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) have been working together to provide updated resources and guidance for schools relative to reopening and operations for the 2020-2021 school year. The most recent updates include:

- [Self-Monitoring Checklist](#)
- [COVID-19 Positive Test Result Process Sample Letters](#)
- [LDH Return to School/Work Self-Certifications](#)
- [LDH Guidance for Common School Scenarios](#)
- Critical Infrastructure Workers
- [LDH COVID School One-Page Flow Chart](#)
- [Office of the Fire Marshal Emergency Drill Memo](#)
- [Updated School Reopening FAQ Document](#): includes updated information surrounding the use of facial shields and band, music, vocal and theater class guidance.

In addition, the Department is holding office hours **every Thursday at 3 p.m.** for school system leaders and support staff to hear the

latest updates on policy implementation, supportive guidance and tool development. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Thursdays at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91419461028>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 301-715-8592
- **Meeting ID#:** 914 1946 1028
- **Meeting Password:** 408891

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Continuous Learning Updates for Social Studies

Please share with social studies supervisors, administrators and social studies teachers

For unit 2 distance learning packets, the teacher materials and student materials sections will be separated. The teacher materials have been [password protected](#) to help ensure only teachers have access to the answer keys. For more information on distance learning packets, see below.

In an effort to provide standards-aligned content experiences and enable continuous learning in the event of school facility closures at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year, [distance learning packets](#) are being developed for each course in grades 3-8 and US History for units 1 and 2. The packets do not cover the entire content of the unit but instead focus on a key topic. Teachers can use the packets as a cornerstone to build materials for additional content coverage. The materials are designed to be low tech but can be adapted for schools using an online learning platform. The Department will evaluate the need for more distance learning support throughout the 2020-2021 school year. Unit 2 packets will be released on a rolling basis from now until September and will be posted on the [K-12 Social Studies Resources](#) page when completed.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Updated Guidance for Criminal Background Checks for Service Providers in K-12

All K-12 essential visitors and contractors, including mental health consultants and special education service providers, must have a child care criminal background check (CCCBC) in order to provide services at an early learning center and a registered in-home or family home provider. The background checks approved by the school systems for K-12 purposes are not acceptable for child care security purposes.

Please contact LDElicensing@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) Resumption of Training

Please share with school system secondary supervisors, career and technical education supervisors/coordinators and CNA instructors.

Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) regularly updates the [health standards section of their website](#) with information regarding effects of COVID-19 on Nurse Aide Training programs. Several keys updates are available for Nurse Aide Training programs relative to the resumption of training.

- Prior to beginning a new class, written verification from the nursing home that students will be allowed to complete clinical training during the COVID crisis should be acquired and submitted to HSS-CNA-DSW-Request@la.gov.
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has mandated that nursing homes conduct weekly COVID testing of all residents and employees. Students are considered employees and will, therefore, require weekly testing.
- Please notify the LDH Program Desk of nursing facilities that are unable/unwilling to accommodate students. While it is

certainly the right of the facility to restrict students, the LDH would like to ensure the reason is not due to misinformation regarding current recommendations related to the pandemic.

Please notify the program manager of any decisions to place the program on hold or close at ash-leigh.garcia@la.gov.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Virtual Town Hall Series for Schools

Please share with school system leaders, administrators, school nurses and teachers.

COVID-19 guidance experts from Children's Hospital New Orleans (CHNOLA), in partnership with the Department, will host an upcoming virtual town hall series. During this virtual series, guidance experts will:

- provide updates on the current state of COVID-19 pandemic across Louisiana, specifically in regard to children under ages 18;
- speak to frequently asked questions that will be collected in-between town halls through the Children's Hospital New Orleans' website in the Return to School FAQ Entry Form;
- provide education/guidance training on targeted topics relevant to schools; and
- facilitate open Q&A.

Scheduled topics for the remaining town hall meetings and details needed to join are listed below.

Time for School Support Staff

Tips for School Support Staff

- **Webinar Date and Time:** August 18 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/95976608543>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Webinar ID#:** 959 7660 8543
- **Webinar Password:** 8182020

Please contact school-wellness@LCMHealth.org with questions.

Reminder: Every Child Counts - 2020 Census

Every home has received an invitation to participate in the [2020 Census](#). Louisiana's self-response rate is just under 57 percent, which is below the national average. There are a number of parishes where the rate is in the 30s and 20s. Please consider using your system's communications channels to encourage employees, families and other stakeholders to complete 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 [2020 Census Toolbox](#) to find general resources and activities specially designed to be engaging and appropriate for each grade level, from counting for kindergarteners to examining career statistics for high schoolers.

Please contact ldoecommunications@la.gov with questions.

Other Department Newsletters

To view the **August 11th District Newsletter** or the **August 6th 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

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education
877.453.2721 (toll-free)
Twitter @LouisianaSupe

LDOE Links

[LDOE Website](#)

[Contact Us](#)

STAY CONNECTED

