

Important News for NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS



September 17 , 2020

****This newsletter contains corrected webinar information for the upcoming 2020-2021 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application Preparation Overview entry specific to nonpublics. The correction is included below in red.****

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Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

All Nonpublics

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) Program News

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Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline	Owners
Nonpublics	9/18/20	Attend Reopening Roundtable	Diocesan Superintendents
All nonpublics	9/18/20	Complete Learning Environment and Connectivity Survey	School leaders
All nonpublics	9/21/20	Join Legislative and Policy Support webinar	HR personnel and school nurses
All nonpublics	9/22/20	Attend CHNOLA town hall	School leaders
All nonpublics	9/24/20	Attend Strong Start Reopening Office Hours	School leaders
All nonpublics	9/25/20	Submit Required Services items	School leaders or business managers
All nonpublics that receive EEF	9/29/20	Attend EEF Application Prep Webinar	School leaders or finance directors
TDC	9/30/20	Submit Q1 enrollment to FTP	School Tuition Organizations
All nonpublics	10/15/20	Submit NPS annual data submission	School leaders or administrative personnel

All nonpublics	10/15/20	Submit jotform for BESE/BvD approval	personnel School leaders or administrative personnel
All nonpublics	10/16/20	Submit Student of the Year School System Information Form	School leaders

All Nonpublics

NPS Annual Data Submission Now Open

All BESE-approved nonpublic schools are required to submit the Nonpublic School Annual Data Submission in the NPS data system. The Nonpublic School Annual Data Submission (previously called the "annual report") requires schools to submit basic enrollment and school information and is submitted electronically using the data system known as [LEADS](#).

Submissions must be completed by October 15, 2020.

To complete the Nonpublic School Annual Data Submission, please consult the [Nonpublic Annual School Report User Guide](#).

Please remember, LEADs passwords expire every 30 days and must be reset at <https://password.doe.louisiana.gov/>. Additionally, pop-up blockers must be off in order to access NPS.

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.

BESE Approval and Brumfield vs Dodd Documents due October 15th

Every year, all schools must submit a series of documents to the Louisiana Department of Education to receive BESE approval for the following school year. To identify which documents your school must submit, please review the [Nonpublic School Approval Checklist](#).

The Department once again has created an [online survey](#) to collect all required documentation. Schools will no longer need to log in to the FTP to complete the NPS approval process. Completing this survey is expected to take 10-15 minutes. **Submissions are due by October 15th.**

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.

Guidance for BESE Approval/NPS Data Submission

The Department of Education held its first monthly call specifically for nonpublics on September 16th. The call gave guidance on completing BESE/BvD approval action items as well as the annual data submission. A copy of the slides can be found in the District Support library [here](#).

Calls will be the third Wednesday of every month at 2:00. The next call will be on **October 21st**. Please see login information below:

- Webinar Date and Time: Every third Wednesday at 2 p.m.
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92282614317>
- Webinar Phone Number: 312-626-6799
- Meeting ID#: 922 8261 4317

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.

Children's Hospital Town Hall Meeting Rescheduled September 22

The Children's Hospital Town Hall meeting scheduled for September 15 has been rescheduled and will now take place on **September 22 at 3:30 p.m.** This meeting will provide opportunities for school systems to ask questions of CHNOLA regarding COVID-19 and school reopening. Webinar details are included below.

- Webinar Date and Time: **September 22 at 3:30 p.m.**
- Webinar Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95094135523>
- Webinar Phone Number: 929-205-6099
- Meeting ID#: 950 9413 5523
- Passcode: 9222020

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov with questions.

2019-2020 P-EBT Benefit Communication

Louisiana has reopened the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program for families who did not apply in May and June. Schools and systems should notify families that they may be eligible for up to \$285 for free and reduced-price meals children missed

Schools and systems should notify families that they are eligible for up to \$285 for free and reduced-price meals children missed when schools were closed during the 2019-2020 school year. Systems and schools can use [this toolkit](#) for sample messages to share with families. It includes sample letters and messages that can be shared through messaging systems and social media. The following communications resources are also available:

- [LDOE P-EBT Flyer](#)
- [FAQ](#)
- [Louisiana Budget Project Outreach Toolkit \(Includes Translations\)](#)

The [application portal is open](#) until **September 29 at 5 p.m.** This application window is only for eligible families who did not apply in May and June. Families of children who receive free or reduced-price school meals are eligible to receive financial benefits for meals missed in 2019-2020 when schools closed due to the pandemic. This includes all students attending a [Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\) school](#). To receive these benefits, families must complete an application. Without the requested information, the Department of Children and Family Services cannot issue the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card and provide benefits. Please note that the information families enter in the application must exactly match what is on file in the student information system.

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov with questions.

2021 Student of the Year Recognition Program Guidelines

Please share with superintendents, supervisors, administrators and counselors.

Each year, the Department recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of students through the Louisiana Student of the Year Awards Program. The application for the 2021 Student of the Year program is now available, and all school systems are encouraged to participate.

To participate, please review the recently revised [Student of the Year Selection Guidelines](#) for the program and current [Student Application Packet](#) for 2021 and complete the following steps:

1. Complete the [School System Information Form](#) and email it to [Marian Johnson](#) by **October 16**. This information will enable the Department to determine zone and regional sites and to communicate directly with coordinators on upcoming events and activities related to this program.
2. Make the [Student Application Packet](#) available to the parents of students eligible to participate in the program.

A webinar is scheduled to share additional information.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 29 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/99474941684>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 994 7494 1684
- **Dial-in Passcode:** 547253

Please contact marian.johnson@la.gov with questions.

2020-2021 Midterm Graduate Diploma to Include New Superintendent's Signature

Please share with principals, counselors and data coordinators.

Please use the [Diploma Order Form](#) to submit an order for 2020-2021 midterm graduates. Diploma requests should be submitted by **October 9**. Diplomas ordered will include the signature of Louisiana State Superintendent of Education Dr. Cade Brumley. Diplomas utilized from this point forward should include the new signature.

Please contact megan.thompson2@la.gov with questions.

Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call

The Department will hold monthly Legislative and Policy Support calls beginning **September 21 at 10 a.m.** During these calls, the Department will share updates on policy, certification, educator workforce and healthy communities. The following contacts are encouraged to join:

- School system human resource/personnel staff
- Nonpublic certification and/or charter school certification contacts
- Health/wellness, physical education, transportation and nursing staff

Webinar details are included below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 21 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91297552609>
- **Passcode:** v0sB22
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 912 9755 2609
- **Dial-in Passcode:** 576112

Please contact ryan.n.gremillion@la.gov with questions.

American Academy of Pediatrics Free Webinar Series: E-cigarettes 101

The American Academy of Pediatrics is hosting a free webinar series on approaches to addressing youth e-cigarette use and prevention with adolescents, families and communities. These webinars are open to school teachers, nurses, administrators, parents and others invested in adolescent health. The first webinar, "E-cigarettes 101," will identify the known health impacts of e-cigarette use and will describe the appeal of e-cigarettes to adolescents and young adults. The webinar will be held on **September 24 at 7 p.m.** [Registration is required.](#)

Please contact stephen.guccione@la.gov with questions.

2020-2021 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application Preparation Overview

To assist school systems in preparing for the upcoming release of the 2020-2021 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) application, the Division of Grants Management will host two Zoom meetings on **September 29**. The morning session will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the afternoon session will begin at 3 p.m.

The meeting information included provides access to both Zoom sessions. To participate in the Zoom meetings, please click on the webinar link below:

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 29 at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://doe.zoom.us/j/98384753730?pwd=dnZxa29UdEk1NTF0RktXS3hCZjVuUT09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 301-715-8592
- **Meeting ID#:** 983 8475 3730
- **Dial-in Passcode:** 347359

Please contact tonya.johnson@la.gov with questions.

Continuous Learning Updates for Social Studies

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

A [webinar](#) providing guidance on how to use the [social studies distance learning packets](#) has been posted on the [Louisiana Believes YouTube channel](#) under the Distance Learning playlist. This webinar should be viewed by any social studies teachers or supervisors in school systems where the distance learning packets are being used in a virtual, hybrid or in-class setting.

All unit 2 distance learning packets have been posted on the [K-12 Social Studies Resources](#) page. The teacher materials and student materials sections have been separated, and the teacher materials have been [password protected](#) to help ensure only teachers have access to the answer keys. Unit 3 packets will be posted by November. The Department will evaluate the need for more distance learning support throughout the 2020-2021 school year.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Science Distance Learning Resources

Please share with science supervisors, administrators and science teachers.

To support school systems and teachers in ensuring continuous student engagement with high-quality science curriculum in fully remote or hybrid school models, the Department will release guidance for implementing OpenSciEd and inquiryHub in a remote learning setting.

Distance learning plans for OpenSciEd Grade 6-8 and inquiryHub Biology will contain the following:

- Links to remote learning resources
- Unit guidance
- Detailed lesson-by-lesson guidance

- Printable lesson documents

The first two OpenSciEd units for Grades 6-8 and inquiry Hub Biology Unit 1 Bends 1 & 2 as well as recorded webinars are available now on the [K-12 Science Planning Page](#) in the Distance Learning Box. Additional units will be released on a [rolling schedule](#).

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Disaster Recovery Guidance

The Department has released [disaster recovery guidance](#). Please continue to check [this link](#), as the guidance will be updated as new information becomes available. The document includes guidance and resources on the following topics:

- Enrollment of displaced students
- Damage to facilities and supply needs
- Staffing capacity
- Issues related to the start of the school year
- Charter school specific guidance

Please contact systemrelations@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Strong Start Reopening Office Hours Extended Through September

The Department will continue to offer Strong Start reopening office hours through the month of September. These office hours will be rolled into the [Career and Readiness Office Hours](#) and will be held weekly on **Thursdays at 3 p.m.** Information needed to join this call is included in the [Career and College Readiness Office Hours entry below](#).

For more information, please visit [COVID-19 Resources for Schools](#).

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Career and College Readiness Office Hours

Please share with school system supervisors, administrators and counselors.

The Office of Career and College Readiness will hold weekly office hours each Thursday at 3 p.m. **Throughout the month of September, the focus will be on school reopening.** Office hours provide an opportunity for school system leaders to receive updates on reopening guidance and support documents.

September 10 office hours topics included:

- Phase 3 Information for School Systems
- Learning Environment and Connectivity Tool
- [Louisiana Department of Health Early Warning System Update](#)
- [CHNOLA Town Hall Updates and Resources](#)

Details for next week's office hours are below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Thursdays at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94130675139>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 301-715-8592
- **Meeting ID#:** 941 3067 5139
- **Meeting Passcode:** 573243

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov for reopening questions or highschooladacemics@la.gov for career and college readiness with questions.

Reminder: Teacher Preparation Program Website Launch

The Department - in collaboration with the Board of Regents - launched a new website, LouisianaTeacherPrep.com, that allows prospective educators to explore teacher preparation programs. The website includes information on Louisiana's 29 teacher preparation programs, including certification areas offered, testimonials, as well as the demographics of program completers and retention data. Each provider's performance on Louisiana's [Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System](#) will be added to the website this winter. Prospective educators can use the website to select teacher preparation programs that best meet their needs, and school systems can use the information to address their educator workforce needs.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: New Teacher Induction Survey

In order to be successful, new teachers need support. Support can take on many forms including but not limited to:

- Individual mentoring
- Targeted professional development sessions
- PLCs
- Sheltered schedules

The Division of Educator Development is interested in learning from school systems across the state who provide support to early career teachers. School systems are encouraged to complete this brief [New Teacher Induction Survey](#) by **this Friday, September 18** to help the Department understand where best practices are already happening and what supports may be needed to further develop new teacher induction programs. The survey should be completed by the leader in each school system who supports new teachers.

Please reach out to believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Required Services for FY2020-21

Please share with business managers.

The 2019-2020 Required Services collection is currently ongoing. All guidelines and forms for submission are available on the Department's [Nonpublic Schools Finance](#) webpage. Please note that the Reimbursement Request Form, Time Log and Summary Time Record Form with backup must be for the 2019-2020 school year, and all forms must be emailed no later than the close of business (4:30 p.m.) on **September 25**.

A [W-9 form](#) must be submitted to the Department for all school addresses that have changed, indicating the new address. Schools must be both academically approved and Brumfield v. Dodd approved to be eligible to participate in the Required Services Program.

For questions regarding the submission of the reimbursement request forms or guidelines, please contact nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov or 225-342-3617.

Reminder: Learning Environment and Connectivity Tool for Systems

The Department has developed a tool for systems and schools to easily track student learning environments as well as device and connectivity data. This tool will also help the Department and systems identify where additional student connectivity supports are needed. System leaders will receive an email from LDOE next week with system specific access information needed to complete a brief survey.

School systems are encouraged to add current data as soon as possible. This will help ensure access to the system well before initial data is pulled for BESE on September 18.

Data submitted to this survey will automatically populate dashboards for systems, charter schools and non-public schools. Links to these dashboards will be added to the "School Reopening Resources" section of the [Strong Start](#) page on August 31. LDOE will pull data on **September 18 at 5 p.m.** to create an initial report for BESE and other stakeholders. Systems should update their dashboard throughout the school year as new information becomes available. The most current data will appear on the dashboard as soon as it is submitted through the survey.

Please contact kim.nesmith@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

Update on 2020 Accountability Data

Due to the lack of 2020 assessments, BESE policy and state and federal waivers, school performance scores and letter grades will not be produced for the 2019-2020 school year. The Department has released an [FAQ](#) to answer common questions related to the pandemic's effect on the release of 2020 accountability data.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Reopening Roundtable Series

Superintendents are invited to participate in a Reopening Roundtable virtual series hosted by Dr. Brumley to be held on **September 18 at 9 a.m.** During this call, a panel of superintendents and school 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 call is included below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 18 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/99887442568>
- **Webinar Passcode:** #0*a2n
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312 626 6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 998 8744 2568
- **Dial-in Passcode:** 752932

System leaders are asked to enter their full name and school system name when logging in.

Reminder: Transfer Window Opened

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

- At the request of many school systems who have had especially difficult challenges to the opening of school, the LEAP 2025 spring testing for grades 3-8 has been rescheduled as follows:
 - April 26-May 26: CBT
 - April 28-30 ELA and Math: PBT
 - May 3-4 Science and Social Studies PBT
- The [2020-2021 Assessment Calendar](#) has been updated and additional key dates will be released in the coming months.

ACT

- Materials for the October administrations of ACT are scheduled to be shipped during the week of September 14. Please notify ACT if there are any unexpected school closures.
- The ACT [Schedule of Events](#) has been updated on the [ACT State Testing](#) site
- Now-October 6: Test coordinators verify, as needed, student information in PANext for initial test date of October 6
- Now-September 25: Test coordinators order non-college reportable accommodations materials for the initial testing window, October 6-16 and additional standard time materials for the initial test date, October 6

Fall LEAP 2025 High School Assessment Administration

- Fall LEAP 2025 High School Assessments administration is currently scheduled for December 1-18. In response to delayed school openings, a second window has been scheduled for January 6-26. School systems will be asked to submit their choice of window to the Department from October 1-9 through DRC INSIGHT.
- Additional dates and reminders are forthcoming.

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

The next Assessment and Accountability **Monthly Call** has been rescheduled for **September 22 at 3:45 p.m.** due to threatening weather in Southeast Louisiana. A password will now be required for office hours. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 22 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

Reminder: Q1 Count Due September 30th

All STO's must upload the [Q1 enrollment spreadsheets](#) to the FTP by **September 30**. The report should also include all students' LASIDs.

This spreadsheet is to be completed by the Student Tuition Organizations, not individual schools.

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

Reminder: For School and District Testing Coordinators

LEAP 2025 Grades 3-8 Spring Test Administration

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- **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164
- **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 four School Tuition Organizations participating in the Tuition Donation Credit Program: ACE Scholarships Louisiana, Arete Scholars Louisiana, Aspiring Scholars, 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

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.

Other Department Newsletters

To view the **September 15th District Newsletter** or the **September 10th 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

